

The Rock Island City Council met in Study Session at 5:00 p.m. in the Personnel Conference Room of Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley, presiding, and Aldermen Terry M.A. Brooks I, David Conroy, P. J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Joy Murphy and Charles O. Austin III. Also present were City Manager John Phillips, Parks and Recreation Director Bill Nelson, Fire Chief Doug Vroman, Public Works Director Bob Hawes, Administrative Services Director John Thorson and other City staff. Alderman Jason W. Jones arrived at 5:10 p.m.

## **FISCAL YEAR 2010/2011 BUDGET REVIEW**

### **Parks and Recreation Department**

City Manager John Phillips inquired upon Parks and Recreation Director Bill Nelson to review his department's budget for the 2010/2011 Fiscal Year.

Parks and Recreation Department Director Bill Nelson presented the Parks and Recreation Fiscal Year 2010/2011 Budget to Council. Mr. Nelson introduced staff, which included; Assistant Director John Gripp. Mr. Nelson also introduced Park Board members Fred Dasso, Ann Austin, Dave Knuckey and Alderman Dave Conroy. Mr. Nelson stated that Moses Robinson is also on the Board.

Mr. Nelson stated that the Parks and Recreation Department has the responsibility for Parks, Golf, RIFAC, Hauberg Civic Center, Sports Complex, Whitewater Junction, Schwiebert Riverfront Park and numerous recreational programs that are held at schools, parks and local businesses.

Mr. Nelson offered that the proposed 2010/2011 budget includes 29 full time employees, 53 part-time employees and 137 seasonal staff. It was noted that overall, there is a decrease of 12.21 full time equivalents. Mr. Nelson indicated that in an effort to balance the budget, significant changes in operation will occur with a decrease in services provided to the community. Mr. Nelson explained that a good portion of the Parks and Recreation's programs offset the operational costs and in some cases provide support for other programs. Mr. Nelson added that some of the Parks and Recreation's primary responsibilities including parks, playgrounds school site camps and special events do not recover costs. It was noted that the areas that have been hit the hardest include; the dog park, which has been closed, summer school site programs, financial assistance to the Genesius Guild, maintenance to the ball fields and general maintenance to the parks. Mr. Nelson commented that Whitewater Junction will only be open during the weekends in the last few weeks of August and the hours at Hauberg Civic Center will be reduced. Mr. Nelson stated that in regards to capital projects, with the exception of ongoing projects such as RIFAC, repairs to buildings and structures have been placed on hold and maintenance of equipment with the exception of one pickup truck has been removed from the proposed budget.

Mr. Nelson pointed out that overall; the department is being impacted by the increase in minimum wage requirements for the State of Illinois, no increase in its Property Tax Levy in the last two (2) years and lower revenues.

Mr. Nelson discussed the Administrative side of the budget, stating that some of the full time staff expenses have been transferred to RIFAC, which is reflected in the decrease of 1.25 full time equivalents. It was noted that supply and service materials were decreased to minimum use. Mr. Nelson indicated that in the area of Park Maintenance, the Parks division will continue to maintain park areas and oversee the capital projects currently underway. It was noted that seasonal staffing has been cut back and maintenance will be reduced in the parks and visible landscape areas.

Mr. Nelson offered that in the Recreational area, seasonal staffing used to support youth sports has decreased and supplies for camps, ball fields and general repair of facilities has been reduced. Mr. Nelson mentioned that it is hopeful that some assistance will be received from outside funding sources to reinstate the summer school site programs and the dog park.

Mr. Nelson discussed Whitewater Junction and noted that the parking lot was completed and work was done on the pool drains. It was noted that hours have been reduced for this year at the pool due to a drop in attendance this past year as a result of the weather. Mr. Nelson added that due to the cutback in hours, staffing levels have been reduced.

Mr. Nelson then discussed Highland Springs Golf Course, Saukie Golf Course and the Golf Pro Shop.

Mr. Nelson stated that the membership at RIFAC has had a slight increase due to marketing efforts and new program offerings. Mr. Nelson indicated that the expansion of the center, which includes a gym, classrooms, administrative offices, whirlpool and updated pool deck is currently underway. Mr. Nelson added that for Parks and Recreation, there have been many cuts to balance the budget and it will be very tight this year.

Discussion followed regarding expansion and programming as it relates to RIFAC; construction of the Quad City Botanical Center's Children's Garden as it relates to design; Schwiebert Riverfront Park as it relates to events and completion dates; summer school site programming and the dog park as it relates to funding; consolidation of park offices as it relates to RIFAC and the Hauberg Civic Center; and the overall operation of the Parks and Recreation Department as it relates to services.

## **Fire Department**

Fire Chief Doug Vroman presented the Fire Department's 2010-2011 Budget.

Chief Vroman stated that the Fire Department is staffed with one (1) position open that is included in the proposed budget for the coming year. It was noted that all current services will continue. Chief Vroman discussed Advanced Life Support (ALS) first response and ALS ambulance transport services. Chief Vroman indicated that the ALS first response has been fine tuned and it has been an outstanding year for results in the program. It was noted that the Lights and Sirens program and Safe Kids program are still included in the proposed budget. Chief Vroman pointed out that both of these programs have generated a lot of positive feedback.

Fire Chief Vroman discussed MABAS 43 as it relates to training, catastrophic events, other types of emergencies and joint training as it relates to area wide emergencies.

Chief Vroman stated that the Fire Department has worked hard on cutting items from the budget, while at the same time monitoring services and staffing levels. It was noted that the training budget has been trimmed and infrastructure maintenance has taken a hit. The Chief indicated that emergency generators were taken out of the budget to reduce the gap, but there is a grant application pending for those generators.

Chief Vroman discussed several long-term issues concerning the Fire Department as it relates to infrastructure repairs and funding. The Chief noted that there are opportunities through the State Fire Marshal's Office for some emergency operation center grant money for upgrading one of the facilities. The Chief commented that the department just submitted a small tools and equipment grant application through the State Fire Marshal's Office and noted that other pending grant applications include one for a rescue vehicle and emergency generators for all of the stations.

It was noted that several projects are underway in the Fire Department that are incorporated into the budget, which include the drainage system repair at Central Fire House and a minor office remodel at Station #4.

Council discussion followed regarding grants as relates to outside sources of funding and the Foreign Fire Tax Fund. In addition, Council discussed equipment, supplies and training as it relates to services, cuts and structural fire fighting.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to recess to Executive Session on matters of Personnel and Litigation. The motion carried on a roll call vote. Those voting Aye being, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none. The meeting was recessed at 6:11 p.m.

Mayor Pauley reconvened the regular meeting at 6:31 p.m.

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CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion made by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Jones to adjourn the meeting carried on a roll call vote. Those voting Aye being Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none. The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p. m.

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Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk

Rock Island City Council met in regular session at 6:45 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley, presiding, and Aldermen Terry M.A. Brooks I, David Conroy, P.J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Jason W. Jones, Joy Murphy and Charles O. Austin III. City Manager John Phillips was also present.

**Introductory Proceedings**

Mayor Pauley called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Alderwoman Murphy gave the Invocation.

Agenda Item #5

**Minutes of the Meeting of February 15, 2010 and Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 22, 2010.**

A motion was made by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Foley to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of February 15, 2010 and Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 22, 2010 as printed. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #6

**Update Rock Island by Mayor Pauley.**

Mayor Pauley stated that a Trivia Night was hosted by the City on February 19<sup>th</sup> to raise money for the Rock Island Center for Math and Science (RICMS), which is the City's Adopt-A-School partner. It was noted that the event raised \$1,800.00. Mayor Pauley offered that the funding will be used to purchase Christmas gifts for the students and possibly a permanent gift at their new school.

Mayor Pauley indicated that the City held its annual Industrial Pretreatment Awards on February 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. The Mayor added that Certificates of Achievement were presented to representatives of eight (8) Rock Island industries for maintaining compliance with the federally mandated Industrial Pretreatment Program during 2009. The organizations receiving certificates included; Illinois Oil Products, Inc., Berge Plating Works, Inc., Johnson Oil Company, McLaughlin Body Company, Norcross Safety Products, LLC., Rock Island Arsenal, Wear Cote International, Inc. and Miller Container Corporation.

Mayor Pauley explained that the USEPA mandated Industrial Pretreatment Program requires certain categories of industries and other industries of concern to pre-treat their wastewater prior to discharge into the sewer system. It was noted that municipalities are generally given the responsibility of administering the federal program at the local level. The Mayor offered that the pretreatment of industrial wastewater helps protect the sewer system, ensure worker safety, encourages industrial pollution prevention programs, helps

maintain the beneficial use of sewer sludge and helps to ensure that wastewater plant operations meet discharge standards.

It was noted that the Rock Island County Waste Management Agency will start offering free curbside appliance and used tire pick-ups again on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Mayor Pauley stated that residents should call (877) 934-5378 (toll free number) to schedule a pick-up. The Mayor added that a new 10 year contract with Weikert Iron and Metal Recycling will allow residents to have up to four (4) appliances and 10 passenger vehicle tires picked up each year.

Mayor Pauley offered that Rock Island Parks and Recreation will offer various activities in the month of March. The activities include; youth-spring soccer and an American girl party. It was noted that adult activities include; scrapbooking for beginners, ballroom dancing, Italian cooking demonstrations and wine tasting. It was noted that for more information go to ePark at [www.rigov.org](http://www.rigov.org) or call (309) 732-PARK. The Mayor commented that pre-registration is required for all programs.

Agenda Item #7  
**CLAIMS**

It was moved by Alderman Austin, seconded by Alderman Foley to accept the following reports and authorize payment as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

- a. Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding payment in the amount of \$10,768.00 to Konecky, Koenig, Kutsunis and Weng for legal services rendered for February 2010.
- b. Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding payment in the amount of \$1,851.05 to Angela Ward for General Liability Claims.
- c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$12,827.00 to Brown Traffic Products for emergency traffic signal repair parts for the intersection of IL. 92 and Jumer Drive. (029)
- d. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$15,750.00 to Elliot Equipment for the rental of two (2) refuse packers for the 2009 Fall Leaf Collection. (053)

Agenda Item #8

**Claims for the weeks of February 12 through February 25 in the amount of \$1,426,752.26.**

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

Agenda Item #9

**Payroll for the weeks of February 8 through February 21 in the amount of \$1,218,295.61.**

Alderman Jones moved and Alderman Tollenaer seconded to allow the payroll. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #10

**Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the purchase of a pole camera, recommending the bid be awarded to Key Equipment and Supply Company in the amount of \$11,995.00.**

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

Agenda Item #11

**Report from the Public Works Department regarding a contract with Symbiont for design services related to the new Municipal Services Division facility in the amount of \$335,500.00.**

Alderwoman Murphy moved and Alderman Jones seconded to approve the design contract with Symbiont 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 Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #12

**Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a development agreement with Phil Scott, recommending committing \$20,000.00 of Downtown TIF funds to create one apartment at 2106 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue.**

It was moved by Alderman Tollenaer, seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to approve the agreement as recommended, subject to acquiring the property, obtaining insurance and paying property taxes and authorize the City Manager to execute to the contract documents. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye

being Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #13

**Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding an agreement with Robert Anderson, owner of City Limits Saloon and Grill.**

Alderman Conroy moved and Alderman Jones seconded to approve the agreement 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 Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #14

**Report from the Finance Department regarding an adjustment to the Fiscal Year 2010 Budget, recommending an adjustment to the Debt Service Fund in the amount of \$18,000.00.**

It was moved by Alderman Conroy, seconded by Alderman Foley to approve the adjustment as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #15

**Report from the Finance Department regarding an adjustment to the Fiscal Year 2010 Budget, recommending an adjustment to the Self-Insurance Fund in the amount of \$172,000.00.**

Alderman Foley moved and Alderman Tollenaer seconded to approve the adjustment as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #16

**Report from the Parks and Recreation Department regarding acceptance of the Saukie Golf Course property in the form of a Trustee's Deed from Quad City Bank & Trust as Trustee of the Richard A. Welch Trust.**

It was moved by Alderman Tollenaer, seconded by Alderman Conroy to approve the acceptance of the Saukie Golf Course property in the form of Trustee's Deed as recommended and refer to the City Attorney for an Ordinance.

Alderman Austin commented that this was made possible by the generosity of a gentleman that passed away 35 years ago and had the best interest of Rock Island in his mind and heart.

After comments, the motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #17

**Report from the Public Works Department regarding abandonment of a utility easement located at the Rock Island Industrial Park.**

Alderwoman Murphy moved and Alderman Austin seconded to approve the abandonment of the easement as recommended and refer to the City Attorney for an Ordinance. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #18

**Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request to remove residential parking on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street between 18<sup>th</sup> and 20½ Avenue.**

It was moved by Alderman Foley, seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to approve the request as recommended and refer to the City Attorney for an Ordinance.

Discussion followed with Alderman Austin stating that there was a petition that was received in favor of removing residential parking on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street between 18<sup>th</sup> and 20½ Avenue, but Alderman Austin inquired as to whether there was anyone in opposition to this request.

Mr. Frank Plumb of 1854 23<sup>rd</sup> Street stepped forward.

Mr. Plumb stated that years ago, the neighborhood initiated the request that residential parking on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street between 18<sup>th</sup> and 20½ Avenue be implemented because the Police Department had stated that implementing residential parking was the best way to eliminate the problems that were occurring in the neighborhood at that time. Mr. Plumb indicated that since that time, the neighborhood does not have those types of problems any longer.

Mr. Plumb stated that now, neighbors are coming to him complaining that they are receiving tickets when they have family gatherings. Mr. Plumb explained that almost everyone is in favor of the removal of this residential parking. It was noted that there were a few neighbors that Mr. Plumb repeatedly tried to contact, but was unable to reach. Mr. Plumb stated that no one that he knows of is in opposition to the request.

Alderman Foley stated that this street is in his Ward and he has not been contacted by anyone that is in opposition to this request.

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

Agenda Item #19

**Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request for the installation of a handicapped parking space at 1603 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue.**

Alderwoman Murphy moved and Alderman Foley seconded to approve the request as recommended and refer to the City Attorney for an Ordinance. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #20

**Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request to retain a handicapped parking space at 4529 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue.**

It was moved by Alderwoman Murphy, seconded by Alderman Austin to approve the request as recommended and refer to the City Attorney for an Ordinance. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #21

**Items from the City Manager's Memorandum Packet.**

Mr. Phillips inquired upon Finance Director Bill Scott to review the January 2010 Management Report and the Tax Penalty Exposure Review that was included in the memo packet.

Mr. Scott explained that the January Management Report is on target at 83%. It was noted that both revenues and expenses in the General Fund are at 80%, which is very close to the benchmark. Mr. Scott indicated that there is some slippage in the taxes that are being followed from the December shortfall. The December shortfall was reported at \$630,000.00 and \$785,000.00 was reported for January. Mr. Scott explained that the problem taxes are the Income Tax, Use Tax and Utility Tax. It was noted that the Income Tax has improved a little; it was reported at \$430,000.00 for January. Mr. Scott added that the Use Tax that reported at a shortfall of \$99,000.00 does not look like it will improve. Mr. Scott indicated that it is expected that there will be some improvement in the Utility Tax that is received.

Mr. Scott commented on the timeliness of receipts. It was explained that the State of Illinois has not been making timely payments to taxing bodies. The taxes that are received from the State include; Income Tax, Replacement Tax, Sales Tax and Use Tax in which the State collects and distributes to the City. Mr. Scott noted that the

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Replacement Tax and Use Tax are received on a timely basis. However, the Income Tax has not been received on a timely basis. It was noted that the amount that the City is reporting for income through January is \$2,185,000.00. It was noted that this reflects the October voucher, which was paid in November. Since that time, the City has not received payment for November, December and January. Mr. Scott added that these three (3) months total \$671,000.00. It was noted that the March voucher to be paid in April is approximately \$300,000.00.

Mr. Scott reviewed the Tax Penalty Exposure Review Report. Mr. Scott explained that the IRS has complex filing reporting requirements and every so often, the City has its auditors do a review to make sure that the City is complying with everything. This is done in case there is a potential IRS audit.

Mr. Scott stated that the report showed that the City is doing a good job as far as meeting the filing requirements. However, there are some issues that affect several departments. Mr. Scott added that these are just minor corrections that need to be made.

Alderman Austin stated that he had the opportunity this past Saturday to go on a ride along with Police Officers. Alderman Austin stated that he enjoyed the opportunity, but did not enjoy everything he saw on the ride along.

Alderwoman Murphy reminded everyone to Shop Rock Island. Alderwoman Murphy stated that Poor Boy's Pizza and Pub is located at 41<sup>st</sup> Street and 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It was noted that Poor Boy's has a variety of food items and a person can dine in or carry-out. In addition, Poor Boy's delivers. Alderwoman Murphy noted that Poor Boy's serves food until midnight from Sunday through Thursday, and on Friday and Saturday, food is served until 1:00 a.m. Their bar area is open until 2:00 a.m. on Sunday through Thursday and Friday and Saturday until 3:00 a.m.

Alderwoman Murphy also reminded everyone about the 350 project. It was noted that all Rock Island residents are asked to spend \$50.00 a month in three (3) Rock Island businesses. This will help to keep locally owned family businesses vibrant during these tough economic times.

Agenda Item #22

**Other Business**

Ms. Kathleen Kilbride of 1829 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Apartment 106 at Sala Flats stepped forward. Ms. Kilbride voiced concerns regarding snow and ice removal concerning the alley behind the Sala Building between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Streets. Ms. Kilbride stated that the alley is the main entrance into her building, and it becomes very icy at times and is never salted. Ms. Kilbride submitted a petition to Council of approximately 62 signatures of people that use the alley on a daily basis.

City Manager Phillips stated that the City has not provided snow removal services for alleys in the past. Mr. Phillips stated that the City will look at the request.

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Agenda Item #23

**Executive Session on Personnel and Litigation.**

An Executive Session was held prior to the Regular Meeting.

Agenda Item #24

**Recess**

A motion was made by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to recess to Monday, March 8, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

The meeting was recessed at 7:09 p.m.

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Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk