

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 Stephen L. Tollenaer, Kate Hotle and Ivory D. Clark. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas, Police Chief Jeff VenHuizen, Community and Economic Development Director Jeff Eder, other City staff and City Attorney Dave Morrison. Aldermen Joy Murphy and David Conroy arrived at 5:32 pm. Aldermen Charles O. Austin III and P.J. Foley were absent.

UPDATE ON DOWNTOWN POLICE UNIT

Police Chief Jeff VenHuizen advised that it has been one year since the activation of the Downtown or District Patrol Unit. Chief VenHuizen stated that the Downtown Patrol Unit (DPU) consists of one sergeant and four officers. It was noted that they use foot and bicycle for their primary means of patrol. Chief VenHuizen explained that the unit adjusts to its work hours to coincide with activity in the District, and they have geographic patrol areas within the District during peak hours. Chief VenHuizen further discussed the patrol hours and the targeted areas within the District. Chief VenHuizen stated that the District patrol area that the DPU is responsible for is from 16th to 24th Streets and 1st to 5th Avenues. The Chief added that on Friday nights and Saturday nights, the DPU is concentrated in a smaller geographic area from 16th to 20th Street and 1st to 3rd Avenues, which is the center of the City's night life. Chief VenHuizen commented that the reasoning behind the defined area of responsibility for the DPU is to remain focused on the Downtown and to maintain a high level of visibility among businesses, residents and visitors.

Chief VenHuizen discussed the objectives of the DPU that were set forth when this unit was initiated. The objectives included; mitigate illegal and nuisance activity in the business-entertainment district; build policing partnerships with businesses and residents aimed at improving the District; instill confidence and security in businesses, residents and visitors; and create a safe and enjoyable destination that promotes commerce and entertainment.

Chief VenHuizen stated that after a year since the initiation of the DPU, problem bars have been closed or they are under new ownership; there are closer working relationships with businesses, residents and visitors; there is an improved atmosphere and a feeling of security; and signs of improving business activity. Chief VenHuizen further discussed these items.

Next, Chief VenHuizen discussed results as it related to calls for service concerning fights/assaults, disturbances, disorderly conducts, disperse groups, burglaries and prohibited activities over the past five years and in the year since initiating the DPU. It was noted that in all categories there has been a substantial decrease.

Chief VenHuizen stated that the Police Department is looking at refining the DPU due to the changes in the Downtown and balancing them against the needs of the City. The Chief indicated that the improvements that have been seen in the Downtown and the lower demand for police services gives an opportunity to reevaluate the makeup of the Downtown Patrol Unit. Chief VenHuizen advised that it has been a challenge to balance the needs of the entire department

while totally staffing the Downtown Patrol Unit and Crime Suppression Unit (specialized unit that supports the DPU) while still maintaining their effectiveness. The Chief stated that he believes they can achieve an effective balance by consolidating the two units into one unit. Police Chief VenHuizen further discussed this item. Council further discussed Police Chief VenHuizen's presentation.

REVIEW OF CLG HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT APPLICATION

Community and Economic Development Director Jeff Eder advised that this is a Certified Local Government Grant (CLG) opportunity directed from the State Historical Preservation Agency. Mr. Eder stated that the Preservation Commission is requesting Council approval to submit a CLG grant application to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA). Mr. Eder added that this has been done in the past, but not last year. Mr. Eder indicated that the eligible projects include; surveys and inventories, national register nominations; planning and feasibility studies and public education programs and materials.

Mr. Eder advised that there is no minimum or maximum award. However, typical awards are in the \$3,000.00 to \$25,000.00 range. Mr. Eder added that funding is a 70/30 percent match, with the City's portion being 30%. Mr. Eder indicated that the majority of projects in the past have been in-kind, but there has been cash as well to these programs. Mr. Eder advised that the CLG is a reimbursement program so the City has to fund the program upfront and will then get reimbursed by the State.

Mr. Eder offered that Rock Island has been a recipient of numerous CLG grants since the mid-1990s. It was noted that CLG grants have funded projects including; walking tour brochures; the preservation video (Old Friends are Worth Keeping); historic building inventory; market feasibility study for Old Lincoln School; a weatherization workshop; and the renovate QC website.

Mr. Eder indicated that the commission would like to submit an application for one of the two projects, which include the Heritage Resource Plan (preservation plan) or the Audio Walking Tour Brochure. Mr. Eder stated that the Heritage Resource Plan would integrate preservation and economic development initiatives and would promote preservation as a tool for revitalization. Mr. Eder added that it would also enhance tourism and cultural activities, identify organizational capacity beyond the City to implement preservation activities and establish clear, predictable and objective review processes. It was noted that the estimated project cost is \$25,000.00 to \$30,000.00 and there is a 30% match with City dollars that can be in-kind or in cash. Council discussed the 30% match as it related to the project.

Mr. Eder explained that the Audio Walking Tour Brochure project would include developing a brochure with quick response codes and directing users to audio files that accompany the Downtown walking tour brochure. Mr. Eder indicated that the estimated cost for this project is \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00 and it covers printing, the use of audio recording and editing equipment

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and honorariums for vocalists. Mr. Eder added that this project would also require a 30% match from the City.

Mr. Eder and Council discussed each project. After discussion, it was a consensus among Council to submit an application for the Heritage Resource Plan. Mr. Eder advised that staff and the Preservation Commission will work to put an application together for the Heritage Resource Plan and submit it by the deadline, which is November 14, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Alderman Hotle and seconded by Alderman Clark to adjourn the meeting carried by the following Aye and No vote. Those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Clark and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none. The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 pm.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
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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 Stephen L. Tollenaer, Kate Hotle, Joy Murphy, Ivory D. Clark, David Conroy and P.J. Foley. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas and City Attorney Dave Morrison. Alderman Charles O. Austin III was absent.

Introductory Proceedings

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

Agenda Item #5

Minutes of the meeting of October 13, 2014.

A motion was made by Alderman Hotle and seconded by Alderman Murphy to approve the Minutes of the meeting of October 13, 2014 as printed. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Clark, Alderman Conroy and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #6

Update Rock Island by Mayor Pauley.

Mayor Pauley asked parents if they need a night out. We'll watch the kids! Friday, October 24, 2014 from 5:30 – 8:30 pm at RIFAC. Mayor Pauley stated that RIFAC has tons of spook-tacular fun planned for kids ages 5 to 12 years old. Mayor Pauley added that there will be games, pizza, swimming and crafts. The cost is \$15.00. Register at Rock Island Parks & Recreation office, 4303 24th Street or call (309) 732-7275.

Mayor Pauley commented that College Hill is a place where people gather to shop and talk and eat and just have fun. Remember to check out the College Hill-O-Ween Children's Festival Saturday, October 25, 2014 from 5:00 pm -7:00 pm for games, candy and lots-o-fun!

Mayor Pauley indicated that there will be an American Red Cross Blood Drive at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center Banquet Room on Wednesday, October 29th from 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm. To schedule an appointment, please call (847) 903-0584 or call (815) 708-1146. Walk-ins also welcome.

Mayor Pauley stated that this year's annual Fright Night in The District theme is *Día de los Muertos* - "Day of the Dead" and takes place Thursday, October 30, 2014 from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm on the Great River Plaza in The District. Admission is free for all. The Mayor added that Fright Night features a children's costume contest, treasure hunt, scary stories, and make-and-take activities. Fright Night is presented by the Rock Island Parks & Recreation, RICAP, The District and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center.

Mayor Pauley advised that this year, Halloween Trick or Treat hours in the City of Rock Island will be Friday, October 31st from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Residents who wish to welcome trick-or-

treaters should leave a door or porch light on. Children should be advised to only visit homes with outside lights on.

Mayor Pauley stated that on September 27th at approximately 4:00am a fire erupted at the former Mississippi Cafe in Downtown Rock Island. In response to the community's desire to help the fire victims, a Downtown Fire Emergency Fund was established by Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation. Mayor Pauley added that the fund was launched two weeks ago and has since grown to more than \$4,200. Donations have been received by Downtown business owners, Rock Island businesses and local banks. Thank you for your support, which has allowed us to help impacted members of the Downtown community during this critical time. Mayor Pauley advised that Downtown businesses have been or are hosting various other benefits to support fire victims. A combined effort for both private and public fundraisers has provided over \$8,000 in total for fire relief. Fundraising events and activities can be found on Facebook at What's Up Downtown RI and Twitter at @DowntownRI. We are thankful that no one was injured as a result of the fire. Mayor Pauley stated that the outpouring of support from the community is a true assessment to the strength of Rock Island and the Downtown camaraderie we share.

Agenda Item #7

Proclamation declaring Friday, October 24, 2014 as Quad Cities Concussion Awareness Day.

Mayor Pauley read the proclamation. Mr. Ken Croken from Genesis Health Systems thanked the Mayor and Council for the proclamation. Mr. Croken stated that concussion has been a problem for many years. Mr. Croken added that one of the biggest shortcomings in the response to concussions is the failure as a community to benchmark young athletes' cognitive and other abilities prior to concussion. Mr. Croken advised that without early stage benchmarking, it becomes very difficult to know whether or not the student athlete has fully recovered. Mr. Croken stated that he hopes that more parents and more youth athletes will take advantage of this opportunity to benchmark their cognitive abilities so that if and when a concussion should occur, a proper plan of care and rehabilitation can be implemented to bring that young person back to their full functioning.

Agenda Item #8

Public Hearing on a request from Chad Jones for a Special Use Permit to continue to operate a lawn care and snow removal business out of his residence and detached garage at 918 45th Street.

Mayor Pauley closed the regular meeting at 6:52 pm and opened a Public Hearing on a request from Chad Jones for a special use permit to continue to operate a lawn care and snow removal business out of his residence and detached garage at 918 45th Street.

Mr. Chad Jones of 918 45th Street stepped forward. Mayor Pauley swore in Mr. Jones.

Mr. Jones stated that he owns Quad City Lawn Care in Rock Island and he has been operating this business at this location for over 12 years. Mr. Jones explained that his business has grown and he has taken on a few employees, which has caused a few issues in the neighborhood. Mr.

Jones added that he would like to resolve these issues. Mr. Jones commented that the business offers lawn care and snow removal services seven days a week.

Alderman Murphy inquired as to how many people Mr. Jones employs and what would be the hours of operation. Mr. Jones stated that he has two employees, but it would be three including him. Mr. Jones added that they operate between 7:00 am to 2:30 pm or 3:00 pm depending on weather conditions.

Alderman Conroy inquired as to whether Mr. Jones parks any vehicles on the street. Mr. Jones stated that he parks his truck and trailer on the street. Mr. Jones added that his trailer is a 20 foot car hauler. Alderman Conroy and Mr. Jones further discussed this issue. Mr. Jones stated that arrangements could be made to park the trailer at a different location. Mr. Jones also noted that one employee parks in the back at his residence and the other employee parks in front on the street.

Alderman Murphy inquired as to what arrangements could be made. Mr. Jones responded that he could add about three spots on the adjacent property in the back of the location off the alley.

Alderman Conroy inquired as to whether Mr. Jones' employees would come to his residence in the middle of the night to pick up snow plows during snow removal season. Mr. Jones stated yes.

After more Council discussion, Mayor Pauley inquired as to whether there was anyone who wished to speak in favor of the special use permit. No one stepped forward.

Mayor Pauley then inquired as to whether there was anyone who wished to speak in opposition to the special use permit.

Ms. Mary Rose DeCoster of 917 45th Street stepped forward. Mayor Pauley swore in Ms. DeCoster. Ms. DeCoster stated that she lives directly across the street from this business. Ms. DeCoster voiced concerns in regards to traffic and parking issues. Ms. DeCoster stated that there is a parking problem on the east side of 45th Street. Ms. DeCoster added that emergency vehicles, maintenance trucks and others can't get down the street. Ms. DeCoster further discussed this parking issue.

Ms. Lori DeCoster of 917 45th Street stepped forward. Mayor Pauley swore in Ms. DeCoster. Ms. DeCoster voiced concerns in regards to the parking issue on 45th Street. Ms. DeCoster stated that 45th Street is an old narrow brick road and parking should be allowed on only one side of the street. Ms. DeCoster added that by the time she gets off of work and comes home, there is no place to park but in front of Mr. Jones' house. Ms. DeCoster commented that Mr. Jones is a very good neighbor, but the issue is the parking.

Alderman Murphy stated that she has had three other contacts. Alderman Murphy added that they think Mr. Jones has a great business but the complaints were about parking. Alderman Murphy inquired to Mr. Jones as to how the parking issue could be solved.

Mr. Jones stated that he could have parking in the back for the employee that parks out front. Mr. Jones noted that no one has ever parked in the location where the truck and trailer are parked.

Council further discussed this issue as it related to whether the trailer and truck could be parked in back. Mr. Jones stated that the trailer could be parked in back in the alley behind the house.

Alderman Conroy stated that it would have to be part of the stipulations before he voted for it.

Alderman Tollenaer stated that he doesn't want the truck and trailer parked on the street where it diminishes the value of the property. Alderman Tollenaer added that if the parking issue is eliminated then he would be in support of the special use permit.

Alderman Foley stated that he would be comfortable with the special use permit if the truck and trailer were moved.

After more discussion, and with no other person present to speak in opposition to the special use permit, Mayor Pauley closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the regular meeting at 7:13 pm.

It was moved by Alderman Murphy to approve the special use permit as recommended and add the stipulation that Mr. Jones will park the company vehicle on his own property and not on the City streets, and subject to the other stipulations that; two resident and two non-resident employees shall be allowed; hours of operation shall be from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm, primarily Monday through Friday, but allowing operation during the same hours on the weekend during inclement weather conditions; maintain a minimum of four parking spaces on the site; no signs shall be allowed; the use shall meet all other applicable codes and ordinances; and refer to the City Attorney for an ordinance, Alderman Foley seconded. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Clark, Alderman Conroy and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #9
CLAIMS

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 Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Clark, Alderman Conroy and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

- a. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$11,601.88 to Enviromark Waste Management Services for an emergency cleaning of the sanitary fine screen bar rack.
- b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$11,341.25 to Enviromark Waste Management Services for an emergency cleaning of the sanitary grit channel.

c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$10,732.55 to Langman Construction for an emergency sewer main repair at 1628 22nd Street in the alley.

d. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #2 and final in the amount of \$126,776.05 to Walter D. Laud for services provided for the 2014 PCC Street Patching project.

e. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #9 and final in the amount of \$166,894.77 to Brandt Construction Company for services provided for the 23rd Avenue Reconstruction: 12th Street to 17th Street project.

Agenda Item #10

Claims for the week of October 10 through October 16 in the amount of \$2,085,930.60 and payroll for the weeks of September 29 through October 12 in the amount of \$1,319,980.21.

Alderman Clark moved and Alderman Conroy seconded to allow the claims and payroll. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Clark, Alderman Conroy and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #11

Report from the Board of Local Improvements regarding bids for the Shadybrook Phase I Resurfacing project, recommending the bid be awarded to General Asphalt Company in the amount of \$368,527.92.

It was moved by Alderman Conroy and seconded by Alderman Tollenaer to award the bid as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Clark, Alderman Conroy and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #12

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding an ordinance approving a redevelopment agreement with Kinseth Hospitality Companies, subject to minor attorney modifications and authorizing the City Manager to execute the contract documents.

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

Agenda Item #13

Other Business.

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No one signed up to address Council to speak on a topic.

Alderman Murphy reminded everyone to Shop Rock Island. Alderman Murphy discussed Kmart as being the largest national retailer in Rock Island. Alderman Murphy stated that some things that a national retailer brings to Rock Island include; sales tax revenue; they hire our citizens to be employees; and they pay property taxes. Alderman Murphy advised that for those that are on a tight budget, Kmart offers layaway options. Alderman Murphy stated that as everyone is getting ready for the holiday season, shop Kmart and shop local.

Agenda Item #14

Executive Session on Personnel, Property Acquisition and Litigation.

An Executive Session was not held.

Agenda Item #15

Recess

A motion was made by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Murphy to recess to 5:30 pm, Monday, November 3, 2014. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Clark, Alderman Conroy and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none. The meeting was recessed at 7:18 pm.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk