

Village of Rothbury
Council Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2025

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Rothbury Village Council was called to order by President Vern Talmadge at 7:01 PM. The council members present were Mike Harris, Denise Kurdziel, Troy Voorhees and Dylan Zuniga. Absent were Autum Drake and Jim Fekken.

Also present were Treasurer Deb Murphy, Police Chief Ethan Walker, DPW Director Scott Beishuizen, Andy Roberts, Jayne Silvers, Trevin Silvers, and Clif Cudney.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the previous meetings minutes were approved with the request for an addition of mention of the current Green Lawn Trailer Park status by Dylan Zuniga.

Treasurer Deb Murphy gave the monthly treasurers report. Treasurer Murphy informed the council that funding in the amount of \$1500 has been received from the State of Michigan to aid in continuing education and police training. The Village will be required to add a separate line item in the General Fund to account for revenues and expenditures for this new funding.

Motion made by Dylan Zuniga to add revenue and expenditures for MCOLES training in the amount of \$1500.00 to the 2024-2025 general fund, seconded by Denise Kurdziel. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, motion carried.

Chief Walker presented the council with the monthly police report and advised that the Police Committee met on January 16, 2025. Chief Walker is obtaining pricing for requested items for the council to review at the next meeting for budgeting purposes.

Mike Harris reported that the Planning Commission had a short meeting this month. Zoning issues include the continuation of Green Lawn Trailer Park violations and lack of response from the owner. After discussion it was determined that after verifying that the certified letter was received by the owner of the trailer park, that legal counsel would be contacted moving forward. Mike Harris also advised that another zoning complaint has been received but would need to wait to be dealt with as the alleged violations are currently covered in snow and are not visible.

Dylan Zuniga will be updating the community survey, and it will be mailed to residents after the update.

Recreation Director Brandy Williams reported to the council that all winners of the light contest have received their gift cards. Prein and Newhof have provided an update on the DNR Grant process and has sent a proposal for engineering and grant administration in an amount not to exceed \$46,000. The council agreed to let the CD for the fund match for the grant to roll another 6 months.

Motion by Mike Harris to accept the proposal from Prein and Newhof as presented, seconded by Dylan Zuniga. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, motion carries.

Deb Murphy gave the monthly report as the RCC director. Deb informed the council that the ceiling is going to need replaced in the community center and council instructed to gather quotes for the renovation.

Deb also asked the council to consider a price increase for the rental fees at the RCC as they have not been raised in some time. The council agreed.

Motion made by Mike Harris to raise the current pricing of the community center from \$650 per event, to \$800 per event, in addition to the current \$200 security deposit, and raising the fee for the members room from the current rate of \$75 per event to \$100 per event, leaving the current \$50 deposit intact. Motion seconded by Denise Kurdziel, 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, motion carried.

DPW Director Scott Buishuizen reported that he is working on his wish list for budget time for the DPW department, and that Bruce is keeping busy plowing snow and building picnic tables.

Discussion of updated committee assignments, with the agreement that all committees need to meet prior to the next council meeting to prioritize wants and needs for the upcoming fiscal year.

Motion by Mike Harris to pay the bills, seconded by Dylan Zuniga. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, motion carried.

Treasurer Murphy updated council on the latest ESTA law changes, council agreed to reassess at the next council meeting.

Brandy Williams asked the council for permission to sign up for a subscription for Labor Law posters, keeping us compliant with posting requirements with all the changes happening.

Motion made by Dylan Zuniga to allow Brandy to proceed with the subscription, seconded by Mike Harris, 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, motion carried.

Brandy Williams asked council if they would like to proceed with American Legal updating our ordinances/ codifying. The council decided they would like to hold off until after committees meet to make sure that there are no additional changes before committing.

President Talmadge asked council if they would like to be registered for the 2025 Elected Officials Academy Winter Core Summit, a virtual training in February through the Michigan Municipal League. Some council members expressed interest and will email Brandy if they would like to be registered.

Denise Kurdziel brought the Deputy Clerk position to the attention of the council, reminding them this was on a 6-month basis and was due to be voted on again for continuation. It had been mentioned that Carol Witzke would like to be considered as an hourly or contract employee on an on call or as needed basis for an hourly rate. President Talmadge was going to have a conversation with Carol and report back to the council members.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Williams

Clerk