

The Rock Island City Council met in Study Session at 5:30 pm in City Council Chambers at Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley presiding, and Aldermen David Conroy, P.J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Kate Hotle, Joy Murphy, Charles O. Austin III and Ivory D. Clark. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas, Deputy City Clerk Linda Mohr, other City staff and City Attorney Dave Morrison. Absent was City Clerk Aleisha Patchin.

PARK BOARD PRESENTATION

Fred Dasso, Park Board President, spoke to council about the Park and Recreation available monies for operating expenses and the use of contingency funds. Also present from the Park Board was Moses Robinson, Dave Knuckey, Ann Austin and Alderman Dave Conroy. Dasso advised council that there has been a steady increase in expenses over the past five years as a result of minimum wage increases, transfers and the addition of three new city parks, without an increase in the tax rate for parks or playgrounds since the 2010-2011 budget. Dasso outlined several large projects needed over the next couple of years that will require additional funding. Discussion followed on the contingency fund that was established 2 years prior and Alderman Austin asked why that money had not been fully spent each year. Dasso advised that it was the Boards understanding that that money could not be used except for an emergency. Further discussion on the use of the Enterprise Fund monies and the Contingency Fund Monies and Alderman Foley asked Finance Director Parchert to provide more information to Council on the history of these funds for the past 3 years. Alderman Conroy reminded Council that City Parks was made a priority at the annual goal setting sessions and that while Schwiebert Park, RIFAC and our golf courses are beautiful assets to our city, they require routine maintenance and updates to keep them that way. Alderman Hotle mentioned looking at the possibility of closing some of our smaller, under used parks and Chairman Dasso pointed out that that possibility was something they may consider. After further discussion, the presentation was concluded until such time the additional information on the funds could be reviewed by council and it was determined that further discussion was needed.

SIDEWALK PRESENTATION

Public Works Director Randy Tweet spoke to the Mayor and Council about the current sidewalk policy and some proposed changes. He outlined the City's process when they receive a sidewalk complaint to determine if a hazard exists and the process used to mitigate the hazard if necessary. Tweet explained the current 50/50 program, currently \$4.00 per square foot for the resident and \$4.00 for the City. Currently only 12 – 18 residents participate in this program each year and there is typically left in the budget each year, which is then spent on miscellaneous sidewalk repairs throughout the City, usually ADA accessible ramps. Tweet advised that the goal of the Public Works department is to replace more sidewalks, while reducing the cost to the citizens and without any budget increases to the City. To do this, Tweet suggested taking small amounts of money from other budgeted Public Works funds to add to the sidewalk fund. This would have little impact to those programs with no overall budget increase, but would allow for more available funds for sidewalks. With these additional funds, Tweet said we could change the current 50/50 program to a 75/25 split to reduce cost to residents. He recommended, however, changing the current 50/50 program to a reimbursement program similar to the Rain Garden

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

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program. This would allow the resident to use a contractor of their choice and be reimbursed at \$4.00 a square foot, ultimately resulting in a lower cost to the resident. Alderman Murphy asked, if a homeowner cannot currently afford to participate in the 50/50 program by paying half the cost, how would they be able to afford to pay for the whole sidewalk upfront before getting reimbursed? After further discussion, Tweet stated another recommendation was an ordinance change to allow unlicensed citizens to repair their adjacent sidewalk (flat sections only) themselves after obtaining a bond fee and permit fee. Alderman Foley suggested that the total amount of monies available for sidewalks be divided among the seven wards for the aldermen to decide which sidewalks were a priority in their wards to be fixed that year. Alderman Hotle mentioned that she didn't think that would work because the needs and the number of sidewalks varied greatly from ward to ward. Alderman Murphy stated she felt sidewalks around all schools should be a priority. After more discussion, the presentation was concluded until a later date due to time constraints.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Clark to adjourn the meeting carried by the following Aye and No vote. Those voting Aye being; Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin and Alderman Clark; those voting No, none. The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 pm.

Linda K. Mohr, Deputy City Clerk

Rock Island City Council met in regular session at 6:45 pm in Council Chambers of Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley presiding, and Aldermen David Conroy, P.J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Kate Hotle, Joy Murphy, Charles O. Austin III and Ivory D. Clark. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas, Deputy City Clerk Linda Mohr and City Attorney Dave Morrison.

Introductory Proceedings

Mayor Pauley called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Alderman Austin gave the Invocation.

Agenda Item #5

Minutes of the meeting of August 25, 2014.

A motion was made by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Conroy to approve the Minutes of the meeting of August 25, 2014 as printed. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #6

Update Rock Island by Mayor Pauley.

Mayor Pauley invited citizens to catch a little funk, soul, blues, country and pop with the free "Thursday Night Groove" concert series at Schwiebert Riverfront Park. The evening begins at 6:00 pm with the opening of beer sales, served by Bent River and pizza slices for sale by sponsor Rock Island Happy Joe's. Thursday, September 11, 2014 will feature Funktastic 5 on the stage at 7:00 pm. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs. Outside alcohol is not permitted. For more information about the series, please call (309) 732-7275.

Mayor also mentioned the Hometown Teams Exhibit that slides into home with a touring exhibit from the Smithsonian Institution Museum showcasing our Rock Island County sports heritage! September 13 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Main Library downtown will be the official breaking of the tape, complete with tailgate hot dogs in the parking lot, a pep band performance, and guided tours. Bring the kids for a special Saturday baseball storytime at 11:00 am, featuring a visit from Rascal the River Bandit. In addition to the Smithsonian exhibit on our 1st and 2nd floors of the Main Library, make sure to tour the rest of the library for a local look at our "Small Town Roots of Big Time Sports." Exhibits include memorabilia from a local man's time as a NFL replacement referee, school trophies and photos, memories of the Rock Island Independents, professional Tri-Cities Blackhawks and QC Thunder basketball, and a look at the places where we play. You can view the Smithsonian exhibit, for six weeks, from September 13 to October 25. All programs and exhibits are free and open to the public.

Mayor Pauley continued, commenting how the grass just got greener at Saukie. Only \$23 gets you a cart and 18 holes of golf anytime after 10:00 am at Saukie Golf Course. A great deal on a course that is in great shape. Call (309) 732-2278 for a tee time. At Highland Springs, every

Monday and Wednesday you can play 18 holes with a cart for just \$25. Call (309) 732-7277 to schedule a tee time.

Lastly, the Mayor advised that the City of Rock Island has contracted with Houseal Lavigne Associates, LLC to develop a new Downtown Revitalization Plan that will direct growth, investment, and development in the downtown area over the next 10 years. The Plan will answer: "What should our Downtown look like in 10 years and how do we get there?" The success of this effort will depend on engaging the community, so extensive outreach will be conducted throughout the seven month planning process. One way to participate is through an interactive project website that provides information on the planning process, online forum, interactive mapping activity, as well as updates on community meetings and links to draft plan documents. The website can be accessed at www.rigov.org under the City Clicks heading.

Agenda Item #7

Presentation of the 2014 auditor's report by Sarah Bohnsack, Bohnsack and Frommelt, LLP
Sarah Bohnsack spoke and presented a power point presentation to council regarding the 2014 auditor's report.

Agenda Item #8

Public Hearing

Mayor Pauley closed the regular meeting at 6:55 and opened a public hearing regarding the Citizen's Advisory Committee's recommendation for the Community Development Block Grant allocations. Jerry Wolking, 32 Brittney Lane, Rock Island, Vice Chairman of the committee spoke, advising that he was there to represent Chairman Lori Roderick, who could not attend due to a death in the family, and the rest of the committee. Wolking read a letter from Roderick, advising that this year, the committee budgeted \$902,000 for this round of CDBG allocations, which represents an anticipated 5% decrease in funds from the 2014-2015 grant year. However, the Committee received funding requests for a total of \$1,224,425, creating a shortfall of \$322,425. The letter advised that the committee recognized every applicant's full request for administrative and program costs could not be accommodated, therefore, after thoughtful discussion, the Committee agreed that although the services provided by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center represent high quality and useful programming, the focus of the limited funding was put on those programs that provide the greatest impact for the highest number of residents. Therefore, the letter continued, the Committee recommended allocating a portion of CDBG funding to the King Center's After School Program, Summer Day Camp and ACTIVE Club programs, but elected not to fund the Rock Island Boxing Club, Rock Island Athletic Club and the GATEWAY experience. The letter also noted that the total allocation of \$128,568 for the three funds that were funded represents an increase of 7% over last year's funding.

Mayor Pauley asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the committee's recommendation and when no one spoke, he asked if anyone wished to speak in opposition. Dwight Ford, Martin Luther King Jr. Center Director, spoke. Ford thanked the committee for their recommendations and asked the council to reconsider funding for the Boxing Club and the Gateway program. He further detailed what these programs did and how they assisted the youth in the area. Ford stated that he understood that CDBG money was tight and that he hoped he would be granted some

leeway to move the money he was allocated around to help with the programs that were not funded. Mayor Pauley advised that the City would have to look into that further before allowing grant money to be moved from one fund to another. Council further discussed the recommendations and Mayor Pauley advised that the item would be placed the September 15th agenda as recommended by the committee for a vote. The public hearing was adjourned at 7:17pm.

Regular meeting reconvened at 7:17 pm.

Agenda Item #9

A Special Ordinance removing a handicapped parking space at 1529 40th Street.

Alderman Tollenaer moved and Alderman Murphy seconded to consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinance. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #10

A Special Ordinance establishing a no parking zone at 2122 25 Avenue – 20 feet east of the entrance and 25 feet west of the driveway. Alderman Tollenaer moved and Alderman Hotle seconded to consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinance. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #11

CLAIMS

It was moved by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Austin to accept the following reports and authorize payments as recommended.

- a. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding payment in the amount of \$7,393.49 to Dave Morrison for legal services rendered for the month of August.
- b. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding payment in the amount of \$1,617.71 to MidAmerican Energy Company for a general liability claim.
- c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #1 in the amount of \$138,367.59 to Langman Construction Inc. for the 2014 Catch Basin and Manhole Program (188).
- d. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #9 in the amount of \$417,793.65 to Gilbane Building Company for the Rock Island Police Department preconstruction services provided through August 31, 2014 (189)
- e. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #1 in the amount of \$12,978.90 to Otto Baum Company, Inc. for repair services provided on the Rock Island Police Department through August 31, 2014 (186).

The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #12

Claims for the weeks of August 22 through August 28 in the amount of \$1,145,017.91 and August 29 through September 4 in the amount of \$865,894.97, and payroll for the weeks of August 18 through August 31, in the amount of \$1,311,898.86. It was moved by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Clark to allow the claims and payroll. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #13

Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the 2014 Hot-in-Place Program, recommending the bid be awarded to Asphalt Surface Recycling, Inc. in the amount of \$237,894.69. It was moved by Alderman Murphy and seconded by Alderman Foley to accept the following reports and authorize payments as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #14

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding bids for the demolition of seven residential properties and one commercial property, recommending the bid be awarded to H. Coopman Trucking and Excavating in the amount of \$159,830.00. It was moved by Alderman Hotle and seconded by Alderman Austin to accept the following reports and authorize payments as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #15

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding the additional work to the Star Block Redevelopment project, recommending the bid be awarded to Rock Island Economic Growth in the amount of \$24,090.00 It was moved by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Murphy to accept the following reports and authorize payments as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #16

Report from the Public Works Department regarding an amendment to the Symbiont contract for the Wet Weather Treatment Facility for additional construction related services in the

amount of \$220,000.00. It was moved by Alderman Murphy and seconded by Alderman Hotle to accept the following reports and authorize payments as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #17

Report from the Finance Department regarding the municipal audit services provided by Azavar Audit Solutions, payable in the amounts of 45% of any recovered funds collected and 45% of any future revenue they find that is not currently being collected. Alderman Conroy asked Cindy Parchert, Finance Director, if we this service was put out for bid and Parchert advised that it was not, that professional services did not have to be bid. Alderman Austin asked how this service would work with the hiring of a new Collections Manager. Parchert advised that they would have two different functions. Azavar Audit Solutions would be used to identify sales tax that is not currently being collected or collected inaccurately and the Collections Manager would be collecting monies overdue for city services. It was moved by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Hotle to accept the following reports and authorize payments as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #18

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding the purchase of the 20 tax auction properties for a total of \$18,442.60. It was moved by Alderman Murphy and seconded by Alderman Hotle to accept the following reports and authorize payments as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #19

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding the disposition of City Property in the Southwest Industrial Area. It was moved by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Conroy to accept the following reports and authorize payments as recommended. Alderman Austin asked Mayor Pauley to clarify the circumstances regarding a second group interested in property for this type of facility. Mayor stated that although this is the second contingent purchase agreement brought before council for this type of facility, only one license for this area would be issued by the State of Illinois. He further advised that as part of the state application, they must provide proof that an acceptable site has been secured and that if the license was granted, it was to the applicant for that site and that the license was not transferrable. Alderman Hotle advised that although she was for medical marijuana, she would not be supporting the sale of this property for that use. She advised that to be consistent with an earlier council vote where a special use permit for a property in the Southwest Industrial Area was denied because the proposed use did not meet the City's developmental plan, she was going to vote against the sale of this property.

With no further discussion, the motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, Alderman Hotle.

Agenda Item #20

Report from the Human Resources Department regarding a 3% General Wage Increase to non-affiliated employees effective September 29, 2014. It was moved by Alderman Clark and seconded by Alderman Hotle to approve the increase as recommended. Alderman Conroy stated that although he agree with the proposed increase and would be voting for it, he questioned why it was not discussed prior in an Executive Session as other wage increases have been in the past. City Manager Thomas Thomas advised that this increase was discussed earlier in the year during the budget process and the increase was passed as part of the budget as a whole in March, 2014, however, increases could be discussed in executive sessions in the future. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #21

Report from the City Clerk regarding a request from the Bethel Church for a sound amplification permit for Sunday, September 21, 2014 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm for their outdoor church service and picnic to be held at 3535 38th Avenue. It was moved by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Hotle to approve the event as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #22

Report from the City Clerk regarding a request for an Activity permit from Rock Island High School for their Homecoming Parade to be held on Friday, September 19, 2014 from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm. It was moved by Alderman Tollenaer and seconded by Alderman Hotle to approve the event as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

23. Other Business.

Alderman Hotle spoke on the Red, White and Boom fireworks display on the riverfront over the Labor Day weekend. She said she was initially disappointed when the fireworks had been cancelled on Fourth of July, but she stated that this was the best fireworks display she has ever seen and hopes everyone was able to enjoy them. She thanked Parks Director, Bill Nelson and City staff for a job well done.

Alderman Austin advised he went on a police ride along during the evening of Saturday, September 6th. He said he tries to do this annually and was in the District at closing time. He stated that a ride along is an opportunity to experience things you may not normally be

able to do and also get a better understanding of the police department. He said ride alongs are available to the public by contacting the Police Department and completing the appropriate paperwork. Alderman Austin also invited residents to attend his annual ward meeting scheduled for September 30th at the Nazareen Church, 38th Street and 29th Avenue. The meeting starts at 6:30 pm and several members of City staff will be there, along with the Mayor and City Manager to answer questions. Attendance is not limited to the 7th ward, all Rock Island residents are welcome to attend.

Alderman Murphy spoke on Automotive Experts, 547 – 20th Street during her Shop Rock Island. She said she was contacted by a citizen who wanted to share the wonderful service she received from this business. Automotive Experts is a full service automotive shop that specializes in diagnostics, so try out Automotive Experts. Owner, John has been in the auto repair business for over 20 years and he is celebrating his 5th year in business. They are also Certified Expert Installers of the auto breathalyzers. And, John says they have some of the lowest hourly rates in the Quad Cities. Shop local, Shop Rock Island.

Andrew West, President of the Rock Island Fire Fighters Association, wanted to thank the Mayor and Council for allowing them to have their “Fill the Boot” fundraiser for MDA over Labor Day weekend. He said the off duty firemen were at the intersection of 30th Street and 18th Avenue for parts of two days and raised over \$7,000 and with the \$10,000 they had already raised, they were able to make a donation of \$17,063 to the MDA.

Norm Moline, 3836 – 28th Avenue, Rock Island spoke on behalf of River Action about the upcoming Riverfest. Mr. Moline provided some background on the Riverfest and advised that this is now the 7th annual conference focused on the river itself. This year’s conference is called, “A Resilient River: From the Headwaters to the Gulf”. Mr. Moline passed out registration forms to the Mayor and Council. Alderman Hotle asked if it was possible to attend only one day of the three. Mr. Moline said that it is a three day conference, but asked her to call Kathy Wine at River Action to find the best time to attend and assist with those arrangements if it was not possible to attend all three days.

24. Executive Session on Personnel, Property Acquisition and Litigation.

25. Motion to recess to 5:30 pm, Monday, September 15, 2014.

Linda K. Mohr, Deputy City Clerk