

The Rock Island City Council met in Study Session at 6:00 pm in City Council Chambers at Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley presiding, and Aldermen Virgil J. Mayberry, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Kate Hotle, Charles O. Austin III and Ivory D. Clark. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas, various City staff, City Attorney Dave Morrison, Renaissance Rock Island President Brian Hollenback and Micaela Booth, Executive Director of the Rock Island Arts and Entertainment District. Aldermen P.J. Foley and Joshua Schipp were absent.

DISTRICT EVENTS UPDATE

Micaela Booth, new Executive Director of the Rock Island Arts and Entertainment District stated that in 2015, The District presented, co-presented and/or facilitated 34 downtown events. Various events discussed included; Gumbo Ya Ya, two Gallery Hops, Gilda's Run for Laughs, Ya Maka My Weekend, Rock Island Grand Prix, Heart Walk and Fright Night in The District. Ms. Booth advised that 64% of their income comes from project income (event revenue), 21% comes from business and foundation, and City support is at 15%. Ms. Booth explained that the City support of \$28,500.00 includes the Plaza Management agreement at \$25,000.00 and \$3,500.00 for event support.

Ms. Booth stated that the Plaza Management agreement is between the City of Rock Island and The District for maintaining and creating the master calendar of events for the Great River Plaza. Ms. Booth explained the event application process. Ms. Booth noted that The District sends out an annual event and road closure schedule to business owners that may be impacted by that particular event. Ms. Booth added that The District has managed 25 permits so far this year.

Next, Ms. Booth discussed the economic impact of those events. Ms. Booth indicated that in 2015, Gumbo Ya Ya, Ya Maka My Weekend and the Rock Island Grand Prix generated about 185 hotel rooms in downtown Rock Island and approximately \$18,795.00 was spent on hotel rooms. It was noted that over 20,000 people attended despite the inclement weather and one rained out event (Gumbo Ya Ya). Ms. Booth further discussed the economic impact of these events.

Ms. Booth discussed downtown partnerships, which include; DARI, The District, City of Rock Island and Quad City Arts. Ms. Booth stated that in June of 2014, a main street coordinator position was established at Renaissance Rock Island to act as a liaison for the downtown businesses, and a business development advisor was hired to further the mission by one-on-one consultations. Ms. Booth indicated that the Downtown Magazine was implemented in 2015 to communicate all of the good things happening in downtown Rock Island such as where to eat, shop, drink and visit, and to discover and learn about the employers and workforce that call downtown Rock Island home. Ms. Booth noted that this will be the third edition of the Downtown Magazine.

Ms. Booth advised that the partnerships also allow for improvement in the artist inspired community. Ms. Booth noted several design concepts for the McKesson Columns, which were commissioned by a local artist. Ms. Booth commented that the concepts are pending approval.

Ms. Booth indicated that across the alley behind Starblock, there will be three banners installed later this summer and they were commissioned by local artists. Ms. Booth explained that they are looking at some design concepts for the side of The Establishment wall and this project will advance the Rock Island Arts Plan and the Downtown Strategic Plan. Ms. Booth advised that they are working with Quad City Arts for installing benches downtown. Ms. Booth commented that the Quad City Arts MetroARTS program will be refurbishing benches downtown and MetroARTS is working with the Arts Advisory Committee for design approvals. Ms. Booth noted that the work is expected to be completed in June.

Ms. Booth indicated that The District has been working closely with downtown property owners to identify and develop plans for downtown dumpster enclosures. It was noted that this aligns with living alleys, pedestrian-friendly communities and the Downtown Strategic Plan. Ms. Booth stated that 15 bicycle racks will be installed this week throughout the downtown. It was noted that the process started in 2015 as a result from a downtown business contacting Renaissance Rock Island for a bike rack. Ms. Booth further discussed this item. Ms. Booth advised that there were tears in the Plaza stage top and a new one was purchased and installed last Friday; it was used for two events this past Saturday. Ms. Booth indicated that this is the first time The District has been able to have a paid internship. Ms. Booth stated that two interns will be working for The District from May through August. Ms. Booth further discussed these internships.

Next, Ms. Booth discussed new holiday promotions and returning events. Ms. Booth stated that The District is committed to presenting a multi-day holiday event during the month of December, which will include marketing the events that are already going on in the downtown as well as other events and putting them all together in a marketing plan. Ms. Booth stated that they are looking to do some holiday window paintings as well as to have holiday lights and decorations. Ms. Booth stated that the new events returning this year include; Gilda's Run for Laughs that took place on April 16th; Rivers Edge Homebrew Festiv-Ale to be held on July 16th; and Midweek Music on the Plaza scheduled for Wednesdays from June through August. Ms. Booth noted that these events support a daytime economy. Ms. Booth indicated that one of The District's signature events, which is Gumbo Ya Ya, will be held on June 10th and June 11th. Ms. Booth commented that Third Thursday, which is a monthly networking event, will be held on June 16th at Moe's Burgers & Brews. Ms. Booth stated that this event encourages an evening economy to support downtown businesses.

Council discussed Ms. Booth's presentation. Alderman Austin discussed the 34 downtown District events as it related to economic impact. Alderman Austin also discussed changes in The District's signature events as it related to a drop in attendance at these events. Alderman Austin stated that he would like to see more local food vendors at these events. In addition, Alderman Austin discussed fundraising groups and bars as it related to pricing for alcohol during these events.

Renaissance Rock Island President Brian Hollenback stated that in regards to pricing or undercutting at these events, it used to be a problem, but because of strong leadership of the Liquor Commissioner closing down some of the problem establishments, that issue has been resolved. Mr. Hollenback stated that in regards to festival fatigue, there has been a bit of decline, but from a national level, Gumbo Ya Ya and Ya Maka My Weekend are still two of The

District's strongest signature events and people come for the culture, which leads into the food component. Mr. Hollenback advised that they would like more local vendor participation, but these are cultural themed events and people look for that cultural type of food. Mr. Hollenback added that a lot of those vendors travel the circuit.

Council, Ms. Booth and Mr. Hollenback further discussed the presentation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Mayberry at 6:24 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 Mayberry, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Austin and Alderman Clark; those voting No, none.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pauley reconvened the regular meeting at 6:33 pm. A motion made by Alderman Clark and seconded by Alderman Hotle to adjourn the meeting carried by the following Aye and No vote. Those voting Aye being; Alderman Mayberry, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Austin and Alderman Clark; those voting No, none. The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 pm.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**May 23, 2016
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 Virgil J. Mayberry, P.J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Kate Hotle, Joshua Schipp, Charles O. Austin III and Ivory D. Clark. 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 Foley gave the Invocation.

Agenda Item #5

Minutes of the meeting of May 16, 2016.

A motion was made by Alderman Hotle and seconded by Alderman Clark to approve the Minutes of the meeting of May 16, 2016 as printed. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Mayberry, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin and Alderman Clark; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #6

Update Rock Island by Mayor Pauley.

Mayor Pauley stated that the City of Rock Island is in the process of reviewing and updating its land development codes to implement the City's Comprehensive Plan and to encourage community growth and development that is in keeping with Rock Island's unique character. The public is invited to an Open House to share thoughts on the City's existing development regulations and to learn more about the code update project. Mayor Pauley commented that the Open House will be held on Wednesday, May 25, 2016 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center located at 630 7th Avenue, Rock Island. The public is invited to drop by any time during this two hour window to speak with City staff or the project consultant team.

Mayor Pauley advised that Whitewater Junction is teaming up with Christian Care for a fundraiser to see who will be the first to ride the Zephyr waterslide in 2016. Will it be Rock Island City Officials, WHBF anchors or Christian Care dignitaries? Mayor Pauley indicated that on Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at 12:00 pm your votes will decide who goes down the waterslide first. Votes are collected by the dollars a person donates; one dollar, one vote. Go to www.christiancareqc.org for more information. Join the fun and help make a difference for those less fortunate in our community.

Starting June 5, 2016, the Rock Island Artists' Market will be open for the summer season every Sunday. Mayor Pauley stated that the Open Air Market will be open from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm, where you can find original art, handcrafted goods and produce. The Market will be held at the Skeleton Key, 520 18th St.

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Celebrate the end of the school year by visiting Whitewater Junction for waterslides, fun games, prizes and a live DJ. Mayor Pauley commented that the pool bash will be held on Friday, June 3, 2016 from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm. The cost is regular admission. Call (309) 732-7946 for more information.

Mayor Pauley stated that River City 6 will perform in beautiful Lincoln Park on Tuesday, June 7, 2016. Dinner will be available from the Hy-Vee Grill starting at 5:00 pm. There will be dance lessons and family activities up until 7:00 pm. Concert begins at 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Call 732-RAIN to check status of event for inclement weather.

Agenda Item #7

Proclamation declaring Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at Boetje's Mustard Day.

Mayor Pauley read the proclamation. Mr. Will Kropp accepted the proclamation. Mr. Kropp thanked Council for the proclamation and stated that they are so proud and so excited to be on top of the industry. Mr. Kropp stated that in the 127 year history of the company, they are finally number one in the world.

Mayor Pauley stated that Rock Island is so proud to have Boetje's in the City.

Agenda Item #8

Proclamation declaring Tuesday, June 7, 2016 as Barbershop Harmony Day.

Mayor Pauley read the proclamation. The Barbershop Quartet sang a harmony for Council. A representative of the Rock Island Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society accepted the proclamation and stated that they will be celebrating 75 years with a little party at the Hauberg Civic Center.

Agenda Item #9

CLAIMS

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

- a. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding payment in the amount of \$23,715.60 to Broadspire of Atlanta, Georgia for Worker's Compensation Settlement for Steven Mumma.

Agenda Item #10

Claims for the week of May 13 through May 19 in the amount of \$1,542,147.67.

Alderman Clark moved and Alderman Tollenaer seconded to allow the claims. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Mayberry,

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

Agenda Item #11

Purchase Card Claims for the month of April in the amount of \$49,301.35.

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

Agenda Item #12

Report from the Public Works Department regarding an agreement with Mead & Hunt of Middleton, Wisconsin for professional consulting services for utilities privatization on the Rock Island Arsenal in the total estimated amount of \$82,660.00.

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

Agenda Item #13

Report from the Mayor regarding designation of the Mayor Pro Tem.

Alderman Tollenaer nominated Alderman Hotle to be Mayor Pro Tem for 2016-2017, which nomination was seconded by Alderman Foley. Nominations were then closed. Alderman Hotle was elected as Mayor Pro Tem. The nomination carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Mayberry, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin and Alderman Clark; those voting No, none. Alderman Hotle abstained.

Agenda Item #14

Report from the City Clerk regarding two Plaza Activity applications from The District requesting to host the Midweek Music on the Plaza event from noon to 1:00 pm on Wednesdays from June through August, and the winter Gallery Hop from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm on Friday, December 9, 2016 and a request to waive the application and permit fees for both events.

Alderman Foley moved and Alderman Hotle seconded to approve the events and waive the fees as recommended.

Comments followed. Alderman Hotle stated that earlier in the study session this evening, Micaela Booth, the new Executive Director, shared with Council all of the things they are working on doing such as continuing with their current events that are successful and expanding

on some other opportunities. Alderman Hotle added that they are focusing on improving the downtown.

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

Agenda Item #15

Report from the City Clerk regarding a request from Annette Zapolis for a sound amplification permit for Saturday, June 4, 2016 from 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm for a private wedding reception at the House on the Hill at Augustana College located at 3052 10th Avenue.

Alderman Schipp moved and Alderman Hotle seconded to approve the sound amplification permit as recommended.

Comments followed. Alderman Hotle congratulated the happy couple and stated that Annette Zapolis is a business owner in Rock Island and we are glad that Ms. Zapolis is having her wedding event in Rock Island.

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

Agenda Item #16

Report from the City Clerk regarding a request from Jana Sand of The Fort Armstrong for a Street Closing at 19th Street between the alley directly south of the building and 3rd Avenue and a request for Sound Amplification for The Fort Armstrong's 90th Anniversary celebration to be held on Thursday, June 23, 2016 from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm at 1900 3rd Avenue.

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

Agenda Item #17

Other Business.

Alderman Hotle commented on the competition for dignitaries sliding down the waterslide at Whitewater Junction. Alderman Hotle stated that if the Mayor wins, he probably will be sliding down that waterslide wearing a suit.

Alderman Hotle advised that Citizen of the Year nominations will be taken until the first week in June. Alderman Hotle encouraged everyone to nominate someone that they feel is deserving of the award.

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Alderman Hotle reminded everyone that she will be having a ward meeting this Thursday at 6:30 pm at the Hauberg Civic Center. Alderman Hotle commented that everyone is welcome to attend.

Alderman Clark stated that a meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 1st at 6:00 pm at the Martin Luther King Center concerning the future of Douglas Park and the old Firehouse. Alderman Clark added that everyone is welcome and it is an opportunity for citizens to come and express their opinions.

Alderman Foley stated that he recently did his first half marathon and it was a great time. Alderman Foley noted that he finished six minutes under his goal.

Alderman Austin inquired upon the Mayor to comment on why Council will recess to Friday, June 3rd at 1:00 pm.

Mayor Pauley advised that Council will be having their annual Goal Setting sessions on Friday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm or 5:00 pm and Saturday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Mayor Pauley stated that Council will review priorities and set goals for next year and Council will also look into future years. The Mayor commented that if anyone has issues that they feel Council needs to look at closely, contact your Alderman. Mayor Pauley stated that as Council sets their priorities, those are the ones that will be focused on for the next year.

Alderman Mayberry commended Augustana College on their excellent graduation they had yesterday. Alderman Mayberry commented that Augustana College is going to take part in the 175th year celebration of the City on Labor Day.

Mayor Pauley stated that the Vietnam Veteran's Parade was this past Saturday morning at 10:30 am. Mayor Pauley added that he and Alderman Tollenaer greeted people at the beginning of the parade. Mayor Pauley stated that it was a great event and there were a lot of Vietnam Veterans and Korean Veterans. The Mayor added that there were a lot of great and proud people in that parade. Mayor Pauley noted that he would like to see it continue; it is a great thing to be doing to honor those Veterans.

Mr. Peter Ruklic of 2128 32nd Street, Rock Island, IL stepped forward. Mr. Ruklic discussed various facts about the City and development as it related to revitalizing Rock Island in terms of the ways the City is committed in trying to develop a people oriented environment in regards to people walking, riding their bikes and taking the bus to get to where they need to go.

Agenda Item #18

Executive Session on Personnel, Property Acquisition and Litigation.

An executive session was held prior to the regular meeting.

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Agenda Item #19

Recess

A motion was made by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Hotle to recess to 1:00 pm, Friday, June 3, 2016. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Mayberry, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin and Alderman Clark; those voting No, none. The meeting was recessed at 7:10 pm.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk