

# VILLAGE OF ROSCOE

## AGENDA ITEM - STAFF REPORT



**Agenda Item:** Special Event Permit for the VFW Post 2955 Memorial Day Parade.

**Date:** May 17, 2024

**Meeting:** Village Board – May 21, 2024

**Prepared by:** Josef Kurlinkus

**Department:** Community Development

### Overview/Background Information

On March 14, 2024 VFW Post 2955 submitted an application to hold a Memorial Day Parade to take place on Main Street in the Village of Roscoe. Due to the low turnout of participants at last year's parade (and subsequent feedback received by the Village), community development officer Wilder met with members of the VFW Parade committee to discuss ways to modify the parade route for it to better fit the number of participants expected. At their meeting on March 20, the committee was told that in order for the parade to continue with street along main street, they needed to have their participant list finalized by April 20, so that plans for the closures and police security could be completed and approved by the Board. As of the April date, the VFW was unable to confirm or provide a list of the participants, and was provided a letter letting them know that the parade would not be able to proceed along main street.

This week, the Village received notice that in spite of the denial of the larger parade route, the VFW still intends to have a parade along Main Street, necessitating this item being brought to the Board on short notice. The list of participants we have been provided includes (in addition to the members of the VFW themselves – e.g color guard): A squad car, a contingent from the Harlem Roscoe Fire Department, the Roscoe middle school marching band, 3 vehicles from local businesses, an unknown number of students from two martial arts academies. When I met with them earlier this week, I was informed that they are unsure of other participants because they have distributed sign-up sheets to the public, and others may show up on the day of the parade.

The Village has suggested (originally at the March 20 meeting – and again when I met with them this week) that because of the low number of participants, that instead of a parade along Main Street, that VFW Post 2955 instead have a more solemn procession beginning at Leland Park, and concluding with a ceremony at the Roscoe Cemetery. After discussing the issue with Chief Hawley, due the number of resources needed to proceed with any street closures along main street, and low number of participants in the parade we still recommend this originally suggested course of action. Please note, the VFW Post 2955 has informed us that they are not interested in the smaller, more solemn procession, but that they intend to proceed with their original route.

### Key Issues

- Determine the route/location of the procession.
- Determine the staffing requirements for the event.

### Fiscal Note/Budget Impact

All costs associated with police presence and street closures.

### Prior Legislative Actions

None.

**Action Required/Recommendation**

Approve a permit to allow a procession without street closures from Leland Park to the Roscoe Cemetary.

**Attachments**

Special Event - Parade Application

Parade Route

Denial Letter

Participant List(s)

Signup Flyer