

Village of Rothbury

September 16, 2025

Council Meeting Minutes

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Rothbury Village Council was called to order in the Village Hall by President Vern Talmadge at 7:02 PM.

Council members present were Jim Fekken, Mike Harris and Troy Voorhees.

Absent were Dylan Zuniga, Autum Drake and Denise Kurdziel.

Also present were Treasurer Deb Murphy, Police Chief Ethan Walker, DPW Director Scott Besihuizen, Officer Tom Walicki, Julie Trevino, Sandra Bailey, Carlos Canales, Mikayla Canales, Andy Roberts, Brian VanNett, and Eric VanDop from Brickley DeLong.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Treasurer Deb Murphy gave the monthly treasurers report, informing council that just under 95% of taxes were collected this year.

Eric VanDop from Brickley DeLong gave the annual village Audit Report, stating that the audit was normal, and that there were no findings as usual.

Chief Walker gave the monthly police report. Disposal of surplus police equipment was discussed with council. The old police radios have now been rendered obsolete to the Village Police Department, however they could be utilized with the Montague DPW for communication purposes with emergency personnel with reprogramming.

Motion made by Mike Harris, seconded by Jim Fekken to donate the old police radios to the City of Montague DPW. 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion passed.

Planning Commission chair Mike Harris shared that at the last Planning Commission meeting a land split was approved with conditions. The village attorney will review documentation.

Zoning Administrator Mike Harris updated council and audience on progress with Greenlawn Trailer Park efforts.

Recreation Director Brandy Williams shared with council that swings have been ordered for the Village Park swing set, and more will be ordered in the Spring replacing all of the current swings.

Bathroom renderings for the Czarny Park project were shared and discussed with the council, with the decision to go with a 3 season bathroom, and request of other options for a larger restroom and storage area for softball equipment.

The Halloween Drive Through will take place on Halloween at the Community Center as usual from 6-7:30, volunteers needed to wrap hotdogs and hand out bags.

Brandy Williams asked council to consider a Halloween Decorating contest at request of a Village resident, similar to what we do for Christmas. The council decided maybe next year, with many council members absent they wanted to have more input.

Motion by Mike Harris to pay the bills, seconded by Jim Fekken. 4 ayes 0 nays motion carried.

Community Center Director Deb Murphy reported that the RCC rentals are status quo, nothing special to report.

DPW Director Scott Beishuizen reported that a vehicle hit and destroyed the Village of Rothbury sign at Winston and 88th. Chief Walker has determined the vehicle that hit it with a piece of the car that was left behind. Northwoods sign company is working on pricing for a replacement. The Oceana County Road Commission is going to be doing some trimming of overgrown trees and brush from the sides of the roadways.

A new grill is needed for the Village Park, Brandy will look into pricing.

The council also agreed to continue with the Oceana County Road Commission for snowplow services for 2025-2026.

Motion by Troy Voorhees to approve the completed Village of Rothbury Employee Handbook including the completed Ethics Policy, seconded by Mike Harris. 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

President Talmadge informed the council and audience of an upcoming tour available through the Oceana County Economic Alliance and encouraged attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Williams

Clerk