

Public Hearing & Village Board Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM – Rosendale Municipal Building

Kurt Caramanidis, Village President

Trustees: Larry Crook, Daniel Degner, Jeremy Giebel, Keegan Madigan, Tammy Pflum & Tricia Yeager

Budget Public Hearing

1. Call Public Hearing to order - The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:00 pm.
2. Persons wishing to speak in support or against the Proposed 2024 Budget & Levy Limit – No comments.
3. Adjourn the public hearing – Public hearing was adjourned at 6:01 pm.

AGENDA ITEM 1 – Call Village Board meeting to order – November 13, 2023 meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by President Kurt Caramanidis and the following were present at this meeting:

Trustees: Larry Crook, Dan Degner, Jeremy Giebel, Keegan Madigan, Tammy Pflum & Tricia Yeager

Staff: Emily Wirkus, Clerk-Treasurer & Jeremy Tabbert, Public Works

Citizens: Jim & Emajean Westphal

AGENDA ITEM 2 – Pledge of Allegiance

AGENDA ITEM 3 – Approve minutes of 9-18-23, as circulated – Since there was no October meeting, motion was made by Trustees Pflum/Crook to approve the minutes from the 9-17-22 meeting. Motion was carried by a 5-0-2 roll call. Trustees Degner/Giebel abstained.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – Public Comments – Jim Westphal stated this is for information only – he said with the cooperation with the fire department, they received a permit from the DNR to dredge the pond that is located behind his house. He said it hasn't been done in over 30 years. It was mentioned that that pond is a major water source for the Rosendale Fire Department. It was mentioned that there is one more step that needs to be completed before the dredging can begin.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – Discuss & approve the 2024 Budget – President Caramanidis asked if anyone had any questions regarding the proposed 2024 Budget. Trustee Pflum asked if we need to discuss agenda item 11 before moving forward with approving the budget. It was mentioned that that wasn't necessary. Motion was made by Trustees Degner/Giebel to approve the 2024 Budget. Motion was carried by a 7-0-0 roll call.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – Approve the 2024 Levy Limit – It was mentioned that after filling out the Levy Limit worksheet, our allowable Levy is \$257,263. Motion was made by Trustees Pflum/Madigan to approve the 2024 Levy Limit of \$257,263. Motion was carried by a 7-0-0 roll call.

AGENDA ITEM 7 – Discuss & approve, if necessary, the Village of Rosendale Assessor Contract for 2024, 2025, 2026 with 2025 being an Exterior Revaluation – It was mentioned that Clerk-Treasurer Wirkus emailed this contract out to Board members few months ago when it was received from our Assessor. Trustee Madigan questioned shopping around for a new Assessor in 2026. It was mentioned that we have been working with our current Assessor for many years and they have been great to work with. It was mentioned that we can shop

around for pricing when contract is up to see who else is available if needed. Trustee Yeager mentioned if we have to do the Revaluation. It was mentioned that we need to stay in compliance. Motion was made by Trustees Degner/Crook to approve the Rosendale Assessor Contract for 2024, 2025, 2026 with 2025 being an Exterior Revaluation. Motion was carried by a 7-0-0 roll call.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – Tree Committee – Trustee Yeager stated that Agenda Items 8 & 9 go together. She mentioned that the budget stayed the same.

AGENDA ITEM 9 – Discuss & approve, if necessary, decorations for trees discussed in the Tree Committee – Trustee Yeager mentioned that the Tree Committee received funds from the Rosendale Lions Club to be put towards Christmas lights on 3 trees that were planted on the different ends of town – Fire station, Rosendale Intermediate School and MSI Express. She mentioned that students will decorate the trees. She is looking for permission to buy the lights, timer, extension cords & a \$30 outlet for the Fire department so the tree can be plugged into the sign. It was mentioned that permission doesn't need to be made by the Board when purchases are made within the budget. It was asked if a committee would like to make a purchase, what amount needs to be brought to the Board for approval? Trustee Crook/Degner both said it is great to bring info to the Board so they are aware what's going on, but purchases don't need to be brought to the Board for items already within the budget already. Trustee Giebel asked if maybe make the amount a certain percentage of the budget pertaining to that committee/department. Trustee Pflum stated if in the budget and normal expense during the year, it doesn't need to be brought to the Board for approval. Trustee Yeager stated she would like to know a set amount ex: \$500 or more would need to bring to the Board for approval.

AGENDA ITEM 10 – Discuss & approve, if necessary, bidding and construction of the new pavilion & bathroom at Taylor Park – President Caramanidis said we are not approving the construction at this time, we would just be looking to move forward with the bidding process. Trustee Crook mentioned the preliminary numbers that came in for the pavilion project. It was mentioned that they are hoping the demolition of the current pavilion would be donated. It was asked if the remaining ARPA funds could be used towards the pavilion? It was mentioned that the remaining ARPA funds will be discussed. President Caramanidis suggests to move forward and allow the bids to come in and then decide how to divide the remaining ARPA funds. Trustee Crook mentioned that soil testing needs to be done before moving forward. Trustee Crook would like to \$1,500 to be put towards soil sampling with the engineering process. Motion was made to move forward with the bidding process for the new pavilion and bathroom at Taylor Park. Motion was carried by a 7-0-0 roll call.

AGENDA ITEM 11 – Discuss & approve, if necessary, spending up to \$40,000 on the Taylor Park Pavilion project – Discussion was had about a very generous donation being made by Jim and Emajean Westphal and Bluemkes Inc to be put towards the Taylor Park Pavilion project. It was asked if the Village would spend \$40,000 in the Taylor Park Pavilion Project since the projected cost of the project is expected to exceed the donation amount. Motion was made by Trustees Degner/Madigan to spend up to \$40,000 on the Taylor Park Pavilion project subject to the project being built. Motion was carried by a 7-0-0 roll call.

Trustee Degner thanked the Westphal Family and Bluemkes Inc for the generous donation. President Caramanidis thanked them as well.

AGENDA ITEM 12 – Discuss & approve, if necessary, the naming rights for the Taylor Park Pavilion project – It was mentioned and asked that since there is a very generous donation being made by the Jim & Emajean Westphal and Bluemkes Inc, could the Westphal's and Bluemkes Inc have the naming rights of the new pavilion at Taylor

Park if/when the project gets completed. Jim Westphal stated that the family hasn't decided on a name at this time. Motion was made by Trustees Degner/Pflum to give Jim and Emajean Westphal and Bluemkes Inc the naming rights of the new pavilion pending Board approval. Motion was carried by a 6-0-1 roll call. Trustee Crook abstained.

AGENDA ITEM 13 – Discuss plans for using remaining APRA funds for 2024 projects – President Caramanidis explained his thought process regarding ARPA projects. His thought process was splitting up the remaining funds into several different projects. Trustee Yeager asked for a committee for ARPA funds projects. President Caramanidis asked Trustee Yeager if she would like to lead that committee. Trustee Yeager asked if Trustee Degner would want to lead the committee but Trustee Degner declined. Trustee Pflum would like to hear more from the LYBC to see what their plans were for the basketball court. Jeremy Tabbert questioned what the numbers from the LYBC and what the plans were/are. It was mentioned that Dan Holdridge, Jeremy Tabbert and the Village Board should be a part of what the plans are with the LYBC and the basketball court as it is on Village property. Trustee Yeager & the rest of the Board mentioned they would like more info as well regarding re-doing the basketball court. Trustee Pflum mentioned she doesn't want to spend the same amount towards the basketball court as the playground when the playground is used all year round. Trustee Madigan would like the LYBC to come to a Board meeting. It was suggested that maybe "basketball families" would be interested in making a donation towards the basketball court as like the majority of the donations that came from the softball diamond at Taylor Park came from "softball families" i.e., Wild Bill, etc. Trustee Degner suggests partnering with donors as it's not worth losing community support in regards to the pavilion project.

AGENDA ITEM 14 – Discuss & approve, if necessary, a 2% pay increase for Village employees – President Caramanidis mentioned that during the Personnel Committee meeting, it was suggested to give the Village employees a 2% pay increase. Motion was made by Trustees Degner/Madigan to approve a 2% pay increase to the Village employees beginning January 2024. Motion was carried by a 7-0-0 roll call.

AGENDA ITEM 15 – Discuss & approve, if necessary, the purchase of a new lawn mower – Jeremy Tabbert, Public Works, mentioned that the zero turn has electrical issues. He said Ballweg offered \$6500 on a trade. He said he would like to update our lawnmowers and stated that the Scag is in worse shape. Jeremy Tabbert has info from Ballweg for a gas and diesel mower. He stated he prefers diesel due to the amount of mowing is done and how fast you can get the job done. Trustee Crook asked about selling the Scag elsewhere vs trading it in. Trustee Crook also suggests the diesel mower vs gas mower. It was mentioned to order the new mower and try to sell the old mower in mean time. Jeremy Tabbert said if going to sell mower, to do it now. Trustee Pflum stated she would prefer the diesel mower. Trustee Yeager said diesel mower and trusts the Public Works on what to do with the old mower – whether to sell or trade it in. Motion was made by Trustees Crook/Degner to approve the purchase of the 2023 Ferris diesel lawnmower. Motion was carried by a 7-0-0 roll call.

AGENDA ITEM 16 – Discussion on Board procedures & meeting rules -

AGENDA ITEM 17 – Approve checks dated September 1, 2023 through October 31, 2023 – Motion was made by Trustees Crook/Degner to approve checks dated September 1, 2023 through October 31, 2023. Motion was carried by a 7-0-0 roll call.

AGENDA ITEM 18 – Next Village Board Meeting will be held on Monday, December 18, 2023 – 211 N. Grant St. at 6:00 pm – Discussion was had regarding to possibly switching the Monday meetings to a different date. After discussion, decision was made to keep the same schedule but to adjust the time of meeting to begin at 5:30 pm.

The time change will allow for others to attend the School Board meetings if interested and vice versa. The December 18, 2023 meeting will begin at 5:30 pm.

AGENDA ITEM 19 – Correspondence – Nothing mentioned.

AGENDA ITEM 20 – President’s Report – President Caramanidis mentioned that there may be an interview coming up for a part-time Police Chief. President Caramanidis asked Trustee Pflum if she would like to be the Long-term planning coordinator for capital improvements if a committee were to form. It was also mentioned to contact other smaller municipalities in area to see if crossing guards are employed by the municipality or the school district.

AGENDA ITEM 21 – Adjourn the meeting – Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.