

The Rock Island City Council met in Study Session at 5:50 p.m. in City Council Chambers at Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley presiding, and Aldermen Stephen L. Tollenaer, Charles O. Austin III and Ivory D. Clark. Also present were Interim City Manager Randy Tweet, Interim Public Works Director Larry Cook, other City staff and City Attorney Dave Morrison. Alderman Kate Hotle arrived at 5:54 p.m. and Alderman Joshua Schipp arrived at 5:56 p.m. Aldermen P.J. Foley and Virgil J. Mayberry were absent.

2016 STREET PROJECT UPDATE

Interim City Manager Randy Tweet stated he asked Interim Public Works Director Larry Cook to give an update on streets to show what was actually accomplished in 2016. Mr. Cook presented a summary of the 2016 Street Maintenance and Sidewalk Replacement Project. Mr. Cook stated a total of 108 blocks were completed utilizing different methods. Mr. Cook showed maps and before and after pictures throughout his presentation. The department's goal is to improve their documentation of street projects with more photos. The Public Works Department completed eleven (11) blocks with Alley Reclamite Spray; sixteen (16) blocks with Concrete Patching; and five (5) blocks with Asphalt Mill and Fill. Mr. Tweet said the department used to do spot repairs or one lane with the Asphalt Mill and Fill; now they do full widths of streets as needed. Mr. Cook said that thirteen (13) blocks were completed with Seal Coat and fifty-five (55) blocks completed with Hot In-Place Recycling. He said pictures were not available from the 2016 Hot In-Place Recycling projects, but he showed 2015 pictures. Mr. Cook stated that a total of eight (8) city blocks were done as full street reconstruction projects; four projects by an outside contractor and one project done in-house. The in-house project was done completely with city crews and equipment on 24th Avenue, east of 12th Street. There has been a problem with run-off coming from the parking lot at the high school. They put more of the underlayment down to address the run-off and subsequent icing issues. The coming years will be a true test of the reconstruction. Mr. Cook commended the employees of the Public Works Department for the excellent job done on the 24th Avenue full street reconstruction project.

Mr. Cook reported that the 2016 Sidewalk program completed work at fifty-six (56) locations using outside contractors. Mr. Cook showed before and after photos. The Public Works Department completed the sidewalk replacement at Circa 21 where there was a major tripping hazard. Alderman Austin commended Mr. Cook that it was done as economically as possible and without the fake brick. The other in-house sidewalk project completed was the City Hall parking ramp sidewalk. Mr. Cook displayed a map of all of the 2016 Street and Sidewalk projects; there were 108 blocks completed at 54 locations for both streets and sidewalks. A total of 92,945 square yards of street repairs and 13,800 square feet of sidewalk were completed. Municipal Services Superintendent Mike Bartels commented that in 2016, it was the most projects ever done. Mr. Tweet added it's the most done for street reconstructions.

Mr. Cook compared the typical costs of the in-house project completed on 24th Avenue, East of 12th Street: \$88/square yard if done by outside contractors; \$78/square yard if completed in-house for labor and materials; and \$36/square yard for in-house materials only. There is a very large cost savings when the project is done in-house.

Alderman Clark commented that the department did a wonderful job in the first ward and the citizens are happy.

CITY OF ROCK ISLAND HYDROPLANT UPDATE

Interim Public Works Director Larry Cook reviewed the history of the hydroplant. It was built in 1912 and donated to Augustana College in 1958; then in 1967, it was donated to the State of Illinois when it ceased production. In 1980, the hydroplant was purchased by Mitchell and Melba White and became known as the White Hydropower Company. They made repairs to the plant and resumed production in 1985 with a capacity of 600kW. In 2008, the plant was purchased by the City of Rock Island. Upgrades were completed by the City of Rock Island in 2010, including adding two generators and turbines, resulting in a new capacity of 1200 kW.

Mr. Cook then reviewed the production history of the plant. There has been a downward trend of production during the last few years. Mr. Cook explained that the higher the river levels, the lower the production from the plant. When it was purchased by the City, the annual estimate was that it would produce 6.5 million kW hours annually. Even in 2012, the best year of production, it has not reached that level of production; primarily due to the river levels and also some equipment issues.

Mr. Cook said the plant has averaged more production than the White Power Company with the exception of the last three years. In 2011 and 2012, it surpassed the maximum production of the previous twenty years. It has also surpassed the low production of the past twenty years. Mr. Cook then compared the bills of MidAmerican Energy. The hydroplant production of energy is split between the raw water pumping station, the wastewater treatment plant and the water treatment plant. Based on how much energy is produced, it goes on the grid and MidAmerican Energy credits the City back for the energy production to those three accounts. The goal was for the plant to fully support these three largest electricity consuming facilities and also provide partial support to other City facilities. Currently, the plant provides 19% of the electrical needs of the wastewater treatment plant; 14% of the raw water pumping station; and 14% of the water treatment plant. The MidAmerican Energy bills are reduced by the amount of the City credit.

Mr. Cook then reviewed the expenses, revenues and kW production since 2010. The 2016 numbers are not final. Projected 2017 revenue is \$200,000 with expenses at approximately \$348,000. Only ¼ staff person is budgeted/assigned to the plant. The plant still has debt service of general obligation bonds; the first one retiring in 2022 and the second one will be paid off in 2028.

Alderman Hotle asked how much the City paid for the plant. Interim City Manager Randy Tweet replied the City paid \$2.2 million for the plant; however, the majority of the cost is the debt service. Once the debt service is paid off, the plant costs very little to operate. This was discussed further. Mr. Tweet explained the high river levels of the last three years have reduced the production capacity of the plant; the plant is close to break-even. Alderman Austin cautioned that the Council should look at it as a long-term investment. Mr. Tweet and Alderman Austin discussed further. Mr. Cook stated that one of the assumptions when the plant was purchased was the annual sale of \$100,000 in Renewable Energy Certificates.

Mr. Cook reviewed recent mechanical issues with the plant. In early 2014, all four turbines were operational. In mid-March of 2014, they repaired the hydraulic system, which took several months to complete. In early 2015, the bearing on turbine #2 was replaced. In June 2015, MidAmerican Energy repaired their substation. The substation was down for a lengthy period. Mr. Cook noted that when the substation is down for repairs, the hydropower plant can't produce. In April 2016, the top bearing on turbine #4 was replaced. In August 2016, MidAmerican Energy made repairs to the substation following a storm outage. In November 2016, the pit was drained and the bearing inspected on turbine #1. Mr. Cook also noted that during this entire period (2014-2016), the river levels were high. Mr. Cook said there will be various maintenance issues in the coming years.

Alderman Austin asked about personnel for the plant. Mr. Cook said Bob Payne will be retiring in May. Mr. Cook reviewed the upcoming challenges for the plant: the retirement of Bob Payne; allocation of maintenance and monitoring duties; identification and solicitation of Renewable Energy Certificate purchases; assessment of overall building condition; continual improvements to the overall operation including minimizing maintenance costs and cross training of multiple staff members on preventative maintenance tasks; and assessing the advantages and disadvantages of moving the operation to the Utilities Division.

Alderman Hotle asked Mr. Cook for his recommendations regarding the hydropower plant. Mr. Cook replied that he likes that it is under the City's operation and production can be good when fully operational; however, there have been some transition issues regarding maintenance. Mr. Cook said he has been cross training wastewater and utilities employees to clean the plant and do the preventative maintenance. Mr. Cook discussed further. Mr. Cook said that until there are a couple of years without high river levels and good mechanical reliability, it will be hard to determine the plant's true potential. Alderman Austin discussed further how the plant is an asset to the City.

Alderman Schipp suggested finding an outside consultant with expertise in hydroelectric production to assist the City in thinking about the plant's long-term potential. He also applauded the Public Works Department's research in preparing the presentation. Alderman Schipp said the City is unique in having an asset of a hydropower plant. Mr. Cook responded they recently met an expert who owns several hydropower plants in Iowa and they will be meeting with him soon.

Alderman Tollenaer asked how much the plant is costing the City and the cost of the employees to maintain the plant. He thought the City should be looking at getting rid of the plant. He also said energy costs are going down. He would like to see ten years of expenses. Mr. Cook responded the City has had it running for seven years with the first four years with good production and the last three years being low production. Mr. Cook said that only 25% of one employee is charged to the plant. Mr. Tweet added that some weeks no maintenance is required at all with the plant.

Alderman Hotle said originally she was thinking the same thing as Alderman Tollenaer, but she is hearing that projections will change for the better. She thinks in five years the plant has the potential to be a huge benefit to the City. Mr. Tweet said the plant is dependent on the river levels. Alderman Austin commented that he thinks ten years ago, a kW cost two cents versus

seven cents purchased off the grid. His numbers would need to be verified. Further discussion followed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Alderman Clark and seconded by Alderman Austin at 6:20 p.m. 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 Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin and Alderman Clark; those voting No, none.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pauley reconvened the regular meeting at 6:26 p.m. A motion made by Alderman Schipp and seconded by Alderman Hotle to adjourn the meeting carried by the following Aye and No vote. Those voting aye being: Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin; Alderman Clark and Alderman Mayberry; those voting No, none. The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Judith H. Gilbert, City Clerk

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**January 16, 2017
MINUTES**

Rock Island City Council met in regular session at 6:45 p.m. in Council Chambers of Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley presiding, and Aldermen P.J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Kate Hotle, Joshua Schipp, Charles O. Austin III and Ivory D. Clark. Also present were Interim City Manager Randy Tweet and City Attorney Dave Morrison. Alderman Virgil J. Mayberry was absent.

Introductory Proceedings

Mayor Pauley called the meeting to order. He read a statement prepared by Alderman Mayberry; the contents of which follow:

“To Citizens of Rock Island, I, Virgil J. Mayberry, 2nd Ward Alderman, respectfully refused to meet tonight at our Council meeting, as it is a national holiday which we celebrated our 34th anniversary at the Martin Luther King Center today. We have MLK Park, MLK Parkway and the King Center. No other city has as much as Rock Island, but it is not a holiday for our city employees, me being one also. Our Public Works Department risk their lives for us. Our Park employees work when it is 100 degrees. All our employees deserve this day off with families. There is no school, no mail. I have directed our City Manager, Randy Tweet to look into changing this. We have a great city and we will make it greater. Justice is what Dr. King was about. Virgil J. Mayberry, 2nd Ward Alderman”

Mayor Pauley led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Alderman Schipp gave the Invocation.

Agenda Item #5

Minutes of the meeting of January 9, 2017.

It was moved by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Hotle to approve the Minutes of the meeting of January 9, 2017 as printed. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; 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 Dennis E. Pauley.

Community Crime Prevention Partnership Meeting – The Rock Island Police Department will be holding another educational meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. These meetings are intended to strengthen existing partnerships with the citizens of Rock Island so that we can continue to look at ways to prevent crime and improve our services. Attendees are encouraged to provide feedback on issues and concerns they may have and to offer input on policing strategies in Rock Island. It is our hope that the structure of these meetings will facilitate conversations between the citizens and the staff, and help us continue to improve upon the services we provide while also sharing important information that will be of benefit to everyone. For more information please call (309)732-2677.

Hot Rod and Custom Car Show – The QCCA Expo Center Rod and Custom Show takes place starting at QCCA Expo Center Friday, January 20, 2017 and continues through Sunday, January

22. Hours are Friday 1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. and Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. General admission is \$8.00. Children 6 and under are free. Friday is Military Day – Present your Military ID and receive free admission.

Winter/Spring Activity Guide – The new Winter/Spring activity guide from the Parks and Recreation Department is now out. Check out the many activities available including a Dad and Daughter Date Night, Murder Mystery Scavenger Hunt, bus trips (including the play, Hamilton, in Chicago) cooking classes, and many other events and activities. To see the complete listing of the many opportunities available go to www.rigov.org.

Building Success in Our Kids – The Rock Island Public Library will host a free public discussion on *Building Success in Our Kids* on Monday, January 23 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Rock Island Main Library, 401 19th Street. The free community forum is a follow up to a December visit to the Quad Cities by Professor Robert Putnam, author of *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis*. Plan to attend and join the discussion, guided by Dan McNeil, on successful methods to bridge the opportunity gap for all kids in our community.

Agenda Item #7

Presentation of Awards by Fire Chief for Recognition of Community Service.

Fire Chief Jeff Yerkey read the following statement; the contents of which follow:

“On behalf of the Rock Island Fire Department, I would like to take this opportunity to formally recognize local responders who have made a difference in saving the lives of seven of our community members who suffered a cardiac arrest event in 2016. In early February of 2016, the Fire Department revised its procedures in treating patients suffering from cardiac arrest. In the year prior to making these changes, our responders were getting a pulse back on only 7% of our cardiac arrest patients with a 0% survival rate. Following these changes, however, data from the past year shows our responders are now getting a pulse back on 73% of our cardiac arrest patients with a survival rate of 23%. The national average for survival rates, it should be noted, is 6%. I am proud to say that seven of our patients are now living longer lives because of the commitment our local responders made in implementing these new procedures.

A special thanks to the department’s EMS Coordinator, Lt. Chris Rogers, in recognizing a need for improvement, and who worked in collaboration with our EMS Medical Director, Dr. Michael Barr, and our EMS System Coordinator, Adam Sowell, to implement best practices in cardiac arrest care.”

Chief Yerkey and Mayor Pauley recognized the following with awards:

From the Rock Island Fire Department: FF (firefighter) Aaron Darwin, FF Chad Jacobs, FF Cody Bower, FF Cody Edwards, FF David Wolf, FF Jason Livengood, Lt. Joseph Duran, FF Justin Welvaert, FF Kevin Chan, Lt. Kyle Sebben, FF Mark Moore, FF Max McDermott, FF Nicholas Border, FF Scott Ketner, FF Shawn Shipley, FF Thomas Drummond (currently on deployment in Iraq), FF Corbin Ayers, Lt. Jason Leemans and Lt. Nicholas Thompson; from the Moline Fire Department: FF Colin Suiter and FF Anthony Brown; from the Rock Island Arsenal

Fire Department: FF Robert Ohms and FF Tim Weller; and from Rock Island High School: Erin Dempsey and Ann Mangelsdorf.

After the awards presentation, pictures were taken of the award recipients. Mayor Pauley thanked all the members of the departments for the excellent job they do every day.

Agenda Item #8

Presentation of the 2016 Holiday Lighting Awards.

Mayor Pauley stepped forward and Beautification Commission member Bob Towler joined Mayor Pauley at the podium to present the 2016 Holiday Lighting Awards. Mayor Pauley stated that this is the 31st annual Holiday Lighting Awards. The Mayor added that the contest is intended to recognize Rock Island residents and businesses that create seasonal displays that are enjoyed by many throughout the holidays. Mayor Pauley stated that the Commission toured over 45 nominated displays on the evening of December 19th. Mayor Pauley said that winners were selected in both residential and commercial categories. Mayor Pauley commented that each display was truly outstanding and the Commission would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's contest. A video presentation of the winning holiday displays accompanied the awards ceremony.

The third place residential winner was the Hansen family. The second place winner was Victor Boblett and the first place award winner was May Yazeji.

The third place commercial winner was Crawford Company. The second place winner was Caliber Home Loans and the first place award winner was Ms. Penny's Day Care.

After the awards, pictures were taken of the winners.

Agenda Item #9

Presentation of the 2016 Commercial Beautification Awards.

Mayor Pauley stepped forward and Beautification Commission member Bob Towler joined Mayor Pauley at the podium to present the 2016 Commercial Beautification Awards. Mayor Pauley stated that this program was created to honor business owners for their efforts in improving the facades and landscaping of their properties. Mayor Pauley added that this year, the Commission will honor four businesses with a traveling plaque or trophy. The Mayor said there were eight nominees and the quality of each project made the process difficult for the Commission. Mayor Pauley stated that each of this year's projects has helped to beautify the surrounding neighborhood of the businesses, and the City of Rock Island at large. Photos of the commercial beautification winners were shown during the awards presentation.

The Beautification Commission Award was presented to Rock Island Animal Hospital. The City Council Award was presented to Bridges Catering for the Stern Center. The Mayor's Choice Award was won by Holiday Inn. The Rotary Trophy Award was presented to Wheelan-Pressley Knox Chapel, the overall winner.

After the awards, pictures were taken of the winners.

Agenda Item #10

Proclamation declaring January, 2017 as National Mentoring Month.

Mayor Pauley read the proclamation. Karen Dahlstrom, Big Sister and Gabby, Little Sister, of Big Brothers Big Sisters accepted the proclamation. Ms. Dahlstrom, who works at Augustana College, shares lunch twice a month and does other fun activities with Little Sister Gabby, a 6th grader at the Rock Island Academy. Ms. Dahlstrom said the conversations she and Gabby have and the bond they share is special to both of them. Ms. Dahlstrom encouraged others to get involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Agenda Item #11

CLAIMS

It was moved by Alderman Schipp and seconded by Alderman Austin 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 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 \$819.98 to MidAmerican Energy for General Liability claim.
- b. Report from the Information Technology Department regarding payment in the amount of \$14,328.96 to DLT Solutions, Inc. of Herndon, VA for the Autodesk annual subscription maintenance.
- c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #4 and final in the amount of \$78,081.23 to Tri-City Blacktop, Inc. of Bettendorf, IA for the 38th Street and 18th Avenue resurfacing project for services provided from August 22, 2016 through January 6, 2017.

Agenda Item #12

Claims for the week of January 6 through January 12 in the amount of \$578,565.13.

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

Agenda Item #13

Report from the Parks and Recreation Department regarding a proposed amendment to Chapter 14, Article II, Section 14-17 of the Code of Ordinances as it relates to the number of Park Board members.

It was moved by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Tollenaer to approve the proposed amendment 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 Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin and Alderman Clark; those voting No, none; those abstaining, Alderman Hotle.

Agenda Item #14

Report from the Public Works Department regarding the revised Local Public Agency Agreement for Federal Participation for the 38th Street, 7th Avenue to Blackhawk Road resurfacing project.

It was moved by Alderman Schipp and seconded by Alderman Hotle to approve the revised Local Agency Agreement for Federal Participation as recommended and authorize the Mayor to execute the documents.

Discussion followed. Alderman Foley commented on two major street projects, 38th Street and 18th Avenue, which will be done this year. Mayor Pauley said the 18th Avenue project is one where all wards touch 18th Avenue. Alderman Schipp asked about the cost reduction and if the savings could be budgeted elsewhere. Interim City Manager Randy Tweet replied that half the cost of the project was budgeted this year and half budgeted for next year.

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

Agenda Item #15

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a request from Masco and Leticia Taliafero for a rezoning from an R-6 (multi-family residence) district to a B-3 (community business) district at 909 3rd Avenue.

It was moved by Alderman Clark and seconded by Alderman Austin to approve the rezoning 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 Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin and Alderman Clark; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #16

Other Business

Alderman Hotle stated the Martin Luther King Center hosted an event today and she wanted to thank MLK Director Jerry Jones as it was one of the best events she has attended in the last few years. The speaker's comments were excellent. The MLK Center went above and beyond in putting together the event.

Alderman Clark stated that it would be difficult to find another city like Rock Island that supports the MLK Center in the way that it does. He commented that there is no day off because

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**January 16, 2017
MINUTES**

city staff must negotiate through the unions; however, the City does care about Martin Luther King Day. Getting the holiday off does not start with the City Council. He further commented that we can disagree on some things, but we all respect the legacy of Martin Luther King.

Alderman Schipp echoed Alderman Clark's comments. He said the City Council meeting could be re-scheduled to the fourth Monday in January. Alderman Schipp attended Augustana College's MLK event. He said the Community Choir, directed by Marshall Glover, was extraordinary and Reverend Reginald Williams, Jr. delivered the sermon. Alderman Schipp further discussed the event.

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

Agenda Item #17

Executive Session on Personnel, Property Acquisition and Litigation.

An executive session was held prior to the meeting.

Agenda Item #18

Recess

A motion was made by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Austin to recess to 5:30 p.m., Monday, January 23, 2017. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin and Alderman Clark; those voting No, none. The meeting was recessed at 7:19 p.m.

Judith H. Gilbert, City Clerk