

The regular meeting of the Village of Cedar Rock was held at Cedar Rock County Club at 11:30 a.m. on June 18, 2024.

**Call to Order:** Mayor Bob Floyd called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m.

**Attendance:** Present were Mayor Bob Floyd, Ernie McAteer, Bill Griffin, Daniel Odom, Pamela Mayberry, Mike Shows. Mike McClinton was unable to attend.

**Adoption of Agenda:** Ernie McAteer made a motion to adopt the agenda; Mike Shows seconded the motion; agenda adopted.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mike Shows made a motion to approve the minutes subject to correction; Ernie McAteer seconded the motion; minutes approved.

**Public Budget Meeting:** Mike Shows made a motion to open public hearing for the purpose of the Village's annual budget ordinance; Bill Griffin seconded; motion approved. Mayor Bob Floyd asked if anyone had questions or suggested changes to the budget. There were no questions or changes. Bill Griffin made a motion to close public hearing; Mike Shows seconded; motion approved.

**Approval of Budget Ordinance:** Pam Mayberry made a motion to adopt the 2024 - 2025 budget; Ernie McAteer seconded; budget adopted.

**Committee Reports: Administrative:** Pam Mayberry stated she had received the quote for insurance. Mike Shows asked if the quote was about the same as last year. Pam Mayberry stated the quote was close to last year's and would email the quote to council members for comparison. Pam Mayberry said she had received an email from a resident requesting that the Village post the date of the fireworks on the Village's website. Mayor Floyd asked Daniel Odom if he could post the dates to the website. There was nothing further to report. **Finance:** Bill Griffin stated the Village's account balance as of May 31, 2024, is \$620,588.42. There were two bills received from Diversified Landscaping totaling \$11,053.70 for road and right of way maintenance. Bill Griffin made a motion to move \$10,000.00 from account 607 snow removal to account 1735 road and right of way maintenance; Ernie McAteer seconded the motion; motion approved. Bill Griffin stated that the Garden Club requested the Garden Club be allocated the same budgeted amount as the previous year. Bill Griffin said he did have a conference with the Auditor Ms. Shumate and she assured him the audit would be completed by the July 1st deadline. Mike Shows commented that he and Daniel Odom had discussed what would happen if the audit deadline was not met. Daniel Odom stated that if the audit was not completed by the deadline the Village could file an appeal. The appeal would automatically be granted because the Village has not filed a late audit in the past five years and there would not be a sales tax penalty. However, if the audit was late and that occurred, the audit could not be late again. Bill Griffin stated he will keep pushing because a late audit is not wanted. He also said a late audit may reflect poorly on the Council and Council has been very diligent in getting the audit completed. Bill Griffin told

Council he has taken a position outside of Caldwell County and his flexibility after July 1st will be limited and it is possible sometime in the future he may need to resign his seat on the Board. Mayor Floyd congratulated Bill Griffin on his new position and told him the Village is very appreciative of all the service he has provided. **Transportation:** Ernie McAteer reported that Tyler Sime has repaired a rock in the drainage ditch near Cindy Story's property. Mike Shows mentioned a small sinkhole under Gerald Griffin's driveway on Cedar Drive, with two channels—one under an 18-inch culvert and another under the road. McAteer is coordinating an evaluation by Sime on June 18th to determine necessary repairs, with Mayor Floyd suggesting involving Mike Willis due to previous work ties. McAteer also highlighted overgrown rights-of-way on Lakeview and Cedar Crest, prompting plans for maintenance discussions with Sime. Concerns were raised about detailed reporting with Sime's invoices, and Mayor Floyd requested Sime attend the next Council meeting to discuss contractual obligations. Pam Mayberry clarified Sime's responsibilities extend to maintaining rights-of-way within 30 feet from the centerline, noting a potential hazard with a tree near Martin's house, which McAteer planned to address with Sime that afternoon. **Code Enforcement Report:** Mike Shows stated code enforcement had received no complaints. Pam Mayberry asked if zoning enforcement enforces the Village ordinances because there are residents using their homes as an Air B&B. Daniel Odom said yes zoning enforcement does handle those matters and the first step would be to send notices to the residents that they are in violation. Mike Shows stated they have been sent notices before however the residents continue violating the ordinance. **Planning Board:** No report. **Staff report:** Daniel Odom stated that WPCOG had begun transitioning finances to WPCOG and it is going very smoothly. Once the transition is complete the Village will have a full-time finance office. Bill Griffin agreed and stated there would also be more financial transparency. Pam Mayberry asked if the financial transactions would be available now in real time and Daniel Odom confirmed the transactions would now be in real time. Mike Shows asked if there are more costs in implementing the switch to WPCOG. Mr. Odom explained that WPCOG are doing the transitioning at no additional cost to the service contract.

**Old Business:** Amaro Elwood from Turn-Key Audio attended the meeting. Mr. Elwood said he is working on obtaining quotes on cameras and speeding sensing signs and believes starting with a speeding sensing is best. The signs have an 80% effectiveness letting people know they are speeding. Mayor Floyd asked how many stations will there be. Mr. Elwood stated that is not known at this time. The ability to add new stations is based on geographic location and having a line of sight. Ernie McAteer asked the costs per location for the speed sensing signs. Mr. Elwood stated the costs would be between \$7,000.00 to \$8,000.00 per location. The signs have an individual data log, however, are not networked into the server and the data would need to be retrieved from each sign. Mike Shows asked the costs to network the signs at a later date and Mr. Elwood stated to network them in would be \$1,500.00 each and that could only be done if there was a line of sight from the sign to the nearest station. Bill Griffin stated that currently we are paying Griffith's Security \$33,000.00 a year to patrol the Village but as we build our security system with cameras and logs, we may not need patrolling at a cost of \$33,000.00 per year. Ernie McAteer asked if the sign is on a trailer and Mr. Elwood said that the signs are on a post. Mayor Floyd asked if the Village could have portable version. Mr. Elwood said portable versions are available but extremely expensive costing close to \$20,000 each. Ernie McAteer suggested that the Village request Mr. Elwood do line of sight survey of the Village to see what could be put where. Mr. Elwood said he could absolutely do that, and it would be advantageous. Mayor Floyd asked if Mr. Elwood believed a reliable bridge system could be installed.

Mr. Elwood said he did believe that could done.

**New Business:** Daniel Odom introduced John Marshall with Volkert. Mr. Marshall discussed his background, which included many years in his field working with the City of Hickory and also the Council of Government and has also worked part time with Volkert. Mr. Marshall stated that Volkert is trying to get a footprint in Western North Carolina and Volkert appreciates the Village working with them on this. Mayor Floyd asked Mr. Marshall to tell council Volkert's scope of work. Mr. Marshall stated that Volkert's first step is doing an in-person assessment of all the culverts. The initial assessment Volkert provided to the Village was based on the culvert evaluation prepared by Samuel C. Bingham, PE. Mr. Marshall said this assessment would take some time to evaluate all 26 culverts and then generate a 5-year plan.

**Public Comment:** George Robinson attended the Council meeting. Meeting adjourned 12:42 pm.

Respectfully Submitted.

Beth Bess, Village Clerk