

The Rock Island City Council met in reconvened session on Saturday, February 8, 2014 at 8:00 am in City Council Chambers of Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley presiding, and Aldermen P.J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Kate Hotle, Charles O. Austin III and David Conroy. Staff present included City Manager Thomas Thomas, Finance Director Cynthia Parchert and Budget Coordinator Don Reichert. Other staff entered the room at various times of the morning pertinent to their presentations. Aldermen Joy Murphy and Ivory D. Clark were absent.

## **BUDGET OVERVIEW**

Finance Director Cynthia Parchert opened the discussion stating that each department will follow the same Agenda which includes; reviewing staffing changes; reviewing budgeted projects, reviewing new or renewed contracts; reviewing changes to revenue or fee structures; reviewing changes in level of services; reviewing operational changes; reviewing new or renewed grants; and reviewing departmental projects or expenses within the CIP using Gaming or General Fund carryover funds.

Ms. Parchert then explained to Council how the 2014 Budget documents are organized. Ms. Parchert advised that it begins with the Table of Contents followed by the Financial Summary, Significant Policies, Department Overviews and the Funds Budget, which is more in line with the City's audit. Ms. Parchert further discussed the layout of the budget documents. Ms. Parchert noted that this is a nine month budget.

## **FIRE**

Fire Chief Jim Fobert accompanied by Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Yerkey presented the Fire Department's 2014 Budget.

Chief Fobert indicated that staffing levels remain the same at 58 sworn and one civilian for a total of 59 fte's. Chief Fobert advised that one of the big projects is the 800 MHz communications system. The Chief explained that some of the capital projects such as the windows and doors were pushed back until Calendar Year 2015 or 2016 so that some funds would be available for the 800 MHz system. Chief Fobert advised that funds are available for the generators in this year's budget for stations 2, 3 and 4. The Chief indicated that the projects will not be completed until Calendar Year 2014. The Chief added that as soon as the weather breaks, the projects can begin.

Chief Fobert advised that the Ambulance Billing contract remains the same through Professional Billing Services. Chief Fobert, Ms. Parchert and Council discussed the process for billing as it related to revenues, calls for service, insurance and collection. Chief Fobert pointed out that in CY14 in regards to revenues; the department is looking towards increasing the ambulance fee structure for treat & non transport from \$100.00 to \$200.00 and mileage from \$9.30 per mile to \$14.00 per mile. Chief Fobert and Council discussed Emergency Medical Services as it related to privatization, cost, revenue, insurance and collection.

Chief Fobert discussed changes in the level of services. Chief Fobert indicated that a heart monitor will be provided to Fire Station 2 (Southwest). The Chief added that it will be a step up from the one they currently have. Chief Fobert discussed water and rescue and noted that they received a donation from Jumer's for \$25,000.00. The Chief added that they are looking towards the other \$20,000.00 coming from Foreign Fire Tax. In the area of operational changes, Chief Fobert indicated that in regards to response to territory, smaller vehicles will respond to certain areas that are high volume to save on fuel and maintenance to the Fire Department fleet. Chief Fobert commented that the new ladder truck is in operation at Central Fire Station. Chief Fobert advised that he is still pushing for the AFG Grant in regards to exhaust systems throughout the stations, and it will be coming in CY15.

Council and Chief Fobert discussed the Fire Department's CY14 budget as it related to budget cuts concerning specialized training, various contracts and remodeling projects.

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)**

Information Technology Department Director Timothy Bain presented the Information Technology Department's 2014 Budget to Council.

Mr. Bain indicated that overall staffing levels remain the same at seven employees. However, IT lost a Network Administrator in January in regards to residency and the department is currently looking for a replacement. Mr. Bain commented that they hope to have a new Network Administrator on staff by March. Council discussed staffing levels as it related to residency.

In the area of projects, Mr. Bain stated that the IT Department has budgeted \$130,000.00 for replacing computer equipment. Mr. Bain and Council further discussed computer equipment replacement. Mr. Bain indicated that there is a line item in the budget for fiber optics along 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and this is mainly due to the Police Department wanting to continue to expand camera coverage. Mr. Bain stated that there is a smartboard planned for the CED conference room and the Police internal affairs module. Mr. Bain offered that there are several ongoing projects that are in the process of being completed in CY14, which include, fleet software, marina software, public access channel, wireless internet and the downtown camera expansion.

Mr. Bain advised that there are a number of enterprise contracts that the IT Department budgets for on an annual basis; these contracts include; Google, Voice over IP, VMware for the server infrastructure, Antivirus and Microsoft. Mr. Bain stated that they also have other contracts, which include Civic Plus for the City's website and Wireless Internet. Mr. Bain stated that the financial contracts include GEMS, Attendance Enterprise, Northstar and iNovah. Mr. Bain added that for GIS, there is the AutoCad contract and the ArcGIS contract. Mr. Bain pointed out that a new contract is Amazon for the cloud based service. Mr. Bain stated that when the consulting firm Symbiont established their environment for the Wet Weather Treatment Plant, the new City Works environment was built in the Cloud on the Amazon web services. Mr. Bain further discussed this item. Mr.

Bain advised that the IT Department has worked out a lease arrangement with PEG to lease some of the fiber optic infrastructure for small revenue. Mr. Bain stated that the revenue will not be recorded under IT. Mr. Bain and Council further discussed this item.

Mr. Bain stated that in terms of changes in services, the Police RMS network is being altered and IT is currently in the process of phasing out the IBM RS/6000. Mr. Bain added that the Internet Bandwidth and Wireless Network cooperatives continue with 911 and RMS.

Mr. Bain stated that in the area of operational changes, there are several new software systems. Mr. Bain advised that the IT Department does not have any grants. Mr. Bain concluded that a potential carryover could be security cameras for the Downtown on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue concerning the stage area.

Council discussed Mr. Bain's presentation as it related to staffing levels and modifications to Council Chambers.

### **COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Community and Economic Development Director Jeff Eder accompanied by Budget and Grants Manager Dena Haag addressed Council and presented the CED Department's 2014 Budget.

Mr. Eder advised that over the last two years, there have been significant staff changes in regards to personnel. Mr. Eder added that the actual number of personnel has not changed. Mr. Eder stated that CED will be at 20 full-time fte's with one summer intern. Mr. Eder commented that the electrical inspector will be retiring in April and the department expects to have that position filled by April.

Mr. Eder discussed new projects. Mr. Eder stated that the Illinois Quad Cities Healthy Homes Coalition was awarded the 2013 Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control grant. Mr. Eder added that the City of Moline is the lead applicant, and the administrator of this three year grant, which the City is part of. It was noted that the grant was \$2.5 million. Mr. Eder advised that Rock Island's portion will be used to clean up lead in 35 homes. Mr. Eder added that East Moline will be paying the City to provide services to clean up some of their properties. Mr. Eder further discussed this item. Mr. Eder indicated that CDBG policies and procedures and rehabilitation program policies and procedures are being updated in regards to new Federal regulations. Mr. Eder commented that the process is almost complete. Council and Mr. Eder discussed CDBG dollars as it related to decreases in funds.

Mr. Eder stated that there are two new significant projects that are taking place, which include the two new TIF districts; the Watchtower TIF and the Locks TIF. Mr. Eder further discussed these items. Mr. Eder advised that the Comprehensive Plan will be completed in the next several months. Mr. Eder stated that the department will be increasing zoning fees. Mr. Eder explained that the notice area has been expanded and

mailings are going up; the increase in fees will offset mailing costs. Mr. Eder further discussed this item. Mr. Eder advised that the department needs to update the zoning ordinance and sign code to be in line with the future land use map. Mr. Eder pointed out that on the building side, the City is looking at the adoption of the 2012 Building Codes. Council and Mr. Eder discussed the building codes.

Mr. Eder discussed projects that are in progress. Mr. Eder advised that the Walmart project is continuing as planned. Mr. Eder added that Dollar General has submitted their plan for the 11<sup>th</sup> Street store. Mr. Eder further discussed tenants and the vacancy component as it related to Watchtower Plaza. Council, Mr. Eder and City Manager Thomas discussed the Walmart project as it related to negotiations with Walmart concerning the timing component for the construction of the new store.

Mr. Eder indicated that Blackhawk Commons is under construction. It was noted that Blackhawk College and State Farm have moved into this new location and are open for business and Missman is under construction. Mr. Eder advised that the department is still working with the USEDA to get them to sign off for the water, sewer and road construction for the Ridgewood Business Park project. Mr. Eder discussed the Brownfield project that is moving forward as it related to the former Country Market property. Mr. Eder added that the Jumer's Crossing project continues. Mr. Eder indicated that the Riverview Lofts redevelopment has been approved and is underway, and the Quad City Botanical Center Children's Garden project is expected to be completed by this spring.

Mr. Eder discussed projects that have been closed or in the process of being closed out. Mr. Eder indicated that CED staff is working with Finance to get the NSP I and NSP II grants closed out. Mr. Eder added that they are still waiting for guidance from HUD on how to close out those grants. Mr. Eder commented that the CDBG-R funds have been fully expended and they are waiting for guidance from HUD to close some of those funds out. Mr. Eder indicated that the South 11<sup>th</sup> Street TIF has expired and the new Watchtower TIF is going in a similar area. Mr. Eder stated that the Schwiebert Riverfront Boat Dock funds are coming from CED and the department is working very closely with Parks to get that project built. Mr. Eder further discussed this item.

Mr. Eder commented that in regards to budgeted contracts, there are a number of property tax rebates that are done once a year and the department will continue to work with the residential programs. Mr. Eder added that there are several development agreements that are done on an annual basis. Mr. Eder further discussed this item. Mr. Eder advised that in regards to revenue, CED will be increasing some zoning fees and there will be major revisions in the Zoning Building Code. Mr. Eder further discussed this item.

Mr. Eder commented that no changes are anticipated in the level of services provided by the Community and Economic Development Department, and no changes are anticipated for operations.

Mr. Eder discussed a number of new grants and changes to existing grants. Mr. Eder commented that CED is in the process of getting the TAP grant from the State, which will be used for the installation of a pedestrian beacon at the 11<sup>th</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue intersection. It was noted that this grant has been approved. Mr. Eder stated that CED applied for an IHDA Abandoned Property Program grant for demolition of properties and the department is still waiting to hear back on the status of this grant. Mr. Eder also discussed other grants that included; the Brownfields Revolving Loan as it related to the former Country Market site; DCEO grants concerning MLK renovation, Ridgewood Business Park design costs and three infrastructure grants; the Illinois Attorney grant through Renaissance Rock Island; Lead grant and the closeouts of NSP I and NSP II.

Council and Mr. Eder discussed budgeted CIP projects. Council and Mr. Eder further discussed the Community and Economic Development Department's 2014 Budget.

### **LIBRARY**

Library Director Angela Campbell along with Assistant Library Director Amy Penry and Administrative Assistant Kellie Kerns presented the Library's 2014 Budget.

Ms. Campbell indicated that overall, the staffing count remains the same at 44. Ms. Campbell stated that the library would like to promote the Administrative Secretary to the Business Office and Facilities Manager and eliminate the Administrative Secretary position. Ms. Campbell added that the new position will absorb the Administrative Secretary's duties and everything related to the buildings and grounds as well as supervising the maintenance and security staff. Ms. Campbell explained that the PR/Outreach Liaison will move from 27 hours to full-time. Ms. Campbell stated that the extra hours are in response to the strategic plan which is heavily geared toward marketing and outreach efforts. Ms. Campbell further discussed staffing.

Ms. Campbell discussed budgeted projects. Ms. Campbell stated that the library will be adding a vehicle to offset mileage reimbursement costs and to do more outreach, which was outlined in the strategic plan. Council and Ms. Campbell discussed the addition of a new vehicle as it related to mileage and cost.

Ms. Campbell indicated that the library has increased the computer equipment lines so that public computing stations can be replaced. Ms. Campbell explained that programming and marketing lines have been increased due to the numerous literacy related activities that will be implemented. Various literacy projects Ms. Campbell discussed included; library training cards, newborn gift bags and additional story times in the building and offsite. Ms. Campbell also discussed adult, teen and family literacy projects as it related to creating a new teen space, creating informational kiosks in the library, increasing computer literacy classes and creating a literacy helpline. Ms. Campbell advised that the only change concerning budgeted contracts is the contract with Kymble Komplete Care for snow removal. It was noted that all other contracts remain the same.

Ms. Campbell discussed revenue changes. Ms. Campbell pointed out that the Board voted to eliminate the DVD rental fee, which actually decreases revenue by \$16,000.00. Ms. Campbell explained that the decision was based on the library lending items for free to other libraries concerning the RiverShare contract. Ms. Campbell commented that they do not receive the circulation statistics if the items are not checked out of the library. Ms. Campbell further discussed this item.

Ms. Campbell advised that the library's strategic plan is very clear that outreach and community engagement be at the top of the priority list. Ms. Campbell added that by increasing programming and outreach line items, the community will hopefully see a noticeable difference in services that the library is providing for them. Ms. Campbell stated that in the area of operational changes, they are working towards creating a teen area at the Main Library and a reference information kiosk in the library. Ms. Campbell commented that the library is expanding their Saturday summer-time hours from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm to 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Ms. Campbell offered that their grants remain the same as in the past. However, Ms. Campbell noted that if grants pertaining to the strategic plan are announced, the library may apply for grant funding to enhance these new initiatives. Ms. Campbell discussed CIP and General Fund Carryover. Ms. Campbell indicated that the library will complete the chimney project as soon as the weather gets warmer. Ms. Campbell added that the CIP includes funds for window coverings at the Main Library and there are funds for the brick restoration project at the Main Library.

