

The Rock Island City Council met in Study Session at 6:30 pm in City Council Chambers at Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley presiding, and Aldermen, P.J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Jason W. Jones, Joy Murphy, Charles O. Austin III, Terry M.A. Brooks I and David Conroy. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas, Public Works Director Bob Hawes, Parks and Recreation Director Bill Nelson, other City staff and City Attorney Ted Kutsunis.

PARKS AND RECREATION ORDINANCE DISCUSSION

Mayor Pauley inquired upon Parks and Recreation Director Bill Nelson to update Council on the amendment to the Parks and Recreation Ordinance. Mr. Nelson advised that this is in regards to having liquor at private rentals. Mr. Nelson stated that the intent of this amendment is to allow alcohol at small private rentals at Hauberg Civic Center and Schwiebert Riverfront Park. Mr. Nelson advised that it was determined this summer that with the number of rentals, the size was smaller. Mr. Nelson added that a private event would have approximately 100 guests, and they may want to have a champagne toast, a keg of beer or a minimal amount of liquor. It was noted that there was not a vendor willing to provide this service to the event due to dram shop insurance and the expense to get the vendor to come in and provide the service. Mr. Nelson commented that there wasn't enough money in it for the vendor.

Mr. Nelson advised that the State requirements were reviewed and the State does allow for a private event without a liquor license, if it is by invitation only and if the value is \$500.00 or less. Mr. Nelson added that further stipulations passed by the Parks and Recreation Board included; that the renter must purchase dram shop insurance covering them and the City; the renter must identify the process by which those under 21 are excluded from the access to liquor; and the Parks and Recreation Department determines the security needs of the event.

Alderman Conroy inquired as to how many people can be invited to a private event. Mr. Nelson responded that it would be up to 200 people.

Alderman Austin inquired that if City staff is present, will that cause an additional expense to the renter or is the rental fee large enough to absorb that expense. Mr. Nelson stated that if they are doing alcohol and even if it is gifted, there is a corkage fee on top of the regular fee to cover that. Mr. Nelson further commented that if the Park Board feels that security is needed, the security is at the renter's expense and not the City's expense.

Council discussed the security issue as it related to problems arising at the private events. It was noted that if an issue comes up at these events, and the renters are not following the agreement as stipulated then the police would be called to shut down the event.

Mayor Pauley advised that a paragraph was added to the ordinance in which after the event is approved by the Park Board, the application for a private rental is sent to the Liquor Commissioner's office no later than seven days prior to the event. It was noted that a letter from the Liquor Commissioner would then be issued to the applicant and the Police Department so that everyone would know that the event is being held.

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Council discussed private rentals as it related to the application process and time limits. Council also discussed facilities as it related to holding private events at Hauberg Civic Center and Schwiebert Riverfront Park.

Mayor Pauley commented that the word gifted in the ordinance is a State term, and there is no exchange of money at these private rentals.

Mayor Pauley noted that when Agenda Item #18 comes up for Council consideration this evening regarding the 10th Street and 7th Avenue area, Renaissance Rock Island President Brian Hollenback will give an update on the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP).

Mayor Pauley noted that an Executive Session on Personnel was not needed this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Conroy to adjourn the meeting carried by the following Aye and No vote. Those voting Aye being Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk

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, Jason W. Jones, Joy Murphy, Charles O. Austin III, Terry M.A. Brooks I and David Conroy. Also present was City Manager Thomas Thomas.

Introductory Proceedings

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

Agenda Item #5

Minutes of the Meeting of October 17, 2011.

A motion was made by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderman Foley to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of October 17, 2011. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #6

Update Rock Island by Mayor Pauley.

Mayor Pauley introduced Mr. Thomas Thomas as the new City Manager to everyone. Mr. Thomas advised that he is looking forward to the first meeting with the Mayor and City Council. Mr. Thomas added that he is very happy to be here.

Mayor Pauley stated that Fright Night in The District is a Halloween event just for kids, which will be held on Thursday, October 27, 2011 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm in The District, downtown Rock Island. It was noted that Rock Island Parks and Recreation, Rock Island County Area Project, and The District are proud to present a Halloween themed evening of 'Dancing in the Dark' for children, with a free treat bag for the first 1,000 kids. Mayor Pauley advised that Fright Night will have a costume contest, match game and scary stories. It was noted that District businesses will have trick-or-treating and activities just for kids. Mayor Pauley offered that various community agencies will be on hand with crafts, activities, novelties, treats, and information. It was noted that the event is free to the public.

Mayor Pauley advised that a costume contest will be held for children up to 14 years of age. It was noted that registration for the costume contest is from 5:00 pm to 7:15 pm, judging will take place during that time, and awards will be announced at 7:45 pm on the Great River Plaza Stage. Mayor Pauley offered that the costume categories include: scary, creative, adorable, glamorous, best pair or group and best character. It was noted that there are six winners in each of the six categories.

Mayor Pauley indicated that the businesses in the vicinity of 30th Street and 14th Avenue will host their 2nd annual Halloween Walk on Wednesday, October 26th from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. It was noted that kids and adults can enjoy trick or treating, Halloween crafts, Halloween games,

specials and coupons, fall family pictures, face painting, karaoke, learn the Thriller Dance, popcorn, spooky music, holiday fitness and ghost stories.

Mayor Pauley advised that Sewer System Smoke Testing will be conducted between October 24th and October 28th in an effort to identify sources of rainwater and ground water entering the sewer system. The Mayor added that the smoke testing is one portion of the City's Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan. It was noted that the smoke testing will help the City locate defects in the sewer system that allows rainwater and groundwater to flow to Rock Island's Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Mayor stated that currently, the inflow of rainwater and groundwater causes sewer backups and street flooding. It was noted that the City of Rock Island has authorized Symbiont, an engineering consulting firm to conduct the testing. Mayor Pauley offered that smoke testing will be conducted in the area of 38th to 45th Street from 5th to 6th Avenue. It was noted that residents in the area being tested will see Symbiont and City staff in their neighborhood. The Mayor commented that all staff working in the area will wear City or company identification.

Agenda Item #7

Public Hearing on a request from Route Six Equity Growth Corporation (former Aqualetic Swim Club property) for an amendment to a Special Use Permit to identify the corporation as the new owner, continue the four approved dwelling units and lease the former first floor clubhouse facility for professional office space with a 12 square foot attached unlighted sign for the office use at 3204 27th Avenue.

Mayor Pauley closed the regular meeting at 6:51pm and opened a Public Hearing on a request from the Route Six Equity Growth Corporation (former Aqualetic Swim Club property) for an amendment to a Special Use Permit to identify the corporation as the new owner, continue the four approved dwelling units and lease the former first floor clubhouse facility for professional office space with a 12 square foot attached unlighted sign for the office use at 3204 27th Avenue.

Mr. Ben Yegge of 19043 250th Avenue, Bettendorf, Iowa stepped forward.

Mayor Pauley swore in Mr. Yegge.

Mr. Yegge stated that Route Six Equity Growth Corporation bought the property in an effort to clean it up. It was noted that the initial intent was to rehab the pools. However, the bids were extremely expensive. Mr. Yegge stated that the decision was made to tear the pools out, which has already been completed. Mr. Yegge indicated that the intent now is to rehab the three apartment units above the former clubhouse and continue to lease the house. Mr. Yegge noted that the pool area will become a greenspace. Mr. Yegge stated that Route Six Equity Growth Corporation asked in the Special Use Permit to open up a professional office space in the lower level that is currently the clubhouse. However, Mr. Yegge indicated that he wasn't sure what was going to happen with the lower level at this time. It was noted that Mr. Yegge put this item in the Special Use Permit in case the office idea came into being. Mr. Yegge offered that another idea would be to rehab the lower level and make it into apartments.

Mr. Yegge offered that City staff would approve the apartments and rental of the house, but objected to the lower level being used as a business due to increased traffic in a congested area.

Mayor Pauley inquired as to whether Mr. Yegge was asking for the professional office space at this time. Mr. Yegge responded yes, but if the Route Six Equity Growth Corporation has to ask for another Special Use Permit when someone actually comes to the corporation and asks for the space, then the corporation would be willing to come back to Council.

Council discussed this issue as it related to parking spaces at the location, signs and traffic. Council also discussed the main building as it related to possible future office space.

Alderman Austin inquired upon staff as to whether the Council has the right to approve the intended business considering the nature of this Special Use Permit or would it come back to Council.

Planning and Redevelopment Administrator Alan Carmen stated that typically through the Special Use Permit process, the specifics would be known such as the nature of the business, its hours of operation, the number of employees, details about signage and specific number of parking spaces associated with the use. Mr. Carmen noted that in this case, the specifics are not known and that is why staff recommended denying the portion regarding the office space and signage.

Mayor Pauley inquired as to whether there was anyone who wished to speak in favor of the Special Use Permit application. No one stepped forward.

Mayor Pauley inquired as to whether there was anyone who wished to speak in opposition to the Special Use Permit application.

Mr. Bob Steeber of 2628 32nd Street stepped forward. Mr. Steeber stated that he didn't fully oppose the Special Use Permit but was concerned about snow removal, traffic and parking. Mr. Steeber reminded the owner that 27th Avenue going to the west is a dedicated driveway and these people have the right of way coming down, turning left and going north on 32nd St. Mr. Steeber also had concerns in regards to whether the new owners would have to come back to Council if they convert the main recreational area of that building into apartments.

Mayor Pauley stated yes, that any change to what they have at this time would require them to come back to Council.

With no other person present to speak in favor of or in opposition to the Special Use Permit application, Mayor Pauley closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the regular meeting at 7:06 pm.

Alderman Conroy moved to allow the amendment to the Special Use Permit and Alderman Tollenaer seconded.

Alderman Conroy inquired upon Mr. Carmen as to whether Council was allowed by way of the Special Use Permit Ordinance to approve something that has not really been there before in regards to the professional office space.

Mr. Carmen stated that in his opinion based on past practices of what a Special Use Permit is and the specifics that are tied to the use, there is no identified specific use; it's all speculation.

After more discussion regarding whether or not this is a specific use concerning the proposed professional office space area, Mayor Pauley advised that Route Six Equity Growth Corporation would have to come back to Council anyway because the public has to have an opportunity to determine whether or not they want this type of business there.

Alderman Conroy then clarified his motion, which was to approve the continued use that the owner already has.

The original clarified motion follows:

It was moved by Alderman Conroy and seconded by Alderman Tollenaer to approve the amendment to the Special Use Permit to identify the new owner, continue to allow the four dwelling units 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 Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #8

A Special Ordinance vacating a segment of 13th Avenue between Mill Street and the Iowa Interstate Railroad Tracks.

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

Agenda Item #9

A Special Ordinance establishing Type B residential permit parking only area on the west side of 15th Street from 13th Avenue to 15th Avenue.

It was moved by Alderman Tollenaer and seconded by Alderman Foley to consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinance. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #10
CLAIMS

It was moved by Alderman Austin and 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 Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

- a. Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding payment in the amount of \$2,254.18 to Katz, Huntoon and Fieweger for General Liability judgment order for Kenneth Hollie - Ivy.
- b. Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding payment in the amount of \$598.00 to Anne Loftin for General Liability claim.
- c. Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding payment in the amount of \$739.18 to Gary Pheiffer for General Liability claim.
- d. Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding payment in the amount of \$4,875.23 to Kutsunis and Weng for legal services rendered for the month of October.
- e. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #3 in the amount of \$67,621.23 to Valley Construction for services provided for the Rock Island Parkway Improvements project. (297)
- f. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #2 in the amount of \$133,735.16 to Walter D. Laud, Inc. for services provided for the 46th Street, 29th Avenue and 47th Street Court Reconstruction project. (298)

Agenda Item #11

Claims for the week of October 14 through October 20 in the amount of \$1,982,908.50.

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

Agenda Item #12

Payroll for the weeks of October 3 through October 16 in the amount of \$1,214,629.09.

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

Agenda Item #13

Report from the Public Works Department regarding the GSA contract purchase of a 2012 Godwin eight inch water pump and one three inch electric submersible pump along with control panels and floats from Godwin Pumps of America, Inc. in the amount of \$36,528.80.

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

Agenda Item #14

Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the 2011 Tree Trimming/Removal contract, recommending the bid be awarded to All Around Tree Service in the amount of \$38,200.00.

It was moved by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy 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 Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #15

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding bids for the Ridgewood Road Wetlands Compensation project, recommending the bid be awarded to Langman Construction in the amount of \$188,002.81, and an agreement with Valdom Corporation for their share of the wetlands compensation costs.

Alderman Conroy moved and Alderman Foley seconded to award the bid to Langman as recommended, approve the agreement with Valdom 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 Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy, those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #16

Report from the Police Department regarding a Covert Vehicle Rental contract with Wag's Auto Center, recommending a one year renewal expiring March 31, 2013 at the prices quoted in the existing contract.

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

Agenda Item #17

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a request from Jeff and Carrie Lantz to vacate a dead - end segment of 22nd Avenue east of 46th Street to the border with Moline.

Alderman Austin moved and Alderman Foley seconded to approve the vacation as recommended and refer to the City Attorney for an ordinance.

Discussion followed. Alderwoman Murphy inquired about the procedure for the vacation and if any fees were involved.

Planning and Redevelopment Administrator Alan Carmen advised that there is a nominal fee to record the ordinance at the courthouse and the only other expense would be related to Public Works that may come into play.

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

Agenda Item #18

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding the review of a six lot major Final Plat and Site Plan of the Old Chicago Redevelopment Subdivision located at 10th Street and 7th Avenue.

It was moved by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Conroy to approve the final plat as recommended.

Discussion followed. Mayor Pauley inquired upon Renaissance Rock Island President Brian Hollenback to update Council on the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). Mr. Hollenback distributed handouts of elevations of the homes that are on the proposed site plan.

Mr. Hollenback advised that Rock Island's portion of the \$18.5 million dollars of NSP2 funds from HUD was approximately \$10 million dollars that is targeted to build new construction, which is consistent with the New Old Chicago Neighborhood Plan. Mr. Hollenback added that this would be subject to Council's approval this evening for six homes placed out for bid. Mr. Hollenback commented that one of the homes being built is at 1042 17th Street and the other home will be located on 19th Street after the demolition of some blighted properties. Mr. Hollenback advised that this is identified as the first phase.

Mr. Hollenback indicated that by concentrating six homes together in the first phase, then as the sales proceeds as program income comes back in, that will allow for the building of other properties.

Mr. Hollenback pointed out that last week the monitoring letter from HUD was received and GROWTH was ranked as a high performer. It was noted that 50% of the funds need to be spent by February. Mr. Hollenback stated that everything is on target.

Mr. Hollenback advised that in regards to Jackson Square, a walk through will be scheduled soon during an upcoming Study Session, and that will complete approximately \$5.7 million in Neighborhood Stabilization dollars. Mr. Hollenback stated that seven homes have already been sold and closed on that were previously vacant, abandoned or foreclosed. Mr. Hollenback added that two homes are under contract with one closing on Thursday and the other one closing on November 11th and eight are under construction permits.

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

Agenda Item #19

Report from the Parks and Recreation Department regarding an amendment to the Parks and Recreation Ordinance related to "gifting" of liquor for private rentals.

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

Agenda Item #20

Report from the City Clerk regarding a request for an activity permit from Rock Island High School for Saturday, November 5, 2011 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm for their annual corner can collections for the Student Hunger Drive.

It was moved by Alderman Conroy and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to approve the activity permit as recommended.

Discussion followed with Alderman Foley stating that he lives near the high school, and every year, Rock Island High School goes through the neighborhood and puts a bag on every neighbor's door asking the neighbor to give canned goods. Alderman Foley advised that this is a great partnership for the school district and neighborhood to work together.

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

Agenda Item #21

Items from the City Manager's Memorandum Packet.

City Manager Thomas did not have any items to discuss.

Alderman Austin stated that the Rock Island Library's event, Food for Thought is coming up a week from Thursday. Alderman Austin stated that this is a wonderful opportunity for a good cause.

Library Director Ava Ketter stated that the fee for the Food for Thought event is \$25.00 per individual or \$45.00 per couple. It was noted that reservations are not required but are appreciated. Ms. Ketter advised to call Amy at 732-7302 for reservations. Ms. Ketter offered that there will be music and food and it will be a great time. It was noted that this is a Library fundraiser.

Alderman Austin congratulated Brandy Donaldson from the Argus/Dispatch newspaper on her award winning work for the report on immigrant families.

Alderwoman Murphy reminded everyone to Shop Rock Island. Alderwoman Murphy stated that the Rock Island Library will hold their Food for Thought event on Thursday, November 3rd. Alderwoman Murphy stated that there will be a silent auction featuring repurposed book art, unique gifts, 50 signed books, live music and food. Alderwoman Murphy encouraged everyone to sign up for the event.

Alderwoman Murphy commented that her niece will be performing on Dancing with the Stars next week as their inspirational dancer of the year. It was noted that Alderwoman Murphy's niece is currently with Ballet Quad Cities. Alderwoman Murphy stated that each year, Dancing with the Stars chooses a dancer that has overcome extraordinary obstacles to continue dancing. Alderwoman Murphy encouraged everyone to tune in next week.

Agenda Item #22

Other Business

Mr. Vince Thomas of 1000 21st Street stepped forward. Mr. Thomas voiced concerns regarding the Rock Island Library closing for six furlough days in regards to the lack of funds, and class issues as it related to equality in regards to closing the library for furlough days.

Alderwoman Murphy explained that the reason for furlough days was due to budget issues. Alderwoman Murphy pointed out that rather than cut staff, the library employees got together and asked for furlough days. It was noted that the library staff didn't want anyone to lose their job. Alderwoman Murphy stated that it was a wonderful gesture for the library employees to come forward and do that.

Alderman Foley discussed Mr. Thomas's comment concerning the class issue.

Agenda Item #23

Executive Session on Personnel.

The Executive Session on Personnel was not held.

Agenda Item #24

Recess

A motion was made by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to recess to Monday, November 7, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote:

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

The meeting was recessed at 7:45 p.m.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk