

The Rock Island City Council met in Study Session at 6:15 pm in City Council Chambers at Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley presiding, and Aldermen Ivory D. Clark, P.J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Kate Hotle, Joy Murphy and Charles O. Austin III. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas, Community and Economic Development Director Jeff Eder, Police Chief Jeff VenHuizen, other City staff and City Attorney Dave Morrison. Alderman David Conroy was absent.

UPDATE ON CRIME STATISTICS

Police Chief Jeff VenHuizen gave an update on the annual crime statistics for 2014 and an overview of departmental operations.

Chief VenHuizen advised that the Rock Island Police Department provides annual statistical information to the State of Illinois and that information in return is reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The Chief stated that there are eight index crimes, which include murder/manslaughter, criminal sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft and arson.

Police Chief VenHuizen discussed comparisons as it related to Part 1 UCR offenses and Part 1 UCR violent offenses. The Chief indicated that in 2013, a total of 1,233 Part 1 crimes were reported and in 2014, there were 995 Part 1 crimes reported, which is a decrease of 238 and it is a 19% decrease in overall crime. Police Chief VenHuizen commented that violent crimes are also tracked, which include murder/manslaughter, criminal sexual assault and aggravated assault. Chief VenHuizen stated that in 2013, there were 186 reported violent offenses and in 2014, there were 132 violent offenses reported, which is a decrease of 54 or 29%.

Police Chief VenHuizen referred to the charts and discussed comparisons of how crime has trended for the last 10 years. Chief VenHuizen stated that 2004 was the highest number of Part I UCR offenses with 2,865 being reported. Chief VenHuizen indicated that in 2014, there were 995 Part 1 UCR offenses being reported and that is the lowest number that has ever been seen. The Chief added that for Part I violent offenses, the high was in 2007 with 441 and the low of 132 violent offenses were reported in 2014.

Council and Chief VenHuizen further discussed the comparisons and trends as it related to Part 1 overall crime and Part 1 violent crimes and possible reasons for the overall decrease in crime.

Police Chief VenHuizen then discussed Police Department operations as it related to the Crime Suppression and Downtown Police Unit. Chief VenHuizen advised that in this last year, the responsibilities of the officers have been combined. The Chief added that the officers are now cross-trained in the duties of the other officers. The Chief explained that the officers that serve on the DPU also do crime suppression duties and the officers that do crime suppression also do DPU duties. Chief VenHuizen commented that this gives the Police Department more flexibility in scheduling and it gives a balance of where the staff is needed the most. Chief VenHuizen further discussed this item.

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Chief VenHuizen commented that in August of this past year, four new probationary police officers were hired, which gives the Police Department up to its fully allotted manpower. Chief VenHuizen stated that those officers will complete their training in another month or so and will be prepared in the summer. The Chief added that the Police Department will be in a much better spot this summer to be at full manpower.

Chief VenHuizen also discussed various outstanding recognitions and awards that the police officers have received this year.

Police Chief VenHuizen then discussed the 800 MHz system. Chief VenHuizen advised that Council approved for the Fire Department and Police Department to move towards the 800 MHz platform. The Chief indicated that the contract was signed this past December. The Chief added that they have steadily been working towards the backend support of the system, which has to be done in the current communications center. Chief VenHuizen indicated that the Fire Department may be up and operational by the end of February with their portion of the 800 MHz system. The Chief added that the Police Department's portion will come at a later date.

Mayor Pauley inquired upon Police Chief Jeff VenHuizen to give a brief update on the progress of the new Police Station. Chief VenHuizen stated that the project is on schedule and all of the structural steel is up. The Chief added that some concrete has been poured and they are moving forward with pouring additional concrete. The Chief commented that after that, it would be the interior work. Council and Chief VenHuizen further discussed this item.

Council and Police Chief VenHuizen also discussed body cameras as it related to State laws and other issues.

Mayor Pauley congratulated the Chief on his leadership and on the great work that the Police Department has done. Mayor Pauley also congratulated the citizens in Rock Island for stepping up to the plate and reporting things so that the Police Department can do a better job. Chief VenHuizen thanked Council for their commitment to public safety.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Hotle to adjourn the meeting carried by the following Aye and No vote. Those voting Aye being; Alderman Clark, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none. The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**February 16, 2015
MINUTES**

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 Ivory D. Clark, David Conroy, P.J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Kate Hotle, Joy Murphy and Charles O. Austin III. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas and City Attorney Dave Morrison.

Introductory Proceedings

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

Agenda Item #5

Minutes of the meeting of February 9, 2015.

A motion was made by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Murphy to approve the Minutes of the meeting of February 9, 2015 as printed. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Clark, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #6

Update Rock Island by Mayor Pauley.

Mayor Pauley advised that for the past 6 months, the City has been collecting your input on how to make Downtown Rock Island a better place to live, work and play. Mayor Pauley stated that now's your chance to review the "draft" Downtown Revitalization Plan! Tuesday, February 24, 2015, drop by anytime between 5:00 pm and 8:00 pm at The Establishment Theatre, 220 19th Street in Downtown Rock Island to take a look. Mayor Pauley noted that for more information, go to: <http://www.hlplanning.com/portals/rockisland/>.

Mayor Pauley stated that the Civil War memorial at the Rock Island County Courthouse has seen better days, but organizers of a local monument restoration project hope to change that. Mayor Pauley stated that you can learn more about Restoring Rock Island's Civil War Monument at 3:00 pm, Wednesday, February 25 at the Rock Island Main Library, 401 19th Street. Mayor Pauley commented that project organizers Doug Lambert, Quad City Civil War Roundtable, and Lt. Ron Ericson, a Rock Island County deputy sheriff, will present a history and images of the badly weathered memorial, discuss the need for saving it, and list local soldiers honored on the memorial. Questions and answers will follow. Mayor Pauley commented that the program is free and open to the public.

Mayor Pauley advised that a Gala Celebration will be held at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center on Saturday, March 21, 2015 to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center. Mayor Pauley added that this will be a black tie event. Tickets for this event are available at our main reception desk. The cost is \$40.00 per person and only cash or checks are accepted. The Mayor commented that social hour is at 6:00 pm & banquet begins at 7:00 pm. Seating is limited to 250 people, so get your tickets soon.

Agenda Item #7

Proclamation declaring February 22, 2015 as NAACP Religious Affairs Community Day.

Mayor Pauley read the proclamation. Ametra Carrol-Castaneda accepted the proclamation.

Ms. Carrol-Castaneda thanked Council for the proclamation and invited them to the 7th annual community day celebration sponsored by the Rock Island County NAACP's Religious Affairs Committee to be held on Sunday, February 22, 2015 at the The Word Church at 1925 5th Avenue in Rock Island. Ms. Carrol-Castaneda commented that the keynote speaker will be Pastor Jarrod Parker and Quincy Davis will be the Master of Ceremonies. Ms. Carrol-Castaneda added that Geri Sumrall will be guest soloist and Mayor Pauley will present the proclamation at the event. Ms. Carrol-Castaneda stated that this year, they will present Community Service Awards to the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center's ACTIVE Club and the Illinois-Iowa Center for Independent Living.

Glen Evans thanked Ms. Carrol-Castaneda for all of the hard work she has done these past seven years in regards to the annual community day celebration event.

Agenda Item #8

CLAIMS

It was moved by Alderman Austin 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 Clark, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

- a. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding payment in the amount of \$668.62 to Berkley Risk Administrators Company for General Liability Claim.
- b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #3 and final in the amount of \$19,678.58 to Otto Baum Company, Inc. for services provided for the Police Station Repairs project.

Agenda Item #9

Claims for the week of February 6 through February 12 in the amount of \$957,870.54.

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

Agenda Item #10

Purchase Card Claims for the month of January in the amount of \$28,883.76.

It was moved by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Murphy to approve the purchase card claims. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Clark, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #11

Report from the Police Department regarding the purchase of 11 new X2 Tasers and related equipment from Taser International, Inc. in the amount of \$14,887.40.

Alderman Murphy moved and Alderman Hotle seconded to approve the purchase as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Clark, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #12

Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the purchase of 160,000 paper yard waste bags for the 2015 Free Leaf Pickup Program, recommending the bid be awarded to Pabco Industries, LLC in the amount of \$54,192.00.

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

Agenda Item #13

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding bids for the emergency demolition of 1220 14th Street, recommending the bid be awarded to H. Coopman Trucking and Excavating in the amount of \$19,140.00.

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

Agenda Item #14

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a request from Barbara Radigan to apply for a Special Use Permit to continue to operate a sewing/alterations business out of her residence located at 3866 28th Avenue.

Alderman Austin moved and Alderman Murphy seconded to allow for the application of the special use permit as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those

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

Agenda Item #15

Report from the City Clerk regarding Plaza events for the upcoming 2015 season and a Resolution for the American Heart Association's Quad Cities Heart Walk, requesting a waiver of application and event fees for The District's two Gallery Hops, Fright Night and Dirty Art, Blue Cat's Camp Kesem Fundraiser, Quad Cities Heart Walk and Daiquiri Factory's Quad City Ride for the Cure, and a waiver of the event fee for Steve's Old Time Tap Spring Chaser.

It was moved by Alderman Conroy and seconded by Alderman Hotle to approve the events and waiver of fees as recommended and adopt the resolution.

Discussion followed. Alderman Conroy stated that when he looks at the Downtown area and sees what The District is doing for the community as far as fundraisers for all of the needed and deserved causes in the community, they should be saluted as well as the people that participate in these organizations and for these fundraisers. Alderman Conroy added that the Downtown really steps up for these things. Alderman Conroy noted that the fees that are waived are minor.

Alderman Foley stated that every year he hears that these establishments on the Plaza talk about St. Patrick's Day and talk about coming together and blocking off the Plaza, but every year their idea of doing that just fades and it is disappointing. Alderman Foley added that they should all come together and take advantage of all the patrons that are Downtown or maybe work with The District to keep people Downtown for that day.

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

Agenda Item #16

Report from the City Clerk regarding a Great River Plaza application and an Activity application from Gilda's Club Quad Cities and The District requesting to hold a 1Mile and 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, April 18, 2015 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am, and requesting a waiver of the notification requirement and the \$35.00 Great River Plaza permit fee.

Alderman Hotle moved and Alderman Austin seconded to approve the event applications as recommended, and waive the notification requirement and the permit fee for discussion purposes.

Alderman Hotle inquired upon Ms. Catherine Rodgers-Ingles of The District to step forward.

Discussion followed. Alderman Hotle stated that this ordinance (notification requirement) was just passed in December and Ms. Rodgers-Ingles was not aware that the ordinance had been passed. Alderman Hotle stated that she doesn't want to completely waive the notification requirement. Alderman Hotle commented that she would still like for all of these residential

homes along the race route to be notified. Alderman Hotle noted that the ordinance states that written approval is required. Alderman Hotle advised that the race is in about six weeks. If they have to get letters out to every single person and get written approval back before they can start advertising the race, it will be difficult for them to get the word out because it is a big change for them moving from Bettendorf to Rock Island. Alderman Hotle reiterated that she still wants all of the residential homes to be notified.

Alderman Austin then clarified that the residents would be notified, but waive the requirement for written approval. Alderman Hotle stated yes.

Alderman Hotle advised that most of the route is Downtown in the core business area where typically The District already notifies the businesses of any events. Alderman Hotle added that 9th Avenue and 17th Street are the residential areas and the people should get a notice well in advance that there will be a race that day.

Ms. Catherine Rodgers-Ingles stated that it is perfectly fine and understandable. Every year, once permission has been given to have the events, a document is created identifying when all of the events will take place, when the roads will be closed and what roads will be closed. Ms. Rodgers-Ingles added that the document is then sent out to as many people in the TIF District as possible based on the addresses that The District has. Ms. Rodgers-Ingles indicated that they can expand on that and send a letter notifying the residents that the race is going to be in front of their property.

Ms. Rodger-Ingles advised that if they had waited until the responses had come back from everyone and then came to Council to seek approval for the event, the boat would have been missed on getting registration and marketing done in time because the event is six weeks away.

After more discussion, Alderman Hotle stated that she would modify the motion.

Alderman Hotle then moved to approve the event application as recommended, waive the permit fee and waive the requirement of getting approval first, but the residents need to be notified in advance, Alderman Austin seconded. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Clark, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, Alderman Tollenaer.

Agenda Item #17

Other Business.

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

Alderman Clark inquired upon Martin Luther King Center Director Dwight Ford and Terry Brooks to say a few words about the Satellite programs that serve young people through the Martin Luther King Center.

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Mr. Ford stated that the King Center's 40th Anniversary is coming up. Mr. Ford added that the King Center was formed through partnerships and it has survived. Mr. Ford commented that the City of Rock Island has been a valued partner for the Martin Luther King Center.

Mr. Ford advised that the Satellite programs give the King Center another extension into the community so that the mission can be fulfilled to provide opportunities to diverse populations through a variety of programs and services. Mr. Ford added that Terry Brooks, past president of the MLK Board and current committed member will highlight the basketball initiative.

Mr. Brooks stated that he started with one basketball team and last year two more teams were added. Mr. Brooks commented that this year, two more teams will be added for a total of five teams. Mr. Brooks stated that the age limits are from 4th grade to 8th grade. Mr. Brooks advised that the whole idea of the program is to take kids at a young age and lead them through grade school to junior high school and hopefully get them ready for high school play. Mr. Brooks stated that more importantly he stresses education, discipline and respect. Mr. Brooks further discussed the program.

Mr. Brooks stated that they value the fact that the City Council has been so gracious concerning the Community Block Grant funding, which has helped to fund these programs. Mr. Brooks thanked the City Council, Mayor and Mr. Thomas for understanding the problems they are going through and the need that they have in the community. Mr. Brooks and Mr. Ford presented individual plaques to Council thanking them for their sponsorship in 2014 for (Rock Town 340 Rocks) King Center Basketball and in appreciation for Council's enduring support.

Council, Mr. Ford and Mr. Brooks further discussed this basketball initiative.

Alderman Hotle encouraged everyone to come out next Tuesday to the public open house for the Downtown Plan to be held at The Establishment Theatre between 5:00 pm and 8:00 pm. Alderman Hotle stated that a lot of work has gone into this plan by the staff, the consultants and the community. Alderman Hotle added that this will be an opportunity for people to see some of the recommendations that they will be making to the City Council and for people to give their input as well.

Alderman Murphy reminded everyone to Shop Rock Island. Alderman Murphy stated that there are some great places in Rock Island for people to get their car washed. Alderman Murphy stated that Pro-Clean car wash is located at Rock Valley Plaza on Blackhawk Road. Alderman Murphy added that there are two Road House car washes; one located on 38th Street and 16th Avenue and the other one at 2713 11th Street. Alderman Murphy commented that the Dirt Trap car wash is located at the bottom of the hill on 30th Street and 6th Avenue and it is completely self-serve. In addition, there is Ecks Auto Detailing on 37th Street and Blackhawk Road. Alderman Murphy encouraged everyone to Shop Rock Island First.

Agenda Item #18

Executive Session on Personnel, Property Acquisition and Litigation.

A motion was made by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Murphy at 7:14 pm to recess to Executive Session on matters of Personnel, Property Acquisition and Litigation. The motion carried on a roll call vote. Those voting Aye being; Alderman Clark, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #19

Recess

Mayor Pauley reconvened the regular meeting at 7:28 pm. A motion was made by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Hotle to recess to 5:30 pm, Monday, March 2, 2015. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Clark, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none. The meeting was recessed at 7:29 pm.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk