

**VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
May 6, 2024**

The Regular Meeting of the Village Council held at 442 N. Grand Street, was called to order by President Rochholz at 7:00 p.m.

The Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America were led by President Rochholz.

ROLL CALL:

Present: President Rochholz, Trustees Mastenbrook, Beck, Bergland, Barnes and Carlin.
Absent: None.
Also Present: Village Manager Cheri Lutz, Village Clerk Theresa O'Leary, Linda Barnes, Steve Waldron, Brianna Wurtsmith, Shawn Rance, Don Ulsh, and Jennifer Sportel.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Beck, seconded by Barnes, to approve the agenda as presented. All Aye.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Mastenbrook, seconded by Carlin, to approve the Consent Agenda with the following amendment: In the list of invoices presented for approval, the invoice to MDOT was excluded for payment. The Village Office has contacted MDOT and requested an explanation of this charge. By Roll Call, All aye.

CITIZEN'S ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Shawn Rance referred to a previous meeting when he said President Rochholz stated residents that live in the outskirts of the Village get charged 150% of the Village water usage rate.

President Rochholz responded by saying he never said that. He stated residents in Schoolcraft Township, that use Village water, are charged 150% of the Village rate.

Mr. Don Ulsh, Schoolcraft Township Superintendent, thanked the Village of Schoolcraft Council for all they do.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Water Rates

Motion by Mastenbrook, seconded by Bergland to adopt Resolution 2024-04. A Resolution to Set Water System Rates and Charges for the Purpose of Funding the Schoolcraft Village Water System. By Roll Call, All aye.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Mike Rochholz attended a Water Authority Meeting at Lockport Township. He presented the Council with an update on water system improvements and made the following statements:

- He stated the Water Authority asked what it would take to get the Village of Schoolcraft involved.
- He stated there are three options for water service improvement areas that were presented at the meeting. (Maps were given to Council members, showing the three options).
- He asked what the benefit would be to the Village of Schoolcraft.
- He stated the cost of this project will be provided when it is available.
- He stated we cannot commit until we know the cost and have all the information.
- He stated that this is a preliminary investigative report.

TABULATION OF BIDS:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

STATEMENTS FROM CITIZENS AND MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

Village President Mike Rochholz made the following statements:

- He asked that everyone be patient during the construction project on US 131.
- He stated the Schoolcraft Officers are doing the best they can. They cannot be everywhere all the time.

Village Manager Cheri Lutz made the following statements:

- She stated Consumer's Energy is sending a letter to the Village of Schoolcraft stating they have disconnected service at 203 Pine Street..
- She stated demolition could potentially start within two weeks after receiving the disconnection of service letter from Consumer's Energy.
- She stated the Village has "SLOW DOWN" signs for residents that want them in their yard during the construction project.
- She stated Mr. Shawn Rance turned in his application for Council Trustee. The Council asked this be placed on the agenda for the discussion at the next meeting.
- She stated that not only is the Schoolcraft Police Department handling traffic issues caused by the construction and detours, they are handling other calls such as medical emergencies, crimes, investigations, and all other duties. There is one Officer on duty at a time.
- She stated she has communicated with the Vicksburg Foundation to discuss options for financial assistance for local businesses drastically affected by the construction on US 131.

Schoolcraft Police Chief Scott Smith made the following statements:

- He commended Sergeant Edwards on his response to a fatal house fire.
- He stated the Schoolcraft Police Department has been assisting the crossing guard for Schoolcraft Schools in the morning and afternoon.

Trustee Kathy Mastenbrook made the following statements regarding the April 17, 2024 meeting of the South Kalamazoo County Fire Authority (SKCFA) she attended:

- She stated Chief McMillan is attending KVIAA meetings and should receive RFP within the next couple months.
- She stated Chief Shared that due to changes with ISO compliance and training he would like the Board to consider purchasing new reporting software. Board members provided a list of their questions to Chief McMillan, and he forwarded them to the software representative for a response.
- She stated Board Member Mike Tomlinson discussed the need to replace a 13-year-old truck and the Chief's vehicle.
- She stated the Finance Committee met on April 9, 2024. In light of the discussion regarding vehicle replacement, Tracy Locey mentioned the need to perhaps review/update the vehicle replacement schedule.
- She stated Board Member Carl Keller asked the Board to consider contacting a consultant to perform an updated facility study. The last "operational" study was completed in 2016.
- She stated Chief McMillan wanted the Board to know that he has received great support from our law enforcement officers and sincerely appreciates their help.

Trustee Mastenbrook also commended Jennifer Doorn on the signs she designed. The signs are to encourage people to support local businesses during the construction.

VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
May 6, 2024
PAGE 3

OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Michael J. Rochholz, Village President

Theresa O'Leary, Village Clerk