

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

City Hall

1528 Third Avenue, Rock Island IL

City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor

9/26/2022 - Minutes

1. Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Jenni Swanson called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

2. This meeting will also be conducted by audio and video conference without the requirement of a physically present quorum of the Rock Island City Council due to the disaster declaration issued by Governor Pritzker.

3. Roll Call

Mayor Pro Tem Swanson asked Deputy City Clerk Josh Adams to call the roll.

Present: Alderpersons Moses Robinson, Randy Hurt (virtual), Judith Gilbert, Jenni Swanson in the role of Mayor Pro Tempore, Mark Poulos, and Bill Healy.

Absent: Alderperson Dylan Parker and Mayor Mike Thoms.

Staff: City Manager Todd Thompson, City Attorney Dave Morrison, Deputy City Clerk Josh Adams, and other City staff.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Pro Tem Swanson led in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Moment of Silence

Mayor Pro Tem Swanson requested a moment of silence. A moment of silence was observed.

6. Public Comment

Mayor Pro Tem Swanson asked if any members of the public who were present or virtual wished to speak.

Rock Island resident and business owner Justin Farley addressed Council regarding the agenda item reflecting an adjustment to his Special Use Permit. He noted that his business at the corner of 7th Avenue and 44th Street was an event space and recording studio and described the type of events it holds. He appreciated Council's consideration in extending his Special Use Permit.

7. Minutes of the September 12, 2022 Study Session and City Council Meeting.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Healy moved to approve the minutes as printed; Aldersperson Robinson seconded.

VOTE:

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

8. Update Rock Island

**Family Bingo at the Downtown Library on September 29, 2022** – The Downtown is offering Family Bingo from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Play as many games as you can fit into an hour for your chance to win candy. Registration is required for everyone attending and children 6 and under must have an adult present. Visit their website for more information and to register.

**Thursday Night Groove Concert Series in Schwiebert Park is back!** The concert series will run every Thursday from August 18 through October 13, 2022 featuring a different band each week. Concessions from Bent River Brewing Co. and Happy Joe's Pizza will be available starting at 6:00 p.m. with live music from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Visit the Rock Island Parks & Recreation website for more information.

**Fall Leaf Collection Bag available Monday, October 10, 2022** – The City offers leaf bags for the Leaf Collection Program. Leaf bags will be available on Monday, October 10, 2022 and leaf collection will be Monday, October 17th through Friday, December 9, 2022. Leaf bag distribution locations will be announced in the Fall. Visit the City website for more information.

9. Mayor Pro Tem will close the regular meeting and open a Public Hearing on a request from Michael Whiteside, Sallie's for a waiver of the signature requirement to secure a Liquor License at 3737 14th Avenue.

Mayor Pro Tem Swanson closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing. She asked if anyone present or virtually wished to speak against the request. There were no respondents. She asked if there was anyone present or virtually that wished to speak in favor of the request.

Michael Whiteside addressed Council regarding the request. He said he and his family have been working for 2 years to bring the project to fruition in the form of a bar and restaurant. The capacity will be around 100 people, and hopes to attract a good local crowd.

Aldersperson Hurt asked for clarification as to whether the classification of the business as a tavern on the liquor license application was accurate. Mr. Whiteside said that was the option chosen, as it best fit their business model. Aldersperson Hurt asked when food would be available. Mr. Whiteside said it would be from day one.

Aldersperson Hurt asked what type of parking had been arranged for the business other than the parking lot. Mr. Whiteside replied there was a good amount of parking along 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and also had spoken with Auto Zone regarding use of their lot, to which they had agreed provided it was not full. He noted that although parking was a concern, the hours of the proposed location do not conflict with the times for street parking. They also own a 14-spot parking lot to the west of their location. He said use of the City ball diamond's parking area from two minutes away could also be utilized. He said Radicle Effect Brewwerks, another bar in the area, had utilized permit parking, and he encouraged local residents on 37<sup>th</sup> Street to acquire the same so that patrons at the new business would not interfere in their existing parking spaces. Aldersperson Hurt wished Mr. Whiteside well with the business.

Aldersperson Poulos asked Mr. Whiteside whether or not he still planned to have a movie viewing space within the restaurant as was first proposed. Mr. Whiteside said that with the pandemic and rising labor costs, that idea had been shelved in favor of a firewall to meet City code. Aldersperson Gilbert asked Mr. Whiteside how many signatures were needed. Mr. Whiteside said the mandatory number was 10 and the majority was 30. He added that most signatures on the majority list were big businesses or out-of-town landlords, and certified letters were sent to all. Aldersperson Gilbert noted that the minimum number of properties that needed to sign were 11, and Mr. Whiteside confirmed that was correct.

Aldersperson Swanson asked if there were any virtual comments in favor of the request. There was no response. Aldersperson Hurt asked if Mulkey's was unable to sign, but Mr. Whiteside noted that he had obtained it. Aldersperson Healy noted that some of the businesses in the area were rental properties.

Mayor Pro Tem Swanson closed the Public Hearing, reopened the regular meeting, and entertained a motion.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Poulos moved to recommend that the Mayor/Liquor Commissioner wave the signature requirement as requested and approve the liquor license; Aldersperson Hurt seconded.

VOTE:

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

- a. Claims for the weeks of September 2 through September 8, 2022 in the amount of \$337,726.76; September 9 through September 15, 2022 in the amount of \$446,133.45; and payroll for the weeks of August 22 through September 4, 2022 in the amount of \$1,630,415.98.
- b. ACH payments for the month of August 2022 in the amount of \$2,849,752.21.
- c. Purchase Card claims for the period of July 27, through August 26, 2022 in the amount of \$75,788.81.
- d. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment to McClintock Trucking & Excavating, Inc. of Silvis, IL in the amount of \$27,765.39 for repairs at 2539 22 1/2 Avenue and 1424 34th Avenue as part of the Water Service and Sewer Lateral Repair Programs, Projects 2526 and 2564.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Robinson moved to approve Consent Agenda items a through d; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

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

11. Report from the Public Works Department regarding a Lease Agreement with Michels Power Inc, Neenah, WI to temporarily lease a vacant corner lot located at 7th Avenue and 2nd Street as part of an upcoming construction project.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Robinson moved to direct the City Manager to sign the lease agreement, pending any minor attorney modifications; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

12. Report from the Community & Economic Development Department regarding an ordinance granting revised stipulations to a Special Use Permit to Justin Farley for a public event facility located at 4401 7th Avenue. (First Reading)

MOTION:

Aldersperson Poulos moved to amend the recommendation to allow the Special Use Permit to extend for two years and to allow the use of one food truck during business hours; Aldersperson Robinson seconded.

Community and Economic Development Director Miles Brainard approached Council to clarify that the additional time requested in the amended permit is two years instead of one. Alderperson Poulos confirmed that was correct, as well as allowing the food truck.

City Attorney Morrison said that if the intent is to suspend the rules, both motions would need to be withdrawn and new motions made.

Alderpersons Robinson and Poulos withdrew their motions.

Alderperson Poulos moved to amend the recommendation to two years, to allow the food truck, and to suspend the rules, consider, and pass the ordinance; Alderperson Robinson seconded.

VOTE:

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

13. Report from the Community & Economic Development regarding approval of the Hoskins Subdivision Minor Subdivision Plat located at 2767 9th Street to the North for the use of a church parking lot.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to approve the final plat; Alderperson Robinson seconded.

VOTE:

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

14. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget adjustment increasing the Community Development Block Grant Fund (242) revenue and expenditure budgets by \$82,234.00 and \$429,469.62.

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to approve the budget adjustment as recommended; Alderperson Gilbert seconded.

VOTE:

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

15. Report from the Traffic and Engineering Committee regarding a request from Kristal Kaiser to give 25th Avenue between 9th and 17th Street the honorary name of Louis Kaiser Way. (First Reading)

[The item number was read as 25th Avenue between 12th and 16th Streets, which was read in place of the posted agenda item to reflect amendments made during the motion at the August 22, 2022 City Council meeting]

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to suspend the rules, consider, and pass the ordinance; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

16. Report from the Traffic and Engineering Committee regarding a request from Debbie Brooks to install 4-way stop signs on 25th Street at the intersection of 21st Avenue. (First Reading)

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to suspend the rules, consider, and pass the ordinance; Aldersperson Robinson seconded.

VOTE:

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

17. Report from the Traffic and Engineering Committee regarding a request from Marilyn Ryan to install residential parking (Type A) on the east and west side of 10th Street north of 25th Avenue to the dead end. (First Reading)

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to suspend the rules, consider, and pass the ordinance; Aldersperson Robinson seconded.

VOTE:

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

18. Report from the Fire Department regarding a request from the Rock Island Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 26, to utilize the intersection of 30th Street and 18th Avenue for their annual Muscular Dystrophy Association "Fill the Boot" fundraising campaign on Friday, October 14, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., on Saturday, October 15, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and on Sunday, October 16, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to approve the request as recommended; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

Aldersperson Robinson asked whether or not a permit was needed for any organization to do something similar to this. City Manager Thompson said there is a permit provided for anyone being in the street, but guidelines had not previously been developed as to how to apply for one. He noted that he had asked City Clerk Samantha Gange to develop guidelines for the permit. Aldersperson Robinson noted a recent happening at 11th Street and 18th Avenue where an organization was walking in the street. City Manager Thompson noted that a permit should have been acquired, but there was not a process in place.

VOTE:

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

19. Report from the City Clerk's office regarding a request from Kai Swanson with Augustana College to close 7th Avenue between 34th Street and Centennial Hall on Saturday, October 15, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for a block party.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Robinson moved to approve the street closing as recommended; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

Aldersperson Poulos asked if the street closing would have any effect on whether or not emergency services would be able to get through. Fire Chief Jeff Yerkey addressed Council and said there were no issues, as typically the event coordinators accommodate emergency services as needed. Event coordinator Kai Swanson addressed Council and noted this was a public party celebrating a rare event. He added that he had requested the street closing time to be earlier at 7:00 a.m. instead of the original 9:00 a.m. time based on a request from the Augustana Public Safety Office. He said they had entrance and exit plans for the event, and the Augustana Office of Public Safety Chief Phillis could share them with Council.

Alderspersons Robinson and Poulos withdrew their original motions to accommodate for the change in time.

Aldersperson Poulos moved to approve the event with the amendment of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

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

20. Report from the City Clerk's office regarding a request from Deb Kuntzi with Friends of Hauberg Civic Center to close the north entrance of 24th Street on Saturday, October 22, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to ensure pedestrian safety; to use sound amplification from 5:00 p.m.

to 11:00 p.m.; and to allow for the permission of the outdoor sale and consumption of alcohol as part of their Oktoberfest event.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to approve the street closing and sound amplification requests as recommended; and allow for the outdoor sale of alcohol subject to being closed down early if complaints are received; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

21. Report from the City Clerk's office regarding a request from Isaiah Williams of Zay Creatives, LLC to close 2nd Avenue between 20th and 21st Avenues on Saturday, October 22, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. for a community festival and fashion show.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Robinson moved to approve the street closing and sound amplification requests as recommended; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

22. Report from the City Clerk's office regarding a request from Christian Care, 2209 3rd Avenue to hold a walk on Saturday, December 17, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to approve the request as recommended; Aldersperson Robinson seconded.

VOTE:

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

23. Other Business

Aldersperson Robinson asked Council to consider whether or not the Other Business agenda item could be moved up in the agenda order going forward to accommodate the public after they have commented and stayed in the crowd.



Aldersperson Robinson next discussed Metronet and their lack of service availability below the hill in the City, specifically in his Ward. He requested that someone reach out to Metronet to see what needs to be done to acquire more information and help get residents connected that currently are not. Mr. Thompson said the agreement provides for an initial service area, and when there is additional interest, they are obligated to extend the service. He said a map could be assembled to act as a current service reference. He encouraged residents to contact Metronet directly to inquire about service, and noted that he would work with Metronet to facilitate contact with residents. Aldersperson Gilbert noted a constituent's concern regarding Metronet, who told the person it would be two years before service was available in that location.

Aldersperson Robinson urged Council to develop a plan for dealing with Sunset Marina, as well as movement towards a communications plan. Mr. Thompson said the new Community Engagement Manager Sarah Hayden would be working on that and he would share ideas from Council with her as she develops an outline and strategy for it. Aldersperson Gilbert noted that some cities have services that send texts to residents, and it would be nice to have something in Rock Island to directly communicate both to all residents and by Ward. She requested additional information on ways to communicate to residents.

24. Closed Session.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to enter Closed Session for the exception cited; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

Roll call was established upon re-entering the regular meeting.

Present: Alderspersons Robinson, Gilbert, Swanson, Poulos, and Healy. Absent: Aldersperson Hurt, Aldersperson Parker, and Mayor Thoms.

25. Motion to Adjourn.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Poulos moved to adjourn; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 5-0-2 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Gilbert, and Swanson. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt and Parker.

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Josh Adams

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Josh Adams, Deputy City Clerk