

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 Kate Hotle, Joshua Schipp, Charles O. Austin III, Ivory D. Clark, Virgil J. Mayberry and Stephen L. Tollenaer. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas, Community and Economic Development Director Jeff Eder, City Attorney Dave Morrison, Brett Hitchcock, Chairman of the Arts Advisory Committee and Linda Anderson, President of Neighborhood Partners. Aldermen P.J. Foley was absent.

ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTATION

Community and Economic Development Director Jeff Eder gave an update to Council on arts planning that is happening through the Arts Advisory Committee. Mr. Eder stated that the Arts Advisory Committee was established in 2007 to serve in an advisory capacity to the Mayor and City Council on matters related to the development of arts and culture in the City. Mr. Eder indicated that the Arts Advisory Committee is charged with promoting the creation, understanding, appreciation and awareness of the arts; working together to determine ways that the arts can enhance Rock Island's quality of life and contribute to economic and social growth; and to serve as a liaison to local, regional, state and national arts organizations. Mr. Eder stated that they are always out in the community promoting the arts.

Mr. Eder indicated that the mission of the committee is to advocate for and to promote the creation, understanding, appreciation and awareness of the arts in the City. Mr. Eder advised that the committee includes citizens, artists, art organizations and design professionals and the committee is appointed by the Mayor. It was noted that a non-voting city staff member provides administrative support to the committee.

Mr. Eder advised that a number of projects were completed in the 2007 Arts Plan, which included; the creation of a walking guidebook; the reuse of the Rocket Theater, which is now the Establishment Theater; and the installation of a permanent sculpture and performance venue at Schwiebert Park. Mr. Eder pointed out that in 2014, the committee decided to revisit the Arts Plan to celebrate its successes, evaluate shortcomings and expand the City's arts program to address City-wide arts initiatives and not simply focus on the downtown area. Mr. Eder stated that a couple of meetings were held and anyone that had an interest in Rock Island arts was invited to attend and give their input.

Mr. Eder discussed the vision, goals and initiatives that came out of those meetings. Mr. Eder advised that they are looking to establish dedicated funding to financially support the Rock Island Arts Program; to work with Council to create an Art Set Aside for new development projects; and to support a critical mass of art activities, programs, spaces, pieces and events to promote Rock Island as a cool place to live, work and play. Mr. Eder advised that the committee is looking to establish 3rd Avenue as an arts corridor and to possibly establish a regular artist's market as well as to support artists, non-profits and for-profit arts organizations. Mr. Eder indicated that the committee wants to leverage the arts to help the City Council address its economic agenda by assisting with business connections and marketing efforts and creating an arts incubator for the visual and performing artists. Mr. Eder advised that the committee also wants to promote the creation and inclusion of art in public spaces throughout the City.

Mr. Eder stated that in 2013, Americans for the Arts studied the non-profit arts and culture industry in the Quad Cities. Mr. Eder noted that out of that study, art generated \$71.4 million dollars in economic activity; created \$47.92 million dollars in household income for local residents; supported 1,906 full-time equivalent jobs; and delivered \$7.79 million dollars in local and state government revenues. Mr. Eder further discussed this item.

Council discussed public art in other corridors of the City. Mr. Brett Hitchcock, Chairman of the Arts Advisory Committee stated that they feel that this is a solid plan and they are very excited to start executing it. Mr. Hitchcock advised that they looked at the successes of the 2007 Arts Plan, and asked everyone what they would like to see. Mr. Hitchcock added that most people wanted to see advancement of the 3rd Avenue corridor for art. Mr. Hitchcock further stated that they are looking to expand the sculpture program and they are looking at other entry corridors into the City where public art could be displayed. Mr. Hitchcock added that the 2007 plan was very centered towards downtown Rock Island and this plan is more of a City-wide plan.

Council, Mr. Eder and Mr. Hitchcock further discussed the presentation.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERS PRESENTATION

Linda Anderson, current President of Neighborhood Partners presented Council with a restructuring plan for Neighborhood Partners. Ms. Anderson advised that Neighborhood Partners is a City initiated partnership. Ms. Anderson noted that the mission of Neighborhood Partners is to strengthen and enhance all of Rock Island's neighborhoods by building stronger working relationships among neighborhoods, city government, service agencies, schools, churches and businesses; and also by improving the quality of life and pride in Rock Island neighborhoods through education, resident self sufficiency and enhanced user friendly services.

Ms. Anderson stated that it became apparent about one year ago that the organization had become stagnant and they had a hard time of keeping people enthused and showing up for meetings. Ms. Anderson added that they did a survey with everyone involved in Neighborhood Partners. Ms. Anderson indicated that based on the survey, communication with the City, connecting organizations and improving neighborhoods were the strong points. Ms. Anderson noted that the weak points included lack of goals and a purpose and inaction of the organization. Ms. Anderson stated that people were also asked if they wanted to continue with the organization, and if they did, then what projects would they like to be involved in. Ms. Anderson stated that the top answers included having a newsletter, developing new neighborhoods and improving the overall structure of the group. Ms. Anderson pointed out that from the survey, the next focus should be looking at nuisance properties, City and resident communication and getting more people involved. Ms. Anderson stated that based on the survey in regards to who should be on the board, it was determined that it needs to be neighborhood based but should include a variety of people. Ms. Anderson further discussed this item.

Ms. Anderson then discussed the reorganization proposal. Ms. Anderson advised that the Neighborhood Partners board would be composed of one representative from each member neighborhood organization, one representative from each member civic organization, two representatives from each ward, one non-voting liaison from City Council & one non-voting

liaison from City staff. Ms. Anderson commented that currently, there are 48 members on the board and it will be decreased to 24 voting members. Ms. Anderson stated that three year appointments would be made by the Mayor from recommendations made by neighborhoods, organizations and aldermen. Ms. Anderson noted that board meetings would be held bi-monthly. Ms. Anderson and Council further discussed this item.

Ms. Anderson indicated that with the reorganization, a new elected officer, recorder/secretary, would be added to free up the City liaison to participate in discussion. Ms. Anderson recommended that ward representatives would be from outside organized neighborhoods to help develop additional neighborhood organizations. Ms. Anderson stated that it is also recommended to broaden City-wide citizen participation by recruiting associate members who would not serve on the board, but would serve on task forces, committees, work groups, etc. in support of Neighborhood Partners. Ms. Anderson also discussed the current and proposed organizational charts.

Ms. Anderson then discussed the strategic plan for Neighborhood Partners, which was adopted in May. The objectives that Ms. Anderson discussed included; implementing Neighborhood Partners reorganization plan; improving productivity and participation in Neighborhood Partners general and task force meetings; promoting neighborhood identification and pride; encourage and support membership on Neighborhood Partners; implement communication tools to share neighborhood information with all Rock Island citizens; and select additional projects and/or areas of interest. Ms. Anderson further discussed the objectives in detail.

Next, Ms. Anderson discussed the Neighborhood Leadership Task Force, the School Community Task Force, the Community Solutions Committee and the Communications Committee as it related to their mission statements, goals and objectives. Ms. Anderson noted that they looked at the possibility of a Neighborhood Development Group in which the structure has not been developed yet. Ms. Anderson thanked Council for their past support and stated that Neighborhood Partners looks forward to Council's review and approval of the restructuring proposal and updated bylaws.

Council discussed Ms. Anderson's presentation concerning the strategic plan as it related to various goals and objectives. Council discussed the reorganization proposal as it related to the size of the current board and the proposed board. In addition, Council discussed mayoral appointments. Community and Economic Development Director Jeff Eder noted concerns in regards to the huge amount of staff time that is dedicated to Neighborhood Partners. Council further discussed Ms. Anderson's presentation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Alderman Clark and seconded by Alderman Austin to recess to Executive Session on matters of pending or imminent Litigation. The motion carried on a roll call vote. Those voting Aye being; Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none. The meeting was recessed at 6:21 pm.

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**June 8, 2015
MINUTES**

Mayor Pauley reconvened the regular meeting at 6:36 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Alderman Tollenaer and seconded by Alderman Hotle to adjourn the meeting carried by the following Aye and No vote. Those voting Aye being; Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none. The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 pm.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**June 8, 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 Kate Hotle, Joshua Schipp, Charles O. Austin III, Ivory D. Clark, Virgil J. Mayberry and Stephen L. Tollenaer. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas and City Attorney Dave Morrison. Alderman P.J. Foley was absent.

Introductory Proceedings

At this time, Alderman Mayberry expressed disapproval of Alderman Schipp speaking out as if he represented the 2nd Ward in regards to the Walmart project. Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Schipp further discussed this issue.

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

Agenda Item #5

Minutes of the meeting of June 1, 2015.

A motion was made by Alderman Hotle and seconded by Alderman Austin to approve the Minutes of the meeting of June 1, 2015 as printed. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #6

Update Rock Island by Mayor Pauley.

Mayor Pauley stated that on Tuesday, June 9th, Josh Duffee & His Orchestra will continue the Annual Starlight Revue Music Under the Stars Concert Series held at Lincoln Park. At 6:00 pm enjoy dinner from the Hy-Vee grill and an ice cream social. Enjoy the concert from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Concert rain date is Wednesday of the same week. Call (309) 732-RAIN.

Mayor Pauley stated that school's out for summer! Come celebrate with us the start of summer break at Whitewater Junction's Back to Pool Bash. Enjoy a day of fun-filled games and activities on Wednesday, June 10, 2015 from 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm at Whitewater Junction Aquatic Center. Admission is \$8.00, 2 years and under free with paid adult.

Join the 30/31 Branch Library for the Teen Superhero Murder Mystery, Thursday, June 11, 2015 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm. Mayor Pauley stated that the worst has happened - a superhero has been murdered! It's up to you to use the scavenger hunt clues to hunt down the culprit and bring the fiend to justice! This event is free for teens ages 12 to 18. Snacks served.

Mayor Pauley advised that Mardi Gras in The District returns for its 23rd year on Friday, June 12th at 5:00 pm and Saturday, June 13th at 4:00 pm. Catch the spirit and energy of 'The Quarter' in downtown Rock Island for Gumbo Ya Ya 2015. Cajun, Zydeco, and Jazz bands will tantalize your ears, while Cajun spiced food will heat up your taste buds. Mayor Pauley stated that bead tosses, confetti, feather masks, feather boas, and showgirls will complete the Mardi Gras theme.

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**June 8, 2015
MINUTES**

Mayor Pauley commented that Gumbo Ya Ya is held on the Great River Plaza, on 2nd Avenue between 17th and 19th Streets in downtown Rock Island. Admission is \$9.00 for a one day ticket and \$14.00 for a two day ticket, and children 12 and under are free. For more information, call (309) 788-6311 or visit www.gumboyayafestival.com.

Mayor Pauley advised that the Martin Luther King Jr. Center promotes a “Leave No Man Behind” campaign as they prepare for their Prostate Cancer Awareness and Testing Summit. The Mayor added that the Summit is to be held on Saturday, June 27th, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center in Rock Island. The Summit is free and open to the public. Registration is required, to register call (309) 732-2999, mlkmail@rigov.org. Mayor Pauley noted that all registered participants will receive a free breakfast from 9:00 am – 9:30 am. The program begins at 9:30 am and includes the free prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test for men 40+ years old, face-to-face interaction with survivors and will hear from a special guest speaker.

Mayor Pauley stated that Renaissance Rock Island is pleased to present Midweek Music. Midweek Music is a free lunchtime concert series taking place on The Great River Plaza from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm every Wednesday in June, July and August. Each Wednesday enjoy a local musician as you eat lunch outside on the beautiful Great River Plaza. To stay updated on who is performing check www.ridistrict.com or The District’s Facebook and Twitter page. The event is free. Mayor Pauley commented that for more information and to print a map of participating locations, please visit www.ridistrict.com.

Mayor Pauley advised that a new study from consumer advocacy site NerdWallet has identified the best small cities in the U.S., and out of more than 1,300 places Rock Island ranked 32nd. Mayor Pauley added that to find the best small cities NerdWallet crunched U.S. Census data to assess three key factors: affordability, economic health and quality of life. “It’s great that a national organization has picked up on what we’ve been saying all along, that Rock Island is a great place to live.” Mayor Pauley noted that the complete survey and more information can be found on our website at www.rigov.org.

Agenda Item #7

A Special Ordinance authorizing acquisition of property at 918-920 6th Avenue from Hubert Clinton in the amount of \$60,000.00.

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

Agenda Item #8

A Special Ordinance authorizing acquisition of six permanent and temporary right-of-way parcels for 11th Street improvements in the amount of \$46,502.00.

Alderman Austin 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 Hotle, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, Alderman Schipp.

Agenda Item #9

CLAIMS

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 Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

- a. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding payment in the amount of \$548.00 to Jadiem Wilson for General Liability Claim.
- b. Report from the Information Technology Department regarding payment in the amount of \$16,941.35 to System Innovators for the iNovah System annual update and support maintenance for the centralized cash receipting system.
- c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #18 in the amount of \$893,911.65 to Gilbane Building Company for construction services provided for the Rock Island Police Station project.

Agenda Item #10

Claims for the week of May 29 through June 4 in the amount of \$2,582,591.57.

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 Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #11

Report from the Public Works Department regarding the emergency purchase and installation of Wonderware SCADA software from Control Application & Maintenance, Inc. in the amount of \$25,409.00.

It was moved by Alderman Hotle and seconded by Alderman Tollenaer to approve the purchase and installation as recommended.

Comments followed. Alderman Tollenaer thanked the Information Technology Department for getting cost controls on the software.

After comments, the motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #12

Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the 2015 Sewer Cleaning and Televising Program, recommending the bid be awarded to Chicagoland Trenchless Rehabilitation in the amount of \$17,250.00.

Alderman Austin moved and Alderman Schipp 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 Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #13

Report from the Parks and Recreation Department regarding a license agreement with Heritage Christian Church at 4801 44th Street for developing, constructing and maintaining a parking lot on a portion of City owned property at Ben Williamson Park.

It was moved by Alderman Tollenaer and seconded by Alderman Hotle to approve the agreement as recommended, subject to minor City Attorney modifications 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 Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #14

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a proposal from Quad City Arts for the Sculpture in The District Program.

Alderman Hotle moved and Alderman Schipp seconded to approve the proposal as recommended and authorize support of the program in the amount of \$7,000.00.

Comments followed. Alderman Hotle stated that she was excited to see the new sculptures in person. Alderman Hotle added that this continues to be a great program in the Downtown. Alderman Hotle advised that earlier in the Study Session, the Arts Advisory Committee presented how they are going to look to expand arts throughout the City of Rock Island.

After comments, the motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #15

Report from the Public Works Department regarding a request from Michael Steen of Skellington Manor to install an awning and supports within the street right-of-way at 420 18th Street.

It was moved by Alderman Tollenaer and seconded by Alderman Hotle to approve the request as recommended, subject to providing proof of insurance and a recordable agreement. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Hotle, Alderman

Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #16

Report from the Mayor regarding appointments and reappointments to the Arts Advisory Committee.

Alderman Hotle moved and Alderman Schipp seconded to approve the appointments and reappointments as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

Alex McFarland and Tony Seabolt were appointed to the Arts Advisory Committee for three year terms expiring on June 30, 2018.

Brett Hitchcock, Jodie Kavensky and Carolyn Krueger were reappointed to the Arts Advisory Committee for three year terms expiring on June 30, 2018.

Agenda Item #17

Report from the Mayor regarding reappointments to the Beautification Commission.

It was moved by Alderman Hotle and seconded by Alderman Clark to approve the reappointments as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

Wanda Lambert, Sue McDevitt, Betty Moran and Jane Tschappat were reappointed to the Beautification Commission for four year terms expiring in June 2019.

Agenda Item #18

Report from the Mayor regarding an appointment to the Library Board.

Alderman Schipp moved and Alderman Clark seconded to approve the appointment as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none. Alderman Mayberry abstained.

Alderman Virgil Mayberry was appointed to the Library Board to fill the vacancy left by Joy Murphy. The appointment expires in 2016.

Agenda Item #19

Report from the City Clerk regarding a Resolution for the temporary closure of 5th Avenue (US 67) from 11th Street to 12th Street for the IL/IA Center for Independent Living's 25th ADA Celebration to be held on Friday, July 24, 2015 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and a request for utilization of the City owned lot on the north side of 5th Avenue for the event.

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**June 8, 2015
MINUTES**

It was moved by Alderman Clark and seconded by Alderman Hotle to adopt the resolution as recommended and approve the request for utilization of City owned property. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #20

Other Business.

Alderman Hotle stated that Comedy Sportz is hosting the World Championships of Comedy Sportz this week in Rock Island. Alderman Hotle added that there will be groups from all over the world competing all week long in the City. Alderman Hotle commented that a group will win by getting the most applause from the audience. Alderman Hotle encouraged everyone to come out and support this event.

Alderman Clark reminded everyone that on June 10th at 6:00 pm at the Martin Luther King Center, he will be having a ward update meeting. Alderman Clark stated that everyone is invited.

Alderman Schipp thanked Public Works and Parks and anyone else involved for getting the flag up on top of City Hall. Alderman Schipp also thanked Alderman Mayberry for raising that issue in regards to the flag.

Alderman Schipp stated that this past weekend, hometown native Lissie Maurus performed to a full audience at Schwiebert Riverfront Park. Alderman Schipp commented that this was a great event as well as Ballet Under the Stars at Lincoln Park. Alderman Schipp thanked the Parks Department for putting on some great events.

Alderman Schipp thanked Tom Ayers, Bruce Crowe and City Attorney Dave Morrison for spending time with him and explaining the process for Municipal Code Enforcement so that he can better serve his constituents.

Jody Kavensky of 3510 15th Street Ct. stepped forward. Ms. Kavensky stated that she is a member of the Arts Advisory Committee and has been a resident of Rock Island for 30 years. Ms. Kavensky stated that five years ago, she turned her passion from art into a passion to save women's lives from a fatal disease called Ovarian Cancer. Ms. Kavensky stated that last year, their world headquarters was established in Downtown Rock Island. Ms. Kavensky indicated that they are having a fundraising event on July 11th at Schwiebert Riverfront Park called Girl Parts Fest. Ms. Kavensky commented that they are using arts to raise awareness of gynecological cancers. Ms. Kavensky stated that she had sent a letter to the City asking for a \$2,500.00 sponsorship but did not receive a response. Ms. Kavensky inquired upon Council to consider being a sponsor of this program. Ms. Kavensky indicated that all of the money raised in this program will stay in the local community.

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**June 8, 2015
MINUTES**

Agenda Item #21

Executive Session on Personnel, Property Acquisition and Litigation.

An Executive Session was held prior to the regular meeting.

Agenda Item #22

Recess

A motion was made by Alderman Tollenaer and seconded by Alderman Hotle to recess to 5:30 pm, Monday, June 15, 2015. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none. The meeting was recessed at 7:07 pm.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk