

August 19, 2025

Village of Rothbury

Council Meeting

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Rothbury Village Council was called to order by President Vern Talmadge at 7:04 PM in the Village Hall.

Council members present were Autum Drake, Mike Harris, Troy Voorhees, and Dylan Zuniga. Absent were Denise Kurdziel and Jim Fekken.

Also present were Treasurer Deb Murphy, Police Chief Ethan Walker, Officer Tom Walicki, DPW Director Scott Beishuizen, Harold Drake, Bryan VanNett and Juan Cano.

The prior meetings minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer Deb Murphy gave the monthly Treasurer's report noting that the Mass Gathering Fees from the 2025 Electric Forest Festival have been received and were notably less than 2024 by around \$69,000.

Chief Walker gave the July police report, asking council for permission to move forward with quotes to bring to the next meeting for replacement of police computers that were previously approved during the budget meeting.

Planning Commission Chair Mike Harris advised that there was no planning commission meeting held.

Mike Harris also updated on the ongoing zoning issues with Green Lawn Trailer Park. Attorney Brennan Gorman weighed in on how to gain compliance with zoned ordinances and issuing fines.

Recreation Director Brandy Williams told council that all of the DNR Grant paperwork has been submitted and it is good to go.

RCC Director Deb Murphy updated on Community Center happenings and council commented on the benefit of repeat business.

DPW Director Scott Beishuizen confirmed that the bike trail easement has been repaved, irrigation has been repaired, and the grass has been re seeded. Quotes are being requested from the Muskegon County Road Commission as well as Oceana County Road Commission to trim back brush along the sides of the roads in the Village.

Motion by Mike Harris to pay the monthly bills, seconded by Autum Drake. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, motion carried.

Approval of the Employee Handbook including the Ethics Policy was tabled until the September meeting when completed versions from the attorney of the handbook are available for the council.

Village Attorney Brennan Gorman presented the council members with an official policy for the distribution of the Electric Forest passes.

Motion made by Dylan Zuniga to adopt the new Electric Forest Wristband policy as presented, seconded by Mike Harris. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, motion carried, and policy adopted.

Additional material from the attorney will be reviewed at the September meeting.

Brandy Williams explained to the council that with the approval of the DNR Grant Funding being reallocated due to the request from Consumers Energy for an extended easement through Village property, that the council was now able to approve the easement for Consumers Energy to move forward. The Village will receive \$4,061.00 as a one-time payment for the easement expansion.

Motion by Troy Voorhees to approve the proposed easement from Consumers Energy, with support from Mike Harris. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, motion carried, easement approved.

Discussion of the open seat on the Planning Commission was had amongst council members. Mike Harris, Planning Commission chair, advised that there were a few interested parties, however no one had officially submitted a request to be considered.

Brandy Williams reminded Mike Harris and Council that new homeowner and village resident Juan Cano had approached council at the previous meeting, went to the canceled planning commission meeting, and was again at this evening's council meeting to express his interest in the seat.

Juan was asked to tell the council about himself and his interest in the position.

Motion made by Autum Drake, seconded by Troy Voorhees to appoint Juan Cano to the Planning Commission. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandy Williams, Clerk