

Rochester Village Board – Special Board Meeting
3/23/2026

President Munroe called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm.

Members Present: Trustee Andrade, Trustee Butcher, Trustee Eandi, Trustee Giles-Brown, Trustee Kindred, President Munroe, Clerk Gerberding, Attorney Schuering; **Members absent:** Trustee Reiss

PUBLIC FORUM:

Cub Scout Den Leader Brett Kos explained that the Scouts are in the audience to observe local government. They recently had a lesson on citizenship and voting processes.

Kevin Kuhn reported that his team has surveyed the Quilt Shop and they are working on determining possible solutions.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ordinances:

ORD 25-29 - Consideration of an Ordinance Amending the Village's Code of Ordinances to Impose Regulations Regarding the Operation of Low-Speed Electric Vehicles And Other Actions in Connection Therewith. Pres. Munroe asked for someone to table this motion as we are waiting for the House Bill that has been proposed. Butcher shared that there is a House Committee meeting scheduled for 3/25 to move bills out of committee. From there, it should be clear what next steps might be. Trustee Andrade explained why this is on pause right now. *Trustee Butcher made a motion tabling Ordinance 25-29. Trustee Andrade seconded the motion.*

Roll Call vote was taken:

Trustee Andrade - yes

Trustee Butcher - yes

Trustee Eandi - yes

Trustee Giles-Brown - yes

Trustee Kindred - yes

The motion passed with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

ORD 26-02 - Consideration of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 110 of the Village's Code of Ordinances to Implement a New Process for Licensing Solicitors and Peddlers within the Village Limits and Other Actions in Connection Therewith. *Trustee Kindred made a motion tabling Ordinance 26-02. Trustee Butcher seconded the motion.*

Roll Call vote was taken:

Trustee Andrade - yes

Trustee Butcher - yes

Trustee Eandi - yes

Trustee Giles-Brown - yes

Trustee Kindred - yes

The motion passed with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

ORD 26-10 - Consideration of an Ordinance Rejecting the Recommendation of the Planning And Zoning Commission to Deny a Variance of Section 156.172(C)(3) of the Village's Code of Ordinances as Applied to Parcel 23-22.0-227-018 (1230 Community Drive) for the Installation of a Sign Exceeding 25 Feet in Height along Illinois State Route 29; Granting a Variance of the Same Provisions; and Other Actions in Connection Therewith. Ord 26-10 and 26-11 are paired to make the decision clear. Since the last meeting, there was a diagram shared of what the sign could look like at 60 feet. This would require a special use permit if that is how the Board would like to move forward. Trustee Kindred asked if it

would only be the Phillips 66 label, with no gas price signage. Supt. Foster explained that Trustee's Kindred assessment is correct, but the pole will eventually have the gas prices, but he is not sure when that piece would be added. Mr. Patel is working around a billboard that is 31.5 feet high. Trustee Butcher asked if Mr. Patel could be invited to a meeting to get more information. Pres. Munroe will see if he is available to attend a future meeting with specific information. *Trustee Butcher made a motion tabling Ordinance 26-10 and 26-11. Trustee Kindred seconded the motion.*

Roll Call vote was taken:

Trustee Andrade - yes

Trustee Butcher - yes

Trustee Eandi - yes

Trustee Giles-Brown - yes

Trustee Kindred - yes

The motion passed with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Other Business:

Discuss Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2027 (May 1, 2026, Through April 30, 2027).

Kevin Kuhn and Atty. Schuering left as they were not necessary for the budget discussion.

Pres. Munroe stated that the 3 Department Heads have put this budget together and have worked diligently to get to a balanced budget – including raises, part of a squad car, money for Sparks in the Park, and various other pieces. Office Manager Marsh led the discussion:

The big piece – the Revenue numbers all follow tax numbers that they are given. The rest is formulated on what was brought in this past fiscal year and estimated for the next fiscal year. For everything in the salaries line, she has figured in all of the “extras” – workman's comp, health insurance increase, FICA, etc. She has also fit in the cost of the website. There are a few dollars left in each of the funds that can be distributed as needed. For water and sewer, there has been a 3% increase on water and a 5% increase on sewer. Those numbers are based on other bodies making decisions.

Some amounts are spread across 3 departments. For example, trustee salaries come from each department, so if a lower salary amount is noted somewhere, check the other departments, because it is likely made up in other places.

Pres. Munroe asked Supt. Foster to address any of his needs. He talked about each of the following:

- money for the pond
- decreased fuel costs (but that may need relooked at)
- playground maintenance (for either to fix or replace) – Trustee Butcher asked what the quote included. Supt. Foster explained that the group that built it came back out. To get the playground area to an “ok” level, it will take about \$60,000 and to get it topnotch – it will take \$120,000. This process was paused until the pond erosion is resolved. It was not good spending to move ahead.
- streets (big purchase of the truck this past year, so nothing major needed)
- traffic light maintenance (that may go away)
- tar and chip – in the past, the Village has borrowed equipment from the Township. However, rumor is that the Township is selling off their equipment to rent the needed equipment instead. Trustee Andrade asked if there is a want to purchase what they are selling. Supt. Foster responded yes, but no space.
- \$95,000 for equipment purchases – nothing specific, more of an emergency fund
- Material and supplies – dropped a little from last year's projected number

- Water on page 7 – projects that have been discussed over the past couple of years involving the water tower and potential water main replacement on Sattley St.
- MFT – stays about the same from year to year
- Trustee Butcher asked about the extension of Community Dr. Supt. Foster explained that usually developers build the roads. However, the 2 developers in that area met up and the last portion was not needed. That development could also come from TIF.
- Trustee Giles-Brown asked if Public Works has a list of streets that will be maintained this next year. Supt. Foster responded yes, he has a rough list. N. Walnut is the next most in-need street to be worked on. What about residential areas like the Woodlands? Unfortunately, Public Works does not have the budget (roughly \$2 million) and time to fix those roads as they need fixed. He can do patchwork, which helps, but it is not the same. Pres. Munroe – Sangamon County has some money for streets they are looking to give away, so we are looking to tap into those options.
- Trustee Butcher asked if with the new gas station, will the MFT go up. Supt. Foster explained no, because MFT is based on square foot of roadway. Unfortunately, selling more gas does not lead to more money.
- Sewer – page 9 – nothing major. There has been a push in the last couple of years to get newer meters in the ground. With that, the cost has dropped significantly.
- Repair and Rehab - \$25,000 from this past year is the cost of approximately one lift-station. One has recently gone out. The new amount gives Supt. Foster a potential buffer in case another one goes out this coming year.
- Southeast Lift Station loan station payment – they mature June 2026, which means that loan will be paid off in the next fiscal year.
- Several water main breaks this year and lots of snow caused significant overtime charges.
- Trustee Giles-Brown asked if there is money in the budget for next year for the baseball field maintenance. Yes, because IF the project is able to be completed and paid for by the end of this fiscal year, we will use this year's money. But if the bill doesn't come in on time, it may need to roll over to next fiscal year.

Chief Summer – page 3

- Big increases are salaries, which has been discussed in past meetings.
- Slight increase in dues and subscriptions – everyone is increasing prices.
- Cut a little from uniforms
- Kept training about where it was
- Equipment and Computers were bigger expenses this past year, so this next year is anticipated at a lower cost.
- Pres. Munroe asked Chie to explain the wrecked squad car, new squad car, etc. Chief Summer shared that he had ordered a new squad car right before the accident. Insurance has totaled all of it but said the Village could salvage whatever we could and they would cut a check for the remaining amount. With the help of Public Works, several pieces from the car were able to be removed. The insurance company cut a check for \$35,000. So, the Village needed to come up with the remaining \$10,000. Trustee Kindred asked if we are still short one vehicle. Chief Summer answered yes, essentially. The next vehicle to come in will cycle out the Impala.
- Chief Summer would like to add 2 part-time officers, if he can. The vests are the expensive part because they cost \$1300-\$1400 each.
- Being 2 officers down, there was a significant amount of overtime charged. With a fuller staff and a new work schedule, overtime should be reduced.

Office Manager Burris –

- Trustee Andrade asked if anything needs fixed in the building. Officer Manager Burris explain that she added money to fix the windows out front. As for the roof, there is work ongoing through either warranty and/or insurance. Supt. Foster explained the stucko out front. It was installed and that company has been back out to repair it. When it started coming apart again, Supt. Foster reached out and is no longer getting a return call to fix/repair it. There is more in this year's budget than there has ever been for Village Hall repair. Pres. Munroe suggested setting up a priority list of fixes. Flooring for the Administrative Offices needs replaced.

Pres. Munroe stated we will need to meet next Monday to finalize anything else. Reach out to Office Manager Burris with any questions.

Trustees Andrade and Kindred thanked the staff for submitting a balanced budget. It takes time and effort to get to this point.

Trustee Andrade asked if the money to dredge the pond is in this budget. Supt. Foster answered yes, it is about \$300,000. Trustee Andrade asked if this will be done this year. Supt. Foster responded maybe. He has talked with Kuhn and Trello to send out request for proposals to get bids to compare apples to apples.

Trustee Eandi stated she was on the first round of Project Play about coming out to help.

Monday, March 30th will be another budget meeting with Executive Session and then to finalize everything. Then everything can be ready for the April Board meeting with a required Public Hearing on the appropriation.

UPCOMING DATES:

Upcoming Dates to Remember: (some meetings are tentative and could change, but will have the proper 48 hours posting notice)

Monday, March 30, 2026	Budget Meeting at 5:30 pm
Monday, March 30, 2026 – may change	Arbor Committee Meeting at 5:30 pm
Saturday, April 11, 2026	Sparks Golf Outing – All Day
Monday, April 13, 2026	Sparks in the Park meeting @ 12 pm
Monday, April 13, 2026	Village Board Meeting @ 5:30 pm
Tuesday, April 21, 2026	Planning & Zoning Meeting @ 6:00 pm

Motion to Adjourn

Trustee Kindred made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Giles-Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Gerberding
Village Clerk