



**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND  
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION  
January 9, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.**

**Location:  
City Council Chambers, City Hall, 3rd Floor  
1528 Third Avenue, Rock Island, IL**

[Watch Live](#)

## **CALL TO ORDER**

**THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED BY AUDIO AND VIDEO CONFERENCE WITHOUT A PHYSICALLY PRESENT QUORUM OF THE ROCK ISLAND CITY COUNCIL DUE TO THE DISASTER DECLARATION ISSUED BY GOVERNOR PRITZKER.**

Because of this order related to COVID-19 health concerns affecting the State and the City, the Mayor has determined that an in-person meeting at City Hall with all participants may not be practical or prudent.

Alderspersons and Staff may not all be physically present at City Hall due to the disaster and physical attendance at City Hall may be limited. To participate remotely during the Public Comment or Public Hearing portion of the meeting, please join by phone at +1 402-821-1270 PIN: 549 237 421 #

## **ROLL CALL**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **FOOD TRUCK ORDINANCE PRESENTATION**

Documents:

[FOOD TRUCK ORDINANCE PRESENTATION.PDF](#)

## **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Motion: Motion to adjourn.

RC: Roll Call vote is needed.

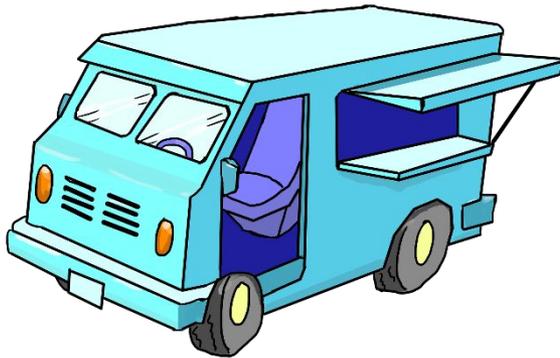
*This agenda may be obtained in accessible formats by qualified persons with a disability by making appropriate arrangements from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, by contacting the [City Clerk's Office](#) at (309) 732-2010 or visiting in person at: 1528 Third Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201.*

# Mobile Food Units Ordinance

How Do We Keep Food Trucks Truckin' Along?

# Background

- What are *Mobile Food Units* (MFUs)?
  - MFUs are food establishments that are mobile operating at a remote location and returning to base of operations at the end of business.
  - Two types: food trucks (motorized) and food carts (non-motorized).



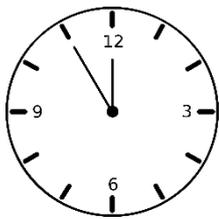
# Why Regulate These?

- MFUs are growing in popularity and becoming a notable QC attraction.
- Other communities, including other QC neighbors, have recently established MFU ordinances.
- An ordinance gives the basis for licensing and general rules that promote health, safety, and the public welfare.

MFU Considerations	
Community Benefits	Potential Issues
Lower startup costs for entrepreneurs	Compatibility with neighboring land uses
Access to food in areas without nearby restaurants	Competition with brick & mortar food establishments
Pathway for brick & mortar expansion	Consistency in licensing requirements for all businesses
Partnerships between businesses	

# How are MFUs regulated in RI?

- The City does not currently have a MFU ordinance.
- At present, MFUs need a Food & Beverage permit.
- Staff have drafted an ordinance that includes definitions, permitting, and other basics.
- Staff is seeking input on the following specifics:



Timeframe



Locations



MFU Zones



Alcohol Permits



License Fees

# Time Requirements

City	No Operation Hours	Length of Stay
Davenport	12:00 AM to 6:00 AM	None
Bettendorf	2:00 AM to 6:00 AM	None
Moline	1:00 AM to 6:00 AM	Maximum of 6 consecutive hours and minimum of 30 minutes in a given location. Must wait 2 hours before returning to same location.
Rock Island ( <i>Proposed</i> )	1:00 AM to 6:00 AM	Maximum of 8 consecutive hours in a given location within a 24 hour period.

# Location Requirements

City	Distance To Food Service Establishment	Distance To Intersections & Bike Lanes	Distance To Approved Special Events	Zoning Areas
Davenport	200 feet	40 feet	1,200 feet	None specified
Bettendorf	None	None	None	None specified
Moline	1 block face	None, but 5 feet from sidewalk	None	None specified
Rock Island <i>(Proposed)</i>	200 feet	40 feet	200 feet	Business Zones or adjacent to those zones if in public right-of-way.

# MFU Zones

- MFU Zones are designated areas that allow MFUs to operate without the usual separation requirements from food service establishments.
- Staff view MFU Zones as an opportunity to activate and increase use of civic space.
- The draft ordinance establishes two MFU Zones:
  - 1328 30<sup>th</sup> Street, the Pocket Park.
  - 1719-21 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Arts Alley.

City	Moline	Davenport	Bettendorf	Rock Island (Proposed)
MFU Zones In Ordinance	No	Yes	No	Yes

# Alcohol Sales

- Staff drafted ordinance language to allow MFUs to sell alcohol when associated with a food establishment in Rock Island that has a liquor license and is in good standing.
- Only allowed for special events, basically catering.
- Davenport, Bettendorf, and Moline do not allow this.



*Clink Mobile Bar out of Peoria, IL.*

# Licensing Fees

City	Annual Fee	Seasonal Permit Fee	Special Event Fee
Davenport	\$55	None specified	None specified
Bettendorf	\$250	None specified	\$75
Moline	\$100	None specified	None specified
Rock Island <i>(Proposed)</i>	\$100	\$75	\$50

# Summary

- MFU definitions and regulations similar to neighboring cities should be adopted.
- Food trucks and push carts should be treated the same way.
- General approval of MFUs should be granted to the City Manager.
- Allowing MFUs benefits the community.

Questions?