Village of Rapids City July 8th, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Rock Island, County, Illinois

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

## **Roll Call:**

<u>Physically Present</u> – DeMarlie, Peschang, Robertson, Fiems, Fowler and Polenske enter the meeting 6:38pm

Absent – Fiems

Others Physically Present – Clerk Housenga, Public Works Director Bump, Treasurer Barber, Attorney Jim Zmuda, Angel Jacobs of MSA Professional Services, Robert Hawkins (Left at 7pm), Marty & Jen Brooks, John Long, Greg Kerner (Left at 7:39pm) Others Virtually Present – None.

A quorum was physically established.

**CONSENT "Omnibus" Agenda:** Robertson motioned to approve 06/10/2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, 06/26/2025 Committee of the Whole Minutes, 07/2025 Monthly Bills totaling \$206,829.84 and Treasure's Report for 06/2025; Fowler seconded. All present board members voted yes, motion passes.

<u>PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:</u> 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, but after involving Platinum information Services it was identified the link was faulty. Housenga emailed and left a message for Odoni to try to obtain a valid link with no success.

Robert Hawkins once again inquiring about the survey the board determined was needed to vacate the roadway at the end of 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue A. Attorney Zmuda recommended the survey along with specifications within the easement agreement indicating (1.) vacate the 50' future road easement, (2.) accept a 25' extension on the current road for an easement to disposal of snow which the board still agrees with. Hawkins has agreed to secure his own survey company, and all costs related to a survey of the property in question. Peschang motioned to allow an extension of time for Hawkins to hire a survey company and have the survey conducted, with an easement agreement and road vacation document to be presented by the September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. DeMarlie seconded the motion; DeMarlie, Polenske, Fowler and Peschang voted yes; Robertson voted no. Motion carries.

Greg Kerner also once again addressed the board requesting financial assistance with the most recent utility bills from May, June and now July. The property location is 402 17th Street. Usage for the past three months total 238,200 gallons. At any given month there has only been a total of 3 people occupying the home. Kerner did state he has a pool and hired a pool company to open the pool and conduct the initial care. At one-point Kerner believes the pool company forgot to turn off the water. Kerner verified he does not have a water softener. A plumber did find a leak in a malfunctioning toilet valve and made the necessary repairs. Mire stated the water was delivered to the home and the processing of the sewer is questionable as there could have been two possible sources of the usage. Bump figured with a toilet can leak 21,600 gallons in one month, which could have been the culprit to the usage but not all of it. No water as been leaking on the floors nor has the ground around the property been saturated. Based on the lack of evidence no credit for water or sewer usage can be given. Bump will read the meter at Kerner's home daily over the next week and verify the usage is not excessive. If the usage is deemed excessive, they may switch out the meter to see if the meter is faulty, but the chances of a meter reading high if faulty are rare. Kerner will also have his plumber back to the home to verify no leak is present once again.

Marty and Jen Brooks addressed the board concerning a couple of matters. The first issue at hand is the fact they feel they are being overbilled for water and sewer services. The Brooks have a pit meter that has been estimated for years. Pit meters freeze in the wintertime causing them to stop reading properly. The Brooks's feel they have been over charged for years. Per the Board of Trustees, Bump was directed to give the Brooks a 5/8" meter at no charge to have installed in their home at their expense with the plumber of their choice. Mire asked Clerk Housenga to call the utility billing company to verify the method of estimation has not changed within the past couple of months. Mire also stated once actual usage is established once the new meter is installed an account analysis can be conducted to verify if an over billing had occurred. Mire directed the Brooks' to hold off on paying the high bill. The second matter discussed was the hill of their property along 17<sup>th</sup> Street. During the construction process, trees were removed, and the ground was regraded. The Brooks' are concerned about the hillside collapsing resulting in them loosing part of their property. Bump has contacted the contractor that worked on the project twice and seeding has been conducted twice, although not during ideal growing times. Bump has reached out the contractor again and has been told that seeding

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will be done again in the early fall. Bump would like to see the seeding done sooner rather than later. The Brooks' thanked the Board for listening to their concerns and appreciated the ongoing work to resolve all issues.

Sara Watson provided an email requesting a security deposit be returned for rental of the Community Center as the event needed to be canceled due to medical issues. Mire authorized the return of the \$150.00 deposit.

<u>PRESIDENT – Mire:</u> Mire announced the Rock Island County Sherriff's Department has selected Rapids City to host National Night out Event at Rapids City Village Hall from 5-7pm on August 5<sup>th</sup>. More details are coming from the Rock Island Sherriff's Department when available.

**POLICE REPORT:** Report was presented

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

**FIRE REPORT – Chief Carey:** Reports was verbally presented Housenga.

**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Report as presented.

Bump also reported that they are having issues with Well # 2. A flushing hydrant has been installed to aid in water testing passage. Electrical issues with Well # 2 arose and are now resolved.

An email sent by the DNR was received over the weekend concerning the parking lot striping at Schuler's Shady Grove Park. Bump has reached out to Taylor Ridge Paving to obtain pricing of striping the lots and will report back when more information is known.

INFRASTRUCTURE (Public Works, Water, Sewer & Garbage) – Robertson: Bump provided pricing on items addressed in Attachment A in the Site Inspection Report from ILEPA after the inspection that occurred on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025. The only item not priced out was the door the EPA is requiring to be replaced. Robertson motioned to approve the purchase of 2 – dual walled containment tanks, 1 – 110 single channel wall mount Controller with strobe light, and 1 - CT7 style chlorine 0-3 ppm sensor with non-explosion proof j-box not to exceed \$5,000.00 plus shipping and handling. Fowler seconded the motion, all present members voted yes. Motion carries.

Angel Jacobs of MSA Professional Services appeared before the Board to discuss the PER and obtained the signed document for the submission as required to apply for the SRF Loan from IEPA. Mire signed the documents for Jacobs to submit.

Robertson noted the clearing of the property located near Schuler's Shady Grove by the property owner. The owner states he has conducted a survey indicating property lines where he has been clearing trees and weeds. Mire has directed Bump to obtain our own survey to verify the Village's property lines. While clearing the property the property owner placed all large pieces of trees and yard debris in the creek that allows over 50% of the storm water to drain into the Mississippi River. The property owner is attempting to be contacted to clear the debris out of the creek. The Illinois Department of Transportation, Canadian Pacific Railroad have been contacted about the situation. Mire would like the DNR to be contacted to make them aware of the debris in the creek.

In light of a pond being constructed on 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North the board discussed possibly modifying the ordinance concerning fencing a pool if it is over 24". The change could possibly include fencing any body of water over 24". More discussion will take place at a later time.

<u>PARKS, RECREATION & CEMETERY – Polenske:</u> Polenske reported Shannon Spence purchased the bench previously discussed to be placed at Schuler's Shady Grove. Bump noted the bench would be mounted to the boat dock. Mire asked Bump to verify all safety standards are met prior to placement.

<u>VIDEO GAMING, COMMUNITY RELATIONS & EVENT PLANNING – Fowler:</u> Fowler reported gaming revenues received this last month were \$4,421.93.

ORDINANCE, LICENSES, BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING – Peschang: Nothing to report at this time.

<u>FINANCE – DeMarlie:</u> Housenga explained a correction to the Bill Listing presented on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025. A bill payment to East Moline for the Lighthouse Landing sewer charges were

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previously accidentally entered on the bill listing under Water Fund not the Sewer Fund. When the bill was approved and paid the out of the Sewer Fund per Mire. The presented today reflects the corrected bill listing. The total bills paid \$109,319.42 remain the same.

No donations requested.

**PERSONNEL & PUBLIC SAFETY – Fiems:** Nothing to report currently

**ELECTIONS – Mire:** Nothing to report at this meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: None.

<u>NEW BUSINESS:</u> Clerk Housenga explained she would not be able to attend the IML Conference as Billing Clerk Hoodjer requested those days off for vacation. Mire stated the office could be closed during the two days as valuable information is obtained during this event. More discussion will take place next month.

With nothing further to discuss, Robertson motioned to adjourn this Regular Board Meeting at 8:26pm. DeMarlie seconded the motion, all members of the Board concurred.

Missy M. Housenga Village Clerk