

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

City Hall

1528 Third Avenue, Rock Island IL

City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor

1/13/2020 - Minutes

1. Call to Order

Mayor Thoms called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

2. Roll Call

Mayor Thoms asked the City Clerk to call the roll.

Present: Mayor Mike Thoms, Alderwoman Jenni Swanson, Alderman Dylan Parker, Alderman Mark Poulos, Alderman Dave Geenen, Alderman Randy Hurt, and Alderman James Spurgetis.

Absent: Alderman Ivory D. Clark

Staff: City Manager Randy Tweet, City Attorney Dave Morrison, Interim City Clerk Linda Mohr, and other City staff.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Thoms led in the saying of the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Moment of Silence

Mayor Thoms asked for a Moment of Silence. A moment of silence was observed.

5. Public Comment

Mayor Thoms called for public comments. Resident Michelle Royal gave a brief history of her 27-year business ventures in the City. She discussed opening a cannabis café in Rock Island. Ms. Royal said her proposed location follows the Illinois law regarding the qualifications for a business to become a cannabis café. Ms. Royal gave pros and cons for the opening of this type of café. Cons included forcing people who are in the district to smoke in places they should not, the nightclubs may be fined if unable to enforce the smoking laws, the City may be unable to curb outside smoking during outdoor events. The hope is to have the café available for outside patrons to come in and smoke, then return to the outside. Additional cons include concerns over downtown housing and how they will handle the new law, as well as a potential loss of business if Iowa residents do not have a location for legal intake.

Ms. Royal said the pros of her proposal are that they solve all of the issues of the cons. Ms. Royal said her business has air intake systems to remove odor and smoke, and they would ID all customers and charge a minimal fee to use the café. She said the business would invest in additional sale materials and would attempt to provide open mic comedy. She said the resulting restaurant business in the area would receive additional income, and encouraged Council to be proactive to make money before the two-year window closes and cannabis is legal nationwide. Mayor Thoms thanked Ms. Royal for her time and for her dedication to Rock Island. Alderman Parker stated that he had discussed the issue with Council before, and that this may be a complicated issue. Alderman Parker said it had been previously agreed to treat cannabis like alcohol for zoning purposes, and that he would push to get this proposal done. Mayor Thoms said that he was aware of Ms. Royal's meetings with the Community and Economic Development Department to look into the viability of such a business. Alderman Spurgetis asked Ms. Royal if the café would be in the same location as her current business, and she confirmed. He then asked if the situation involving the upstairs living quarters of the business had been solved. Ms. Royal said that Housing and Urban Development is currently looking into it, and she discussed smoking options for those residents. Alderman Spurgetis expressed concern over not complying with Federal regulations. Mayor Thoms said that Miles Brainard and Tarah Sipes of the Community and Economic Development Department had been working on such issues. Ms. Royal discussed the issues surrounding cannabis use in the downtown, and said that if residents had a location to smoke, some current issues could be solved. Ms. Royal said that she has always supported the downtown area and would like that to continue. Mayor Thoms thanked her again.

Resident Lindsey Hocker from the 5th Ward spoke about the recent dog and cat ordinance. She said that the ordinance was a good preventative measure, even though the City's only pet store in Roe Aquarium does not sell either animal. Ms. Hocker discussed the misconceptions of the ordinance, which focuses on pet stores and not breeders. She clarified that the goal of this type of ordinance is not to put pet stores out of business, but rather to have these locations phase out selling these animals and focus on supplies. She reminded Council of how some pet stores source dogs through commercial breeding facilities that have a history of violations and placing profit over animal welfare. Ms. Hocker concluded that being a responsible animal buyer can make a difference for dogs used for breeding, and thanked the Council for being a leader on this issue in the Quad Cities. Mayor Thoms thanked her.

Resident Jenny Geis of the 7th Ward said she encouraged Council to vote yes on changes to the pet store ordinance. She said she was excited that Rock Island was the first city in the area to adopt such an ordinance, and described the process involved in responsible dog or cat foster care. Mayor Thoms thanked her.

Jodi Ivey of the 7th Ward said she supported the retail ban of the sale of puppies and cats listed in the ordinance. She said that she was a volunteer for Bailing Out Benji and that she has adopted a foster animal. Ms. Ivey addressed the concerns of some families that choose to purchase from stores rather than adopt. Ms. Ivey discussed a study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association which determined puppies purchased from pet stores show an increased prevalence for behavioral problems as adults due to a disruptive early life. Ms. Ivey encouraged people to adopt or purchase from a reputable breeder.

Mayor Thoms also remarked on the following items:

The Rock Island Public Library has added a family pass in 2020 to the Rock Island Fitness and Activity Center to its' collection of culture and entertainment passes that can be checked out with an Illinois library card. These passes include the Figge Art Museum, the German-American Heritage Society, Niabi Zoo, Putnam Museum, and the Quad City Botanical Center. Passes are available at the main library downtown and the southwest library.

The 29th Quad City Farm Equipment Show is January 19-21, 2020 at the Quad City Expo Center, featuring over 200 companies. Show admission and parking are free, and additional information is available at WWW.QUADCITYFARMSHOW.COM or WWW.QCCAEXPOCENTER.COM.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center will host the 37th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Service and Awards on Monday, January 20, 2020 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. This year's theme is "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice". Reverend Allen Shuler from Olivet Baptist Church will be the keynote speaker, and a variety of presentations including the I Have a Dream award will be given to a Rock Island citizen for exemplary community service. This event is free and open to the public.

The Rock Island City Census is seeking individuals for work, and the City has created a Census Committee to identify areas to count. Contact City Hall for more information, or WWW.20CENSUSJOBS.ORG. The pay rate for Rock Island County is \$22 per hour, and Scott County is \$21.50 per hour. Mayor Thoms emphasized the importance of counting everyone for the Census, as it can make a difference for the next ten years as it relates to state and federal funding.

Mayor Thoms thanked those that commented. He then closed the public comments and re-opened the regular meeting.

6. Minutes of the December 16, 2019 meeting.

MOTION:

Alderman Spurgetis moved to approve the 12/16/19 minutes as printed; Alderwoman Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, and Hurt. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

7. State of the City Address by Mayor Thoms

Mayor Thoms gave the State of the City Address.

"Let me start by saying it is my honor to serve the citizens of Rock Island as Mayor. I would like thank all our city employees, elected officials and the 140 citizens representing 25 various boards and commissions that help set the direction of the City."

"The City had a number of success stories in 2019. We had many new commercial businesses move to Rock Island and existing businesses expand at their current location. This was throughout the city, from our downtown area to Southwest Rock Island to the Blackhawk

Road Corridor; resulting in over \$30 million dollars in capital investment by private companies. These projects have added hundreds of jobs this year, with more to come in the future.”

“However, we have not had any success in filling the Watchtower site on 11th street yet. We are finding that brick and mortar retail growth is slow and that location does not have the traffic or demographics that most retail providers are looking for. The City may have to start looking at opportunities other than retail for this site, but we will continue to work diligently to find the best option for that location.”

“One area where we have seen growth and believe there are more opportunities to develop is light to medium industrial. We will continue trying to attract retail to provide goods and services that are not currently available in Rock Island. Current Property owners continue to invest in buildings by using the City’s façade program, along with their own money, to update and upgrade the outside of their buildings. Our Inspections Department has been very busy making sure both the new construction and existing buildings meet code and are safe. Our Planning and Zoning Divisions have initiated a lot of first-time projects to lead us into the future. They applied for the National Register of Historic Places in our downtown district and worked on the zoning and ordinances for the new cannabis laws, among many other projects. Our housing market is still steady.”

“Revenue for the City has been flat for the past several years. A significant source of our revenue is State Sales Tax and State Income Tax, but several years ago the State took a good portion of this away and has since reinstated only a portion of that. Even with the \$30 million dollars of private capital investments, it takes time before the City sees the new revenue. We have found it necessary to give some incentives to make these projects happen and it could be several years before we see the total impact of the investment. Another source of our revenue is through the State Gaming Tax and that too has declined over the last several years with the addition of Video Gaming now allowed in bars and restaurants in Illinois and the renovations to the two casinos on the Iowa side of the river.”

“We have had some success in cutting expenses over the last several years, partially with personnel reductions, but unfortunately expenses are still been going up faster than our revenue. We also need to remember that Mother Nature was hard on us in 2019. We had record-breaking floods this past summer, not only in the river levels, but also the number of floods and their duration. During the winter months, we endured many snow events and needed to purchase more salt than in previous years.”

“When we started the budgeting process three years ago, we started with a \$5.3 million dollar deficit. We balanced the budget with only using a small part from reserves. Two years ago we started with a \$3.6 million dollar deficit and got that close to a balanced budget. This year we started with a \$2.9 million dollar deficit and got close to a balanced budget. This is a good indication that most of the expense cuts that were made each year helps balance the budget over the long term. We have been able to maintain between an 80 and 90 day reserves balance, which is best practice.”

“We accomplished some major projects and leveraged State and Federal dollars in 2019. A good example of this would be the resurfacing of 38th Street from Blackhawk Road, all the way down to 7th Avenue, and 18th Avenue from 17th Street, all the way to Moline border. Both of these projects were 80% funded with Federal dollars. We received over \$1 million from HUD that qualified for numerous CDBG projects. We installed LED street lights throughout the city, thereby improving energy efficiency.”

“One of the biggest financial burdens the City has had and will continue to have is the police and fire pensions. These pensions make up a very large portion of our general fund dollars. State law requires that pensions must be 90% funded by the year 2041. In order for this to happen, substantial annual payments are made and those payments increase significantly every year.

This is an earned benefit that the employees have also contributed to. A promise made, should be a promise kept; but the State made these promises not the City, yet the City has to pay the tab. New legislation, which combines all the police funds together and fire funds together over the next two and a half years, will hopefully provide some relief.”

“The City has several organized labor agreements and the employees in these groups and the City have agreed to hold wage increases within reason for the next several years. Remember that personnel costs are more than 70% of the overall general fund budget. An 8% property tax increase was considered in 2020, but we were able to get that down to an estimated 3.93% increase in the tax rate. This happened because the City Manager and Directors listened to the City Council and comments from the citizens and committed to not replacing some open positions and delaying others. The City has reduced the size of its work force over the last several years due to becoming more efficient without reducing core services.”

“The City also has some social responsibilities of course, such as maintaining all of its own properties and offering the citizens amenities and services for quality of living. Our library, at no expense to the taxpayers, was able to add a mobile Library called “Library 2 Go”. They saw an increase of 35% in attendance in programming and events and 160,000 people visited the Rock Island Public Libraries this past year.

The Fire Department was one of two agencies to receive a Life Safety Award at the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance banquet, and they were recognized as a Five-star Fire Safety Community by the Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board.”

“The Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center reached over 2,200 youth with the after school and summer day camp programs, served over 100 Rock Island County families with counseling and case management, and touched the lives of over 20,000 people in a variety of ways with

their programs. Here is a fun and interesting fact, three King Center children in the after-school program qualified for the State robotics competition - and they were just a team of three going against teams with ten children.”

“Our Parks and Recreation Department completed Phase 2 of the Douglas Park remodel and started on Phase 3 to develop a youth football field and multi sports field. Over \$1 million in grants and private dollars has been raised for this project. Parks, along with the Martin Luther King Center, expanded the First Tee program at Highland Springs Golf Course, which extended the program, helping 225 youth. Let’s not forget that the NFL Draft was televised live across the country from Rock Island, Illinois for the first time ever. The NFL was so impressed with our enthusiasm; they allowed us to announce 4 draft picks instead of just the one that was originally planned.”

“Our Community Economic Development Department was granted \$815,000 from HUD to fund different projects, including a Neighborhood Housing Program, Public Safety, Douglas Park, sidewalk improvements around the schools and security cameras throughout the city. The City has also seen 10% overall decrease in crime under the Part 1 of the Uniform Crime Reporting System.”

“Three new council members were seated in 2019 and we continued our “Unplugged” series. In our third session, citizens could ask the City Council members questions directly and the Council could learn the citizens’ thoughts and concerns. The City continues to be transparent and open to the public.”

“A couple quick updates on a few of the projects for 2020. The City is having an engineering firm look at the efficiencies of the equipment in all the buildings to see if there's cost savings to be had with more efficient equipment like LED lighting, solar panels, new boilers, new

compressors, and the list goes on. We are also doing a Needs Assessment in specific parts of the city to evaluate what improvements could be made in those areas for a better quality of life. This assessment is partly funded by the John Deere Foundation. Also, our new \$20 million dollar Water Filtration plant just started pumping and we will be completing this project during second quarter of 2020, replacing our 109 year old plant. With the new cannabis law in place, the city hopes to have a dispensary located in the city and to see some new revenue. The City has also initiated a census committee to make sure that all citizens in the City of Rock Island are recognized and counted. This could also help the City get more State and Federal funding in the future.”

“In closing, our City is on solid financial ground. We have a number of projects scheduled for 2020 that will increase revenue and reduce expenses. Our vision for 2020 focused on the future.”

“This Town Rocks”.

Mayor Thoms thanked everyone for their attention. He added that he visited with the three children from the King Center and their families that qualified for the State robotics competition. He lauded them for their enthusiasm and commended their teamwork and said that the work displayed by the students reminded him of the STEM, or Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math program. He concluded by thanking City Council and City employees for working hard in 2019.

8. Presentation of the 2019 Holiday Lighting Awards.

Mayor Thoms requested the two winners for holiday lighting to come to the front, but first explained that this was the 34th year that the Beautification Commission has held the Holiday Lighting Contest. He said the contest is intended to recognize Rock Island residents and businesses who craft seasonal displays during the holidays, and that this season over 25 lighting displays were nominated. Displays were viewed by the Commission during the bus tour December 16, 2019, and both a residential and commercial winner was named. Mayor Thoms read the residential nominees, who had already received their honorable mention. No nominees were given honorable mentions in the commercial category. The honorable mentions included 815 11th Street, 1312 12th Street, 1812 12th Street, 801 42nd Avenue, 4205 14th Street, 4008 35th Street, 4309 29th Avenue, 3658 31st Avenue, 3128 35th Street, 3138 35th Street, 3225 24 ½ Street Court, 2337 24th ½ Street, 2526 29th Avenue, 2507 31st Street Court, 3401 26th Avenue, 1213 23rd Street, 1434 43rd Street, 903 30th Street, and 2500 27th Street. The winners for the commercial category were Compassionate Care Veterinary Clinic at 2300 18th Avenue in third place, Icons Martini at 2100 18th Avenue in second place, and Caliber Home Loans. A representative from Caliber was present to accept the award from Mayor Thoms and Mr. Tyler of the Beautification Commission. The winner for the residential category was Jean Greenman at 4203 Riverview Lane and 4210 8th Street. A photo of the winners was taken.

9. Presentation of the 2019 Commercial Beautification Awards.

Mayor Thoms explained the purpose of the Commercial Beautification Awards, and that there would be four businesses honored out of a field of fifteen nominees. He listed the businesses that received certificates for honorable mention, including the Fire Station at 1601 30th Street, AP Fit at 4015 6th Avenue, Automotive Experts at 1901 4th Avenue, Dunkin Donuts at 2711 18th Avenue, HyVee Fast & Fresh Express 2810 18th Avenue, Rock River Fitness at 3416 46th Avenue, Save More at 625 26th Street, Simmer Crane 415 31st Avenue, U-Haul Moving & Storing at 3840 46th Avenue, Wake Brewing at 2529 5th Avenue, St. Pius Catholic Church at 2502 29th Avenue. The winners were Awake Coffee Shop with the Mayor's Award, Hauberg Estates at 1300 24th Street with the City Council Award, Skeleton Key Art and Antiques at 520 18th Street with the Beautification Commission Award, and Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church at 2324 18th Avenue with the overall first place award. A photo of the winners was taken.

10. Proclamation declaring January 2020 as National Mentoring Month.

Interim City Clerk Linda Mohr read the proclamation. Mayor Thoms presented the proclamation to Kirk and Cara Marske of the Big Brothers Big Sisters program as well as their 'Little' David. A picture was taken with Mayor Thoms and the three recipients.

11. Proclamation declaring January 2020 as Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

Interim City Clerk Linda Mohr read the proclamation. Mayor Thoms presented the proclamation to the Honorable Maggie Tinsman, as well as two employees of Family Resources, and board member of their Advisory Committee Deanna Jensen-Valliere. A picture was taken with Mayor Thoms and the group.

Ms. Tinsman thanked the City of Rock Island for passing the proclamation and recognizing how important the issue is, and how it affects the Quad Cities. She expressed a desire for citizens of the Quad Cities to learn about trafficking and slavery so they can be a part of the solution. She also thanked the City for initiating a local massage parlor ordinance. Ms. Tinsman also discussed the introduction of legislation in Iowa for hotel and motel training of all employees regarding human trafficking. This training will allow these particular businesses to display their training certificates and they will be able to host all state and local events. If these businesses do not undergo the training, they will not be utilized for government events. Ms. Tinsman suggested that Council introduce this type of legislation in Illinois.

12. Proclamation declaring January 20, 2020 as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Interim City Clerk Linda Mohr read the proclamation. Mayor Thoms presented the proclamation to Jerry Jones, Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center. A picture was taken with Mayor Thoms and Mr. Jones.

Mr. Jones reminded Council and residents of the upcoming 37th annual celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the King Center at 10:30 on Monday, January 20, 2020. He stated that everyone is welcome to come and hoped everyone could come.

13. An ordinance amending Chapter 11, Article I of the Code of Ordinances regarding the Planning Commission. (Second Reading)

MOTION:

Alderman Spurgetis moved to pass the ordinance as written. Alderman Parker seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

14. An ordinance amending Chapter 7, Article VI, Division 2 of the Code of Ordinances regarding dogs and cats. (Second Reading)

MOTION:

Alderman Hurt moved to pass the ordinance as written. Alderman Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

15. Claims for the week of December 13 through December 19, 2019 in the amount of \$965,462.68 and for December 20, 2019 through January 2, 2020 in the amount of \$2,620,958.56 and payroll for the weeks of December 1 through December 15, 2019 in the amount of \$1,507,986.80 and for the weeks of December 16 through December 29, 2019 in the amount of \$1,391,343.61.

MOTION:

Alderman Spurgetis moved to allow the claims and payroll; Alderman Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

16. Claims

- a. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding payment in the amount of \$11,317.46 to David Morrison of Rock Island, IL for legal services rendered for the month of December, 2019.
- b. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding payment in the amount of \$9,500.00 to Terri Elliott for a general liability claim.
- c. Report from the Information Technology Department regarding payment in the amount of \$13,738.04 to ITSavvy of Chicago, IL for a 3 year renewal of the Cisco/Meraki Subscription.
- d. Report from the Information Technology Department regarding payment in the amount of \$11,642.56 to DLT Solutions of Herndon, VA for the Autodesk Annual Subscription.

MOTION:

Alderman Parker moved to approve the agreement as recommended for Claims items a

through d; Alderwoman Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

- e. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #4 and final in the amount of \$21,430.00 to Sterling Commercial Roofing, Sterling, IL for services provided from July 31 through August 27, 2019.
- f. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #26 in the amount of \$369,300.00 to Civil Constructors, Inc., East Moline, IL for services provided October 24 through November 21, 2019.
- g. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$10,147.19 to McClintock Trucking and Excavating, Inc., Colona, IL for services provided at 1322 44 Street.
- h. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$11,647.39 to McClintock Trucking and Excavating, Inc., Colona, IL for services provided at 962 24 Avenue.

MOTION:

Alderwoman Swanson moved to accept the reports and authorize payment as recommended for Claims items e through h; Alderman Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 5-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

Alderman Parker recused himself from this vote, but wanted to clarify that he had no conflict of interest in voting for Sterling Commercial Roofing or McClintock Trucking and Excavating, but to simplify, he recused himself.

- 17. ACH payments for the month of November 2019 in the amount of \$6,895,845.90.

MOTION:

Alderman Spurgetis moved to approve ACH payments; Alderwoman Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

- 18. Purchase Card Claims for the period of October 29th, 2019 through November 26, 2019 in the amount of \$71,138.20.

MOTION:

Alderman Parker moved to approve the purchase card claims; Alderman Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

19. Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding One Year Funding Agreement with the Community Caring Conference for services provided.

MOTION:

Alderman Parker moved to approve the agreement as recommended subject to minor attorney modifications and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement; Alderman Poulos seconded.

Alderman Geenen said he noticed the agreement stated that the first distribution would be in June, and the second by September. He said that if the funds were available earlier, the Community Caring Conference could use them. City Manager Randy Tweet said that they just needed to request the funds. Alderman Geenen asked to whom he should direct them to, and Mr. Tweet responded that it would be funded by June, and Mayor Thoms added that it could be before.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

20. Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding the surplus in the 2019 Jumer's Casino Rock Island TIF Fund.

MOTION:

Alderman Parker moved to declare a surplus of funds and TIF 204 in the amount of \$590,055.63 and authorize the City Finance Director to return the fund surplus to the Rock Island County Treasurer for distribution; Alderman Spurgetis seconded.

Alderman Parker asked why the City was giving the County money. Mr. Tweet responded that as part of the TIF agreement, if there is a surplus it is to be returned to the County, but a quarter of the amount comes back to the City. He also said that if the City were to use the funds for a project, the County would be made aware as part of the agreement. Alderman Parker asked if this was annually, and Mr. Tweet responded that this is an annual function.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 voice vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

21. Report from the Public Works Department regarding the purchase of a Falcon 4-ton Asphalt Recycler and Hot Box Trailer from Logan Contractors Supply, Bettendorf, IA in the amount of \$38,005.00.

MOTION:

Alderman Spurgetis moved to approve the purchase as recommended; Alderwoman Swanson seconded.

Alderman Parker asked if it was the first time the City has purchased this type of equipment, and if this would be used for HMA repairs. Public Works Director Mike Bartels came to the front and said that this was a better product than what is currently in use, and that other cities have been using this equipment for ten years or more. He said that this item can hold four tons and will require less trips to the asphalt plant. Alderman Parker asked if this was used for potholes, and Mr. Bartels confirmed that it was used for pothole filling and patching and pavement patching. Alderman Parker then asked if this could be used for street resurfacing, and Mr. Bartels replied no, but that they could now do larger patches. Alderman Spurgetis said that this can be used year-round and has night work lights.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

22. Report from the Public Works Department regarding the purchase of a new 2020 John Deere 35G Excavator from Martin Equipment, Rock Island, IL in the amount of \$54,300.60.

MOTION:

Alderwoman Swanson moved to approve the purchase as recommended; Alderman Poulos seconded.

Alderman Geenen said it was nice for a Rock Island company to receive the business. Alderman Spurgetis said the price also includes attachments.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

23. Request from the Fire Department regarding the purchase of three ambulance cots from Stryker, Chicago, IL in the amount of \$52,698.36.

MOTION:

Alderwoman Swanson moved to award the bid as recommended and authorize the purchase; Alderman Spurgetis seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

24. Report from the Fire Department regarding the sole source purchase of two Bullard thermal imaging cameras from Dinges Fire Company of Amboy, IL in the amount of \$16,200.00.

MOTION:

Alderman Spurgetis moved to approve the purchase as recommended; Alderman Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: none. Absent: Clark.

25. Report from the Human Resources department regarding a general wage increase for non-affiliated employees, recommending a 1.26% increase, effective December 30, 2019.

MOTION:

Alderman Parker moved to approve the general wage increase as recommended and adopt the resolution; Alderman Geenen seconded.

Alderwoman Swanson said she appreciated the groups that have negotiated the terms of the contract, and they deserved a moment of applause for helping the City.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: none. Absent: Clark.

26. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding a proposed labor agreement between the City and the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2023.

MOTION:

Alderman Hurt moved to approve the agreement as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents; Alderman Spurgetis seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: none. Absent: Clark.

27. Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding the request to remove the handicapped parking space in front of 1504 25 Street.

MOTION:

Alderman Parker moved to approve the request as recommended and direct the City Attorney to prepare the necessary paperwork; Alderman Hurt seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: none. Absent: Clark.

28. Report from the Mayor regarding the appointment of Lloyd E. Davis Sr. to the Beautification Commission and reappointing Bill Sowards and Edna Sowards to the Labor Day Parade Advisory Committee.

MOTION:

Alderwoman Swanson moved to approve the appointment and reappointments as recommended; Alderman Hurt seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 voice vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, Hurt, and Spurgetis. Nay: none. Absent: Clark.

29. Other Business

The resident that signed up to speak was not present. Alderman Poulos thanked the Public Works Department for their work with the recent snow event. Alderman Geenen thanked the Mayor for the State of the City address, and added the community is very generous. He said the Rock Island Community Foundation will have a press event at the Quad City Botanical Center on Wednesday, January 22, 2020 announcing a gift from resident Rosemary Woodward in the form of a \$2.1 million trust, which will benefit six different organizations. He said that this type of generosity is what makes Rock Island a great place to live.

30. Motion to Adjourn

MOTION:

Alderman Poulos moved to adjourn; Alderman Parker seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 voice vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Geenen, and Hurt. Nay: None. Absent: Clark.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Josh Adams, Deputy Clerk