

Village of Rothbury

November 18, 2025

Council Meeting Minutes

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Rothbury Village Council was called to order in the Village Hall at 7:00PM by President Pro-Tem Mike Harris in the absence of President Vern Talmadge.

Council Members present were Autum Drake, Jim Fekken, Denise Kurdziel, Troy Voorhees and Dylan Zuniga.

Also present were Treasurer Deb Murphy, Police Chief Ethan Walker, DPW Director Scott Beishuizen, Michelle Jager and Claire Marshall.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the prior meetings minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer Deb Murphy gave the monthly Treasurers report.

Police Chief Ethan Walker gave the monthly police report.

Planning commission chair Mike Harris reported that there was not a meeting held in the month of November.

Zoning administrator Mike Harris updated on current zoning issues advising all was under control.

Recreation Director Brandy Williams updated the council on the Czarny project, while Troy Voorhees advised he would be receiving a bid for the bathrooms by Thanksgiving from a local contractor.

Santa will be visiting the Village Hall again this year on Saturday December 13th from 10AM-12PM with cocoa cookies and gifts for the children.

The annual Holiday Light Decorating Contest will take place again this year, with a first-place winner receiving a \$300 Visa gift card, second place winning a \$200 Visa gift card and third place winning a \$100 gift card. Winners will be announced at the December council meeting.

The council agreed to continue with a decorating company for the street pole holiday lights but would like to see bids from other companies as the contract with the current vendor is up this year.

DPW Director Scott Beishuizen gave the monthly DPW report.

Denise Kurdziel led a discussion with the council on special event pay for the police officers. In the absence of overtime, special events that fall under the mass gathering ordinance will trigger the ability to receive special event pay, equal to one and a half times the officer's hourly wage.

Motion to approve special event pay for the police department made by Denise Kurdziel, seconded by Autumn Drake. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, motion carried.

Motion by Denise Kurdziel to pay retroactively for EF 2025 special event pay for officers Walicki and Tenhove, Chief Walker opting out, in the amount of \$900 each to be paid with December payroll. Motion supported by Dylan Zuniga. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, motion carried.

Denise Kurdziel presented the council with the compensation package suggested by the Police Committee for Chief Walker. PTO in addition to the required ESTA will be awarded to the Police Chief in the amount of 40 hours per calendar year, with a rollover cap of no more than 80 hours per calendar year. Starting Jan 1, 2026, Chief will receive a total of 60 hours of

PTO, 40 hours annually and 20 hours from 2025 that would have been awarded in June when the policy was first created.

Motion to approve the compensation package for the Police Chief by Denise Kurdziel, seconded by Dylan Zuniga. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, motion carried.

Discussion amongst council members on committee assignments, reassessments and the responsibilities of each committee. Brandy Williams will update per council wishes and distribute for 2026/2027 year.

The council agreed to defer to Village Attorney on the site plan review ordinance and process. With current discontent in the village over recent approvals a legal review of the village's processes is necessary.

Motion by Jim Fekken to pay the bills. Support from Autumn Drake. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, motion carried.

Public comments took place with concerns about land sales and usage of connecting properties.

Chief Walker added that the council considered changing the fines in the local hunting ordinance to reflect the cost to the village, including but not limited to officer wages, court time, and attorney fees. The current fine of \$500 is not sufficient.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Williams
Clerk