Council and Ms. Campbell discussed the Rock Island Library's 2014 Budget as it related to the expanded Saturday summer-time hours, and the possibility of having a café on the second floor of the Main Library. In addition, Council and Ms. Campbell discussed the issue concerning the leaking roof at the Southwest Library.

Alderman Foley excused himself from the meeting at 10:38 am.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Public Works Director Randy Tweet presented the Public Works Department's 2014 Budget.

Mr. Tweet stated that there was some reorganization in regards to staffing. Mr. Tweet indicated that the Electrical Maintenance and Hydroplant operations were moved from Fleet Services to Municipal Services. Mr. Tweet indicated that this was due to Electrical Maintenance being a better fit with outside operations. Mr. Tweet stated that the responsibility for the Marina operations including the Marina staff transferred from Fleet Services to the Marina manager, which put one manager in charge of all Marina operations. Mr. Tweet offered that the part-time Stormwater Engineer position was eliminated. It was noted that the duties and responsibilities of that position was transferred to the Assistant City Engineer position. Mr. Tweet stated that stormwater permitting and inspections was transferred from Municipal Services to Engineering, and

GIS was also moved from Municipal Services to Engineering. Mr. Tweet explained that the Automotive Parts Assistant was converted from a long time contract position to a full-time City position. It was noted that this item is not reflected in the budget.

Mr. Tweet advised that two full-time positions have been eliminated through attrition, which includes an Office Assistant III position and a Maintenance Crew Leader position. Mr. Tweet noted that one Office Assistant position is still under review. Mr. Tweet further discussed this item. Mr. Tweet advised that there is a reduction in full-time staffing from 112 to 111 positions. Mr. Tweet stated that currently, there are 11 full-time positions open. Mr. Tweet added that they are currently recruiting for most of those positions and the others are under review. Mr. Tweet further discussed this item as it related to promotions and contract employees.

Mr. Tweet discussed special projects and service contracts. Mr. Tweet pointed out that there is an increase in some of the contracts for HVAC calls. Mr. Tweet further discussed this item. Mr. Tweet advised that on the water side, painting is being done inside the reservoir dome and the department is replacing a raw water pump at the pumping station down by the Government Bridge. Mr. Tweet stated that on the sewer side, there is some work being done on the Blackhawk lift station in which there will be a slight increase in costs. Mr. Tweet further discussed these projects. Mr. Tweet stated that all of the projects are done during the construction season.

Mr. Tweet advised that the only revenue change is the 3% increase in the Sunset Marina rates that was approved in FY13 and a 3% increase in the sewer rates. It was noted that all other rates will remain the same. Mr. Tweet discussed service levels. Mr. Tweet stated that as a result of the eliminated crew leader position, there will be one less employee for snow removal operations. Mr. Tweet further discussed snow removal operations as it related to staffing. Council and Mr. Tweet discussed snow removal as it related to salt purchases, staffing, overtime and Downtown snow removal.

Mr. Tweet advised that there will be two operational changes in the CY14 budget, which is the elimination of the in-house Microsurfacing Program and the addition of an Asphalt Street Recycling Pilot Program. Mr. Tweet noted that these changes are cost neutral. Mr. Tweet stated that 1,600 labor hours will transfer to concrete street maintenance. Mr. Tweet further discussed the Asphalt Street Recycling Pilot Program.

Mr. Tweet then discussed grants. Mr. Tweet stated that there is the IKE grant for the design of the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue relief sewer and the annual Solid Waste Assistance Grant (SWAG) from the Rock Island County Waste Management Agency to help support the cost of solid waste services.

Mr. Tweet and Council briefly discussed the CIP as it related to 9<sup>th</sup> Street Resurfacing from 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue to Blackhawk Road. Council further discussed the Public Works Department's 2014 Budget.

Council briefly discussed the 2014 Budget as it related to the increase in zoning fees.

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – BUDGET**

**February 8, 2014  
MINUTES**

**RECESS**

A motion was made by Alderman Hotle and seconded by Alderman Austin to recess to Monday, February 10, 2014 at 5:30 pm. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: Those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Austin and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

The meeting was recessed at 11:20 am.

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Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk