

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL GOAL SETTING SESSION**

**June 4, 2018
MINUTES**

The Rock Island City Council met at 5:00 p.m. in the Dennis E. Pauley Community Room at the Rock Island Police Station at 1212 5th Avenue, Rock Island, Illinois for the first meeting of their annual Goal Setting session. Present were Mayor Mike Thoms presiding, and Aldermen Joshua Schipp, Dave Geenen, Ivory D. Clark, Virgil J. Mayberry, James Spurgetis, Stephen L. Tollenaer, and Dylan Parker. Also present were City Manager Randy Tweet, Human Resources Director John Thorson, and City Clerk Judith Gilbert.

City Manager Randy Tweet explained that it was up to Council for how they wanted Goal Setting to go. Mr. Tweet said he sent out the four Five Year Goals and everyone was still good with those goals.

Mr. Tweet next reviewed the Outstanding Action Steps from last year. The Action Steps reviewed were: Street Service Level: Plan and Funding; Regional Collaboration for Reduced Cost of Service Delivery; Community Engagement Strategy and Actions; Bond Rating Retention/Improvement Plan (June 25 Update); Community Information Technology Infrastructure (June 11 Update); City Investment Policy (June 25 Update); Police and Fire Pensions (June 11 Update); 9-1-1 Communications Center; Wastewater Treatment Plant Equipment Rehabilitation/Replacement (July Update); 11th Street Business Corridor (September Update); Columbia Park Business Expansion; Small Business Development/Growth Programs; Old Country Market Study, Direction on Clean Up; College Hill District Redevelopment/Business Development; Rock Island Downtown – Historic Place Designation (December Update); Downtown Plan Update (September Update); Downtown Streetscape Standards (August Update); Human Rights Commission; Crime/Shootings Reduction Plan; S.W. Residential Development; Solar Power Policy and Program; Community Cameras Plan and Direction; and Zoning Ordinance: Revision/Update (September Update).

Additional discussion focused on a budget awareness campaign; citizen input and engagement on new fees and taxes / participatory budgeting; estimates for catch-up street maintenance; and estimates for revenue generation (vehicle tax, transportation tax, and property tax).

Mr. Tweet distributed two spreadsheets “General Fund Projection,” one with the status quo and one which included the estimated impact of new home construction and various commercial developments. He explained the assumptions built into the projections. Council discussed the projections.

Council next reviewed and discussed Council Cost Reduction Suggestions: longevity, cost of living, early retirement, and merit/step raises. Mr. Tweet explained how longevity pay is part of the payroll/salary package.

Council reviewed and discussed Staff Cost Reduction Suggestions: lease or sell marina; independent (3rd party) evaluation of outsource refuse collection; evaluate public safety buildings – combine police and central fire into one building; independent (3rd party) evaluation of fire services staffing and infrastructure; consider paid on call division of fire, part-time firefighters and paramedics; independent (3rd party) evaluation of police services; consider library district;

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consider fire protection district; consider park district; discontinue providing return envelopes in utility bills; transition the “transfer for charges”: from general fund to be more direct to other funds and the “transfer for charges” be related to indirect costs such as personnel costs; contract garbage and ambulance services; retirement incentives; combine services with Moline: trash, inspections, etc. / shared services agreements; decrease staffing and/or services 5%, combine positions and reclassify; eliminate yard waste subscription service collection until after free spring leaf collection is complete; and eliminate free leaf bags.

Council reviewed and discussed Council Revenue Suggestions: Business Improvement District for downtown; ride-sharing fee; amusement tax; plastic bag fee; PILOTs (Payments in Lieu of Taxes). Alderman Spurgetis presented his research regarding an amusement/entertainment tax.

Mr. Tweet said he will email Council instructions for review of Staff Revenue Suggestions (43). Council will discuss them on June 18 at the next Goal Setting session.

Note: Alderman Mayberry left at 7:26 p.m.; Alderman Geenen left at 9:23 p.m.; and Alderman Schipp left at 9:24 p.m.

The meeting was recessed at 9:25 p.m.

Judith H. Gilbert, City Clerk