

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING-GOAL SETTING**

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2010  
MINUTES**

The Rock Island City Council met in reconvened session at 8:30 a.m. for the second day of the annual Goal Setting Session at the McKesson Building in the Community Room at 110 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Rock Island. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley presiding, and Aldermen David Conroy, P. J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Joy Murphy and Charles O. Austin III. Staff present included City Manager John C. Phillips and Public Works Director Bob Hawes. Also present was Lyle Sumek, Group Facilitator of Sumek and Associates. Alderman Terry M. A. Brooks I arrived at 8:37 a.m. Alderman Jason W. Jones arrived at 2:45 p.m.

Mr. Sumek led the group in continuing the discussion on the strategies, possible outcomes, key issues, directions and actions in regards to critical issues. The last critical issue discussed concerned topics on the budget, which included services, revenues, labor contracts, directions to staff and cost reductions.

Mr. Sumek and Council reviewed various major accomplishments (successes) that were identified by staff and Council members in the past year, some of which included; presented a balanced budget with a reduction in expenses and limited reductions in services; Rock Island Hydroplant producing power and operating at capacity; the opening of Schwiebert Riverfront Park; Martin Luther King Center expansion; major economic development effort regarding the Mandus Group/Spirit Partners with job creation and the potential to stimulate more economic development; execution of the Rocket Theater/Comedy Sportz project; road improvements and street construction; citizen involvement in Safer Community Task Force with recommendations developed; federal grant and earmarks concerning Sunset Marina and NSP; Onsite Nurse Program benefitting employees and cost savings; grants for housing with new housing opportunities in Old Chicago Neighborhood and renovation/demolition of older homes and housing for special needs population; Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) phone system installation; and installation of video surveillance and mobile data terminals upgrades for Police.

Following discussion on the successes, Mr. Sumek then led the group in reviewing the Goals for 2015. They discussed each of the goals and voted to put them in order of importance at this time. The Goals for 2015 include: *1) Quality Services, Financially Sound City; 2) Grow the Economy; 3) More New Housing Opportunities; Upgraded and Well Maintained Older Homes; 4) More and Better Retail; 5) Great Neighborhoods; 6) Improve Riverfronts and Downtown.*

City Council members then reviewed each of the goals individually and discussed the strategic objectives and action items for each. They selected the challenges and opportunities presented by each of the goals, and then reviewed and selected action items for each of the goals.

Following discussion, the group selected their priorities for the coming year, which will help meet the identified goals. The priorities and targets for action are as follows:

**ACTION AGENDA 2010 - 2011  
TOP PRIORITIES**

1. **Budget.** Make decisions on the property tax rates, service levels and adopt a balanced budget.
2. **Economic Development Strategic Plan.** Develop action steps related to the Strategic Plan and review and approve the plan.
3. **Campustown.** Work with business owners and Augustana College to develop a plan to increase business activity in the neighborhood of 30<sup>th</sup> Street and 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
4. **Safer Community Task Force.** Implement the recommendations of the Safer Community Task Force.
5. **Casino Area Development.** Take actions to support future development in the area near the Jumer's Casino and Hotel and the southwest area.
6. **Liquor License Modifications.** Consider changes in liquor licenses for license holders with the 3:00 a.m. extended hours option.

**ACTION AGENDA 2010 - 2011  
HIGH PRIORITIES**

1. **Negotiations and Compensation Policy.** Obtain collective bargaining agreements for all units for agreements expiring 2010 and 2011.
2. **Mill Creek.** Review options and develop a plan to address the flooding and environmental risks associated with the decision by the Corps of Engineers to cease the clean-out of Mill Creek South Slough.
3. **Economic Development Position.** Develop a position description and funding source for a new City position that would work to support the retention and growth of small businesses.
4. **Rental Housing Inspector.** Maintain staffing and funding and implement an incentive to encourage landlord training.
5. **Street Improvements Comprehensive Plan.** Develop comprehensive plan to do street improvements in concert with available funding.
6. **Market Rate Rental Property.** Review market and determine potential for development of a market rate rental complex.

Several priorities were assigned to management to implement during the next year, including:

**MANAGEMENT AGENDA 2010 - 2011  
TOP PRIORITIES**

1. **Management Succession Planning.** Plan for and implement as needed, the replacement of retiring management staff.

2. **New Police Headquarters.** Begin preliminary planning for the future construction of a modern police facility.
3. **First Army Strategy.** Implement a strategy to encourage civilians and uninformed personnel moving to the Quad Cities to consider Rock Island as home.
4. **Problem Properties.** Identify the worst and chronic violators of nuisance ordinances and develop a plan to focus enforcement to obtain compliance.
5. **Transient Boat Dock.** Apply for funding for a transient boat dock at Schwiebert Riverfront Park.

**MANAGEMENT AGENDA 2010 - 2011  
HIGH PRIORITIES**

1. **Emergency Communications System.** Seek funding for an 800 MHz radio system.
2. **Casino Area Development.** Obtain approvals for interchange modifications at IL92 and I-280.
3. **Highway 92 Corridor.** Seek federal and state funding for the IL 92 corridor project.

After Council selected their priorities for the coming year, Mr. Sumek and Council discussed various Governance topics as it relates to refinement in Mayor and Council operations. Various topics discussed included; timely information from staff, meetings, agendas, status updates and reports and participation and training opportunities for elected officials.

Mr. Sumek thanked the Council for a good two (2) days of discussion and accomplishments.

Following discussion, Alderman Brooks moved and Alderman Foley seconded to recess to Monday, September 20, 2010 at 6:45 p.m. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being Alderman Brooks, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none. Alderman Conroy excused himself from Goal Setting at 2:41 p.m.

The meeting was recessed at 3:29 p.m.

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Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk