

**VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
September 15, 2025**

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

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, Doorn, Carlin and Rance.
Absent: None.
Also Present: Village Manager Cheri Lutz, Village Clerk Theresa O'Leary, Officer Eric Ray, Paul Bristol, Brian Julian, Phyllis Rose, Autumn and Steve Suits, Nikki Johnson, Brianna Wurtsmith, Mike Noora, Kim Parker, Pat Lupina, Jen Gottschalk, Jennifer Sportel, Joe Morton, and Errol Matthews.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Mastenbrook seconded by Rance, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
By Roll Call, all aye.

CITIZEN'S ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Residents appeared before the Council to express their opinions regarding the recent event leading up to the school lockdown.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

TABULATION OF BIDS:

The memorandum from Village Manager Cheri Lutz regarding bids for a replacement air conditioner for the Police Department was discussed.

Motion by Beck, seconded by Doorn to award the bid to Vredevoogd with an estimated cost of \$7,833.

By Roll Call:

Rochholz	Aye
Carlin	Aye
Mastenbrook	Aye
Bergland	Nay
Beck	Aye
Doorn	Aye
Rance	Nay

Motion passed 5-2.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Mr. Paul Bristol of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), provided funding options for a USDA loan which will be used to pay for upgrades to our water system.
He made the following statements:
- He stated USDA loans are for 40 years. There is no penalty for paying early.
 - He stated the Village of Schoolcraft is eligible for Market Loan, which is at 5.25% interest for this quarter. Next quarter it will likely change.
 - He stated the loan is disbursed using construction draws.
 - He stated the loan can be used to pay for services such as engineering, attorney fees, publishing, financial consulting, etc.
 - He stated the loan can be used to replace lead lines if they are connected to a water main. Mr. Bristol stated he will check to see if the loan can be used to finance lead line replacement if it is not hooked up to a water main.
 - He stated the first payment is due six months after closing. This payment is interest only, on the funds that have been disbursed.
 - He stated there are two interest payments a year and one principal payment a year.
 - He stated the Village needs to enlist the following to help meet the requirements of the loan: engineering firm, local attorney, bond counsel attorney, and financial advisor.
 - He stated USDA cannot refinance the loan if interest rates become lower during the duration of the loan. The Village can look elsewhere to refinance.
- b) The memorandum from Village Manager Cheri Lutz regarding trick or treat hours was discussed. It was the consensus of the Council to allow Village of Schoolcraft Staff to establish trick or treat hours from this point forward as there is no need to bring to Council level. No vote was taken.
- c) The memorandum from Village Clerk Theresa O'Leary regarding Resolution 2025-10. A Resolution to Allow Plante & Moran, Accounting Consultants, to Create Budget Amendments was discussed. Motion by Mastenbrook, seconded by Doorn to adopt Resolution 2025-10 as presented.
By Roll Call, all aye.
- d) The memorandum from Village Clerk Theresa O'Leary regarding Resolution 2025-11. A Resolution to Amend the Fiscal year 2025-06 Budget to Allow Transfer of Funds to Create a Balanced Budget was discussed.
Motion by Beck, seconded by Rance to adopt Resolution 2025-11 as presented.
By Roll Call, all aye.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

STATEMENTS FROM CITIZENS AND MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

President Mike Rochholz made the following statement:

- He stated he will attend a Supervisor's Meeting in Kalamazoo next week

Village Manager Cheri Lutz made the following statements:

- She stated Frontier is working on getting ROW permits to start installing high speed internet.
- She stated Amy Clark, owner of Schnauzers, is looking into the cost to open up the restaurant. She is keeping the (Schnauzers)name.
- She stated the Fiscal year 2024-25 Audit shows the Village was \$177,000 to the good in the general fund.
- She stated sidewalk trippers have been marked and will be repaired in the next couple weeks.

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OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Erroll Matthews asked about the status of amending the Ordinance to allow chickens in the Village of Schoolcraft.

President Mike Rochholz stated that if citizens would like to amend the Ordinance, they must provide the funding to cover the cost.

CLOSED SESSION:

Motion by Mastenbrook, seconded by Doorn to convene into Closed Session to discuss personnel matters at 7:58 p.m. By Roll Call, All aye.

Motion by Rance, seconded by Carlin to approve the minutes of the Closed Session. All Aye.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Michael J. Rochholz, President

Theresa O'Leary, Village Clerk