## Village of Rochester – Special Board Meeting 09/23/2024

President Suerdieck called the meeting to order at 6:59 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

**Members Present:** Trustee Carver, Trustee Eandi, Trustee Kindred, Trustee Hendrickson, Trustee Munroe, President Suerdieck, Deputy Clerk Marsh

## Discussion of Water/Sewer Rate Revision:

President Suerdieck began the meeting with discussing the spreadsheet that Office Manager Marsh created to show the different rates of increase that the board wanted to see at the September 9 board meeting. The spreadsheet shows a 32% increase now (which is the amount of rate increase the village received from CWLP) as well as another section that shows a 16% increase now with a 16% increase in May 2025. With a 32% increase now, the base water charge would go up to \$27.73. Next year would increase the base cost would increase to \$32.17. If we had a household that used between 1000-2999 gallons per month, their total bill would be about \$95.46. This includes a 4% increase on the sewer rate in all scenarios. Given that 4 CWLP bills have already been paid, we really need to consider that 32% increase now as we have already chipped away at this year's revenues due to the higher CWLP bills. It may be best to do the 32% increase now and address next year's potential increase later in the fiscal year. Trustee Kindred asked President Suerdieck to confirm that we aren't "losing" money, we are just using what we've allocated in the budget more quickly. He confirmed yes. We aren't losing anything. We're just using it faster. Trustee Kindred added if we didn't increase the rates and left them the same, what would it impact from year to year? President Suerdieck said the current departments heads have utilized their budgets to use what they have allocated, but not in the mentality of "use it or lose it"; so, if it's not used, there's still some funds available that have rolled over and essentially saved. Trustee Kindred asked if we could put something in the Rochester Times to notify residents of the increase. President Suerdieck said that we could however, CWLP has had their info on the news in the past and Rochester Times has mentioned it in prior meetings in their publications. We never received a formal notification from CWLP that we were receiving a rate increase. A 32% water rate and 4% sewer rate increase would take effect on the September 20 through October 20 billing cycle. This bill will be due on November 15. Trustee Hendrickson made a motion to approve Ordinance 24-10. Trustee Kindred seconded the motion.

 Roll call vote was taken:
 Trustee Carver - yes
 Trustee Eandi – yes
 Trustee Kindred - yes

 Trustee Hendrickson – yes
 Trustee Munroe - yes

Motion passed with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

## Motion considering placement of park benches at Wanless Park for Eagle Scout project.

Joseph did more research and found better designs and decided on 2x10's to make it a little stronger and make it last a little longer. Joseph is going to look into raising some more funds to add a concrete base to the benches to bolt them down due to the flooding issues in the area.

Trustee Hendrickson made a motion to approve President Suerdieck to sign a beneficiary agreement for the park benches to be placed at Wanless Park. Trustee Munroe seconded the motion.

Roll call vote was taken:Trustee Carver - yesTrustee Eandi - yesTrustee Kindred - yesTrustee Hendrickson - yesTrustee Munroe - yesMotion passed with 5 yes votes and 0 no votes.

## Motion to Adjourn

Trustee Carver made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Munroe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously at 7:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Erica Marsh Deputy Clerk