

This Regular Board meeting was called to order by President Mire at 6:30pm

Roll Call:

Physically Present –Peschang, Robertson, Fiems, Fowler, Fiems and Polenske

Absent – DeMarlie

Others Physically Present – Clerk Housenga, Attorney Jim Zmuda, Connor Peterson & Jake of MSA Professional Services, Robert Hawkins, Jim Miller of Riverdale Transportation (arrived at 6:34pm), Marty & Jen Brooks, Kathy Saathizahn & Jan Speier (Arrived at 6:38pm)

Others Virtually Present – Jennifer Martinson (left the meeting at 7:08pm)

A quorum was physically established.

CONSENT “Omnibus” Agenda: Fiems motioned to approve 07/08/2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, 08/2025 Monthly Bills totaling \$149,981.79 and Treasure’s Report for 07/2025; Fowler seconded. All present board members voted yes, motion passes.

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: Odoni Partners did not appear at the meeting once again. Housenga confirmed that an email link was provided by Dante Odoni to upload requested documents for the FY24 audit, and those documents were provided. No further communication has been engaged after the documents were uploaded. Mire asked Clerk Housenga to attempt to obtain an update from Odoni and report back.

Robert Hawkins presented a Surveyor’s Plat and easement agreement. Zmuda reviewed the agreement and his concerns with the document, specifically paragraphs three, four and seven. Therefore, Zmuda recommended revisions to the agreement which the board concurred with. Fiems motioned to approve Mire to sign to release the future road easement after a corrected document is presented. Peschang seconded the motion, all board members voted yes; motion carries. Mr. Hawkins will have the agreement document updated and have Mire sign.

Sam Norman requested a sewer costs reprieve as he was watering sod, therefore the water used watering the sod did not get processed by the sewer system. Fiems motioned to credit the sewer portion of Sam Norman’s water, sewer and garbage bill \$136.65 after it is verified sod was placed and watered. Fowler seconded the motion, all present board members voted yes., motion carries.

Jennifer Martinsen of Lauterbach & Amen LLP attended the meeting virtually and reviewed the proposal presented to provide municipal auditing services for FY25. The contract would provide audit services for 1 year, FY25, in the amount of \$19,500.000. Martinsen explained the FY24 audit would need to be completed and filed prior to their services starting, adding once completed a start date would be after November 2025. Martinson did note that the government sector is their niche, indicating the audit process should take 10-12 weeks to complete as long as no issues were identified during the audit. Currently there is no performance clause in the contract. Mire requested more time to review the agreement provided. Martinsen will present a full-service agreement at the next meeting for approval.

Jim Miller of Riverdale Transportation requested authorization to park a school bus in the Village Hall parking lot for the 2025/2026 school year. Parking of the bus is requested to save payroll and fuel costs. Fiems noted after boating season is completed, the boat dock parking lot could be used as a secondary location for parking.

Conner Peterson and Jake from MSA Professional presented a professional services agreement to design improvements to the water system and aid with permitting. The agreement present was in the amount of \$123,300 for Project Number 00443042. Mire explained not only to the board but to the associates with MSA that funds are not in place currently to pay for this type of agreement, adding that a loan would need to be taken out to pay for any agreements or improvements for water improvements, design and/or repairs. MSA is to report back with a reduced proposal for improvements and permitting at the next board meeting after discussion with the Public Works Director to truly identify the needs of the Village. During discussion it was noted that some rework of the design and permitting for the water tower will be needed prior to work commencing.

PRESIDENT – Mire: Nothing to report at this time.

POLICE REPORT: Report was presented

ATTORNEY – Califf & Harper P.C.: Nothing new to discuss.

FIRE REPORT – Chief Carey: Report reviewed as presented.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Report as presented.

INFRASTRUCTURE (Public Works, Water, Sewer & Garbage) – Robertson: Robertson noted the Public Works Department recently made repairs to the sewer system as a leak was detected. There was previously no shut-off valve prior to the repairs. The Village can expect to receive bills from the repairs in or around the \$20,000.00 range.

Robertson noted Bump will be looking into possibly filing an insurance claim for all the water repairs that have been required lately as the repairs could have been caused by lighting and/or a crushed line.

Robertson noted he did request no parking and a stop to be placed at the corner of 2nd Avenue A and 11th Street. Housenga explained an underground utility locate has been called in for the placement of the signs.

PARKS, RECREATION & CEMETERY – Polenske: Polenske noted she feels the tall metal slide at Riverbend Park needs to be replaced or removed for the safety of children playing at the playground. Polenske also noted that the skate park equipment is not being used, she would like to see more versatile equipment to be placed. More discussion on this matter will take place at budget planning meetings.

VIDEO GAMING, COMMUNITY RELATIONS & EVENT PLANNING – Fowler: Fowler reported gaming revenues received this last month were \$4,315.48.

ORDINANCE, LICENSES, BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Peschang: Peschang will be looking into modifying the ordinance pertaining a lot sizes and the building codes and discussion will be taking place a future meeting.

Building/Plumbing permits were reviewed for the months of May, June and July. In May 2025 4 general permits, 2 plumbing permits, and 1 demolition permit was issued. In June 2025 there were 2 general, and 1 plumbing permit(s) were issued. July of 2025 there were 2 general permits and 1 plumbing permit issued.

FINANCE – DeMarlie: Housenga explained that the Illinois Department of Transportation conducted a Municipal Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Funds Documentation Review and Funds Audit for the period of January 1st, 2011 to December 31st, 2023. As required by the audit process a Documentation Review Summary was provided from the Illinois Department of Transportation, no findings nor any issues with records or accounting were identified. Fiems motioned to approve and accept the Illinois Department of Transportation Municipal MFT Funds Document Review # 58 for the Village of Rapids City. Fowler seconded the motion, all present members voted yes, motion carries.

The Village Board reviewed the new fee schedule for Blackhawk State Bank services as mailed to the Village.

The Village did receive a thank you letter from Port Byron Tug Fest for the donation authorized at a previous meeting. No donations requested were received.

PERSONNEL & PUBLIC SAFETY – Fiems: Fiems motioned to approve travel expense for continuing education for Housenga and Peschang in the amount of \$1,250.00 each to attend the IML Conference in Chicago Illinois. The expenses should cover transportation, hotel and meals and conferences costs. Robertson seconded the motion, all present board members voted yes, motion carries.

Zmuda and his firm drafted a Return to Work / Workers' Compensation Policy as required by the Illinois Municipal League Risk Management Association. After review Fiems motioned and Fowler seconded to approve the Return to Work / Workers' Compensation Policy. All present board members voted yes, motion carries.

ELECTIONS – Mire: Nothing to report at this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: Kathy Saatizahn and Jan Speier addressed the board with concerns about overhead power lines along 1st Avenue. The ladies feel the lines are eyesores and unappealing to the aesthetics of the neighborhood. The ladies would also like to have the old Frontier telephone lines removed as well. Saatizahn states she have checked with Frontier and there are no homes activity utilizing the traditional landline phone service any longer on the river side of the railroad tracks. Saatizahn states she would be willing to pay for some of the cost to

move the power lines underground. Mire requested Housenga reach out to MidAmerican Energy to investigate costs and cost responsibility of moving the power lines, then at the next meeting report back.

NEW BUSINESS: Mire requested the board to approve a transfer from the Water System Maintenance Account in the amount of \$47,545.00 and from General Fund in the amount of \$12,000.00. Mire noted this request was to ensure all payments on the current bill listing are paid accordingly. A discussion did take place with Treasurer Barber, who did confirm the total transfers would be appropriate. Robertson motioned and Polenske seconded the motion to approve a transfer of \$47,545.00 from the Water System Maintenance and \$12,000 from the General Fund to the Water Operation Fund. All present board members voted yes, motion carries.

With nothing further to discuss, a motion to adjourn this Regular Board Meeting at 8:56pm. Was made by Robertson and seconded by Fiems, all present board members of the Board concurred.

Missy M. Housenga
Village Clerk