Rochester Village Board 6/10/2024

President Suerdieck called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Trustee Carver, Trustee Eandi, Trustee Hendrickson, Trustee Kindred, President Suerdeick, Clerk Gerberding, Attorney Schuering; **Members absent:** Trustee Munroe

MOTION to Open the Public Hearing for the Annexation of Property Located at 632 E. Main Street, Rochester, Sangamon County, Illinois 62563. Trustee Hendrickson made a motion to open the public hearing. Trustee Carver seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion:

The P & Z held their hearing but did not vote. This hearing was already scheduled so this hearing will still occur with no vote to follow. Atty. Southworth is here to answer questions with no direct questions on behalf of the Haag's – the petitioners.

Lori Widger – 605 E. Main Street for 35 years – she and her husband are opposed to the annexation. Page 2, item 2 of annexation agreement – simultaneous to the annexation the village will 1 – change zoning of that property to R-5 with the allowance to keep farm animals on the property; 2 – changes classification Parcel 2 to B2; and 3 – changes Parcel 3 to B2. Annexation of the property without simultaneous approving changes above will be void. This whole process has been shady and confusing. She would like this explained to the residents. She is requesting denial of the zoning changes.

Emmet Chastain - 640 E main and been there his whole life – opposed to change of zoning. He would like to keep the small town feel of the Village. Changing the zoning of these parcels of land would not follow the use of current adjacent pieces of property. Zoning Board has done well so far keep similar properties together. He addressed the Village's Sustainability Plan goals and related those goals to the need to not approve this zoning. Parcels on the East side of Cardinal Hill are already R5 or industrial. That is where it should stay.

Grover Schrock – 606 E. Main – lived in Rochester 60 years. He does not want to see the R5 zoning. He doesn't have a problem with current property owner. The problem is down the line when he sells the property to someone else in the future. Keep the R5 on the East side of Cardinal Hill Rd. People in apartments have no ties to Rochester or the schools and won't pay taxes. He and his wife are both opposed.

Nan Akins – 609 E. Main – also owns 624 E. Main, which is next to 632 E. Main Street. She shared a map of her property and the adjacent property. The red block is her property. On the left side and top is 632 E. Main St. Main Street is at the bottom of the map. Her primary concern is about the water way and as a result, water flow of these properties. There were trees cut down this past week. One was on her property line and branches over her property line. There was also parking on her property. She was not contacted by anyone about any of this work or permission to use her property. Her opinion is that someone in authority should have been notified and possibly mark the property line. Her property has never been in the TIF district and has never received information about joining the TIF district. She would like to request she have the same assurance as others to have notification and protection of her property.

Bill Twyreon – (636 E. Main) has been in Rochester for 43 years – there was a petition submitted last week. Did the members get it? President Suerdeick passed around copies. He was worried about the annexation being contingent on the zoning. Requesting the annexation be denied because of the zoning attachment. He is okay with the East side of Cardinal Hill being R5 and Business zoning. He went to all contingent landowners and received signatures from everyone he spoke with supporting the petition.

Mike Widger – 605 E. Main – Husband to Lori. LaSalle/Sinclair decision has 8 points for what Zoning Boards are obligated to consider. According to Village Code 156.041 – procedures for zoning – annexation causes property to come in as RS. Then the P & Z could rezone if requested. The current owners are asking for R5 immediately with annexation, which violates Village code. His request is that the Board follow the set codes and deny the annexation.

State statue allows annexation to bypass zoning ordinances.

President Suerdieck responded to several questions – annexation and rezoning being contingent. His understanding is that if they can not have the zoning they want, then they do not want the annexation. However, that is not possible due to our codes. The annexed property has to come in as RS as first step. Then the Zoning Board would go through their process. Mr. Widger pointed out that at the P & Z meeting, the Haeg attorney made a comment to make Mr. Widger believe there was a deal already made.

The reason Akins is not in the TIF district is because they are in the donut of the county, which is not in the Village, so not allowed in the TIF district.

If this particular property was to be annexed and then zoned, could it go into the TIF district? There has been no discussions about that.

Bill Tweryon drew the conclusion that tonight's topic will be tabled. Pres. Suerdeick confirmed that at next P & Z meeting, they should/could potentially vote. And then it would come back to the Village Board for a decision potentially at the July Board meeting.

Lori Widger - Could the owners revise annexation agreement to make it less messy? Atty. Schuering responded with the Board has X number of days to act on the request. Within that time, the owners can make amendments to the agreement. Additional clarification was provided.

Akin – any discussion of DNR coming in and doing any research to see if the water runoff would become and issue? Not at this point. The Village Engineer representative at the P & Z meeting explained that those considerations come into play at the time of usage and building.

How will residents know when something happens? The Village staff will make it available on the website to make sure it goes out to everyone. If something happens prior to the July 8th meeting, can residents still speak on it during the Public Comment session? Yes.

Grover Schrock – he has a tile that runs through his basement, about 4 ft long. When we had large amounts of rain, he had 3-4 ft of water in his basement. He is in favor of new businesses coming to Rochester. However, he is opposed to the apartments. He would like to see the Black Creek infrastructure cleaned out prior to adding more blacktop up the flow line.

Trustee Hendrickson expressed thanks for the residents coming and speaking. The Board appreciates their input.

MOTION to Close the Public Hearing. Trustee Hendrickson made a motion to close the public hearing. Trustee Kindred seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING ON May 13, 2024.

Trustee Carver made a motion to approve the minutes for May 13, 2024. Trustee Hendrickson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND BILLS

Trustee Kindred made a motion to approve the financial statements and bills. Trustee Eandi seconded the motion.

Roll call vote was taken:

Trustee Carver – yes Trustee Eandi – yes
Trustee Hendrickson – yes Trustee Kindred – yes

Motion passed with 4 yes votes and 0 no votes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Pres. Suerdieck read Citizen of the Year Proclamation again aloud, which he announced as part of the Sparks of the Park Awards Ceremony on Saturday, June 8, 2024. This year the winner was Patti Tweryon. Mrs. Tweryon was present at the meeting and said thank you.

Gretchen Quistgaard – requests that the sidewalk on the north side of E. Main street be looked at for repair. On the corner of John St. and Main St., several injuries have occurred as a result of the uneven sidewalk. Several falls have occurred over the years and have been fairly serious injuries. The sidewalk there has very heavy traffic – children, adults, etc. She submitted a complaint form to the Village Hall on this topic.

PUBLIC FORUM

Wade Morris – 118 Wildrose Lane. Sewer backed up and caused carpet damage and is looking for an update to the request made at the last meeting. Can he get his property leveled out and better drainage in place? Office Mgr Marsh has reached out the insurance rep twice (5/24 with no response until 6/3, in which case Erica responded directly) and has had no response yet. So, she will put in a direct phone call tomorrow morning.

Mike Widger – no flags were posted along Main St. this year, why not? Pres. Suerdieck responded with it was planned for a day with storms and no rain day was planned. That is on the Village and no intentional slant towards any particular group.

REPORTS

Chief of Police – Tim Sommer

See attached report – highlights below.

- A. Axon training has been pushed back to 6/28 due to some technical issues. Everyone is wearing them now.
- B. The FLOCK camera is implementing a flat \$6,000 annual fee. We currently pay about \$3,000 annually. We will either need to add more cameras, pay the higher fee, or sign on for 5 years at our current fee. Chief is leaning towards the 5-year contract which has to be done by June 30th of this year. Trustee Hendrickson asked for some examples of the use. They have a mobile unit so it can be moved as needed. There has not been a great deal of hits of license plates within Rochester. However, with the system there is greater access outside of Rochester.
- C. Submitted grant application to ILEAS to update TASER devices.
- D. Discussion around a new squad car/truck. Which is better and why? His preference would be a truck at this point.
- E. Last week, there were 5 burglaries to vehicles. All unlocked cars and nothing significant taken.

Public Works Superintendent – James Foster See attached report – highlights below.

- A. TMF Pre-Screening Survey from EPA prior to their monitoring visit this week.
- B. Please call if you have questions to the general public
- C. Mill Street project is started. Pipe is in from Park to Water Street. They are doing a great job. Kuhn and Trello has an engineer onsite all day every day.
- D. Cross Connection survey has been completed. The biggest issue is irrigation systems. EPA has requirements that Foster will start enforcing next spring.
- E. CDL trainees 1 has been through driving and is ready to test. The other one is in progress. Other Villages have reached out to Foster about providing their training. He has worked with

the township. What are the Board Member's opinions about whether he can/should do those trainings? Right now, Foster is busy with many reports and work happening. Perhaps he could do the trainings during the winter when he has more availability. He doesn't know what he could work out with other villages.

F. What is the name of North Park? That is the official name and, and as such, Supt. Foster will get a rules sign posted.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Discussion Items:

N/A

Ordinances:

N/A

Resolutions:

RES 24-09 – Authorizing the Execution of K-9 Agreement and Release. *Trustee Hendrickson asked Chief to address what this resolution does. Chief explained that if the handler were to take another LEA position, the dog could be retired. This is due to the attachment between the owner and the dog and there are no other K-9 approved handlers within our police department. Trustee Hendrickson made a motion approving Resolution 24-09. Trustee Carver seconded the motion.*Roll Call vote was taken:

Trustee Carver – yes Trustee Eandi – yes
Trustee Hendrickson – yes Trustee Kindred – yes

Motion passed with 4 yes and 0 no votes.

Motions:

N/A

Executive Session - 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(1) - Personnel

N/A

UPCOMING DATES:

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

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 Planning & Zoning Meeting @ 7 pm
Monday, June 24, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting @ 7 pm
Closed in observance of Independence Day

Monday, July 8, 2024 Village Board Meeting @ 7 pm

Motion to Adjourn

Trustee Eandi made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Kindred seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Gerberding Village Clerk