

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 Jason W. Jones, Joy Murphy, Charles O. Austin III, Terry M.A. Brooks I, David Conroy, P.J. Foley and Stephen L. Tollenaer. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas, Parks and Recreation Director Bill Nelson, New Finance Director Cindy Parchert, Budget Coordinator Don Reichert, Accounting Supervisor Linda Johnson and other City staff.

PARKS AND RECREATION PRESENTATION

Parks and Recreation Director Bill Nelson stated that staff and the Park Board are reviewing the mission statements in preparation for this new budget year. Mr. Nelson pointed out that the field of Park and Recreation is a social science. It was noted that work is a trade of value for value. Mr. Nelson stated that leisure is time not required for supporting life and recreation is an exchange of time for the purpose of a benefit. Mr. Nelson explained that Parks and Recreation has always been a social service that provides benefits to the community. Mr. Nelson further discussed benefits and values as it related to Parks and Recreation and the community.

Mr. Nelson then presented a timeline of how recreation has changed in the United States over a period of time. It was noted that up until 2002, the primary value was based on money. Mr. Nelson indicated that in 2002, values began to change and it was based on time. Mr. Nelson further discussed the changes that have occurred over the years as it related to Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Nelson then discussed fees. It was noted that Parks and Recreation has always had fee policies defined in categories, which include; basic service, fee assisted, fee supported, enterprise, sponsorship and asset trade. Mr. Nelson indicated that all of these fee policies are utilized to identify how the programs will be done and what programs will be supported. Mr. Nelson further discussed the fee policies.

Mr. Nelson indicated that as programs are looked at for the upcoming year, Parks and Recreation will adhere to the programming principles, which include; identifying age groups or target groups and current needs; identifying the primary values that the group or individual is trading and the benefits that the group or individual is looking for now and in the future. Mr. Nelson pointed out that Parks and Recreation will also be using several guidelines. Mr. Nelson stated that staff and the Park Board will build policy and programs around the vision, mission, values, programming principles and benefits. It was noted that if a task or activity does not provide the identified principles or ranks low on those principles then that is a reason to review for reduction, dropping or changing it to provide greater values. Mr. Nelson stated that it is important to remember that values and benefit desires can change quickly with the economy or social service demand.

Mr. Nelson had concerns that the recreational social service ethic is bottoming out. Mr. Nelson further discussed this matter.

Council and Mr. Nelson discussed recreational programming as it related to RIFAC expansion and Whitewater Junction. Council also discussed the impact on parks as it related to maintenance costs, revenues and value.

PROPOSED TAX LEVY DISCUSSION

Budget Coordinator Don Reichert advised that the 2012/2013 budget process is underway. Mr. Reichert noted that the process began in September and in November, meetings were held. It was noted that at that time, the General Fund deficit was identified. Mr. Reichert stated that the individual departments were asked for recommendations and/or budget changes to help make up the shortfall. Mr. Reichert added that at this time, the City is in the second round of budget reviews.

Mr. Reichert advised that the next step in the budget process is the Property Tax Levy. Mr. Reichert indicated that the intent is for Council to consider the Property Tax Levy tonight and then it will be placed on the December 19th Agenda for passage. It was noted that the Property Tax Levy has to be passed prior to the end of the year. Mr. Reichert commented that the Property Tax Levy has to be turned in to Rock Island County by December 31, 2011.

Mr. Reichert stated that the recommendation from the Finance Department is to go with a 4.99% Property Tax Levy. It was noted that this does increase the levy from the 2.4092 rate to 2.5099%. Mr. Reichert commented that this is just a tentative number and noted that it is certainly the intent of City Manager Thomas and the budget review committee if at all possible to maintain the property tax rate. Mr. Reichert added that the City needs to have that flexibility and this is why the 4.99% increase is recommended at this time.

Council and Mr. Reichert further discussed the Property Tax Levy.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 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 Jason W. Jones, Joy Murphy, Charles O. Austin III, Terry M.A. Brooks I, David Conroy, P. J. Foley and Stephen L. Tollenaer. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas and City Attorney Ted Kutsunis.

Introductory Proceedings

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

Agenda Item #5

Minutes of the Meeting of December 5, 2011.

A motion was made by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Tollenaer to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of December 5, 2011. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #6

Update Rock Island by Mayor Pauley.

Mayor Pauley advised that Friday, December 9, 2011 was Barkan's Day in the City of Rock Island to honor the 65 years that the company has been in business in downtown Rock Island. Mayor Pauley stated that Barkan's exemplifies the qualities inherent in businesses that continually show excellence in services to their customers and in their business practices. The Proclamation declared that "Rock Island is proud to have Barkan's as a rock solid, Rock Island business." It was noted that last month, Barkan's clothing store at 1709 2nd Avenue, celebrated its 65th anniversary as downtown Rock Island's longest-standing retail store.

Mayor Pauley indicated that the Martin Luther King Center and Kiwanis Club of Rock Island are sponsoring the 35th annual Children's Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 14th. The Mayor added that the program provides wrapped gifts, books and treats for Rock Island/Milan children, ages 3 to 12 years, whose families are in need of assistance during the holiday season. Mayor Pauley stated that interested parents need to register at the King Center. It was noted that registration is required.

Mayor Pauley advised that Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation (GROWTH) announced that applications are now available for anyone interested in living at Jackson Square, Rock Island's newest housing development. It was noted that Jackson Square is situated at the foot of the Arsenal Bridge. The Mayor indicated that this \$8.8 million dollar adaptive reuse project has been named after the previous owners of the building as a tribute to their involvement in the history of Jackson Square, a circa 1922 local landmark.

Mayor Pauley stated that GROWTH installed five "Coming Soon" signs in each new infill housing location located in the New Old Chicago neighborhood off 7th Avenue along 10th Street. It was noted that GROWTH is expecting to break ground for these new single family homes in March 2012. The Mayor commented that more than \$5 million dollars will be invested in the New Old Chicago neighborhood, demolishing dilapidated structures, replacing obsolete infrastructure and building new infill housing. It was noted that a new park across 9th Street from the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center is also planned for 2012. The Mayor stated that the New Old Chicago area will see more than \$13 million dollars in improvements between 2006 and 2012.

Agenda Item #7

A Special Ordinance providing for the purchase of three (3) 2012 Ford Medtec ambulances and allowing for the 2001 Ford Medtec ambulances to be declared as surplus and traded-in.

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

Agenda Item #8

CLAIMS

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

- a. Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding payment in the amount of \$31,437.78 to Crawford and Company for Worker's Compensation settlement for Charles Dole.
- b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #12 in the amount of \$265,269.74 to General Constructors, Inc. for services provided for the Public Works street garage project. (340)
- c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #14 in the amount of \$4,668.00 to the Treasurer of the State of Illinois for the City's share of the IL 92 resurfacing from 38th Street to the Moline border project. (341)

Agenda Item #9

Claims for the week of December 2 through December 8 in the amount of \$2,068,267.27.

Alderman Jones moved and Alderman Austin seconded to allow the claims. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman

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

Agenda Item #10

Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the purchase of water treatment chemicals, recommending the bid for each of the water treatment chemicals listed in the report in the total amount of \$581,625.60.

It was moved by Alderman Conroy and seconded by Alderman Tollenaer to award the bids as recommended and authorize purchase in 2012. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #11

Report from the Fire Department regarding bids for the purchase of new radio equipment for upgrading the Fire Department radio system, recommending the bid be awarded to Gem Electronics in the amount of \$19,550.00.

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

Agenda Item #12

Report from the Fire Department regarding bids for the repair of stone fascia panels at Fire Station #2, recommending the bid be awarded to Bi-State Masonry in the amount of \$8,000.00.

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

Agenda Item #13

Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding a Special Ordinance providing for the eighth cable extension of the cable franchise agreement through March 31, 2012.

Alderman Tollenaer moved and Alderman Austin seconded to consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinance.

Discussion followed with Alderman Foley inquiring as to when the City will have a resolution to this issue.

Administrative Services Director John Thorson advised that Azavar is currently conducting the audit on behalf of the City with Mediacom. Mr. Thorson indicated that there are three outstanding issues, which include; simple interest, the transfer agreement and issues over fees and unrepresented addresses. Mr. Thorson advised that he is confident that there will be a resolution by the end of March 2012.

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

Agenda Item #14

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a request from the Knowledge Learning Corporation (KinderCare) for a Riverfront Corridor Overlay District site plan review for a proposed lighted freestanding sign with low landscaping in the north front yard at 3316 Blackhawk Road.

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

Agenda Item #15

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a request from Karpeles Manuscript Library to apply for a Special Use Permit to operate a manuscript library museum at the former First Church of Christ, Scientist at 700 22nd Street.

Alderman Jones moved and Alderman Conroy seconded to allow for the application of the Special Use Permit as recommended.

Alderman Jones commented that this is a great opportunity for Rock Island.

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

Agenda Item #16

Report from General Administration regarding the appointment of Cindy Parchert to the position of Finance Director effective January 9, 2012.

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

Agenda Item #17

Report from the Mayor regarding the appointment of Cindy Parchert to City Treasurer to fill an unexpired term beginning January 9, 2012 to April 30, 2013.

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

Agenda Item #18

Other Business

Alderman Austin advised that something happened quietly earlier this fall to beautify the community and that was the lighting of the dome on Old Main at Augustana's campus.

Alderman Austin stated that there are only 12 shopping days until Christmas and encouraged everyone to shop Rock Island.

Alderman Foley stated that several weeks ago, he was able to attend the Rock Island Auction Company's debut of their show on the Discovery Channel. Alderman Foley stated that it is a great facility. Alderman Foley commented that it is a great time to go out and celebrate what is happening in the Southwest corridor.

Alderman Brooks discussed an e-mail he received in regards to a video concerning individuals expressing themselves. Alderman Brooks stated that individuals have a right to self expression as long as it does not break the law.

Alderman Conroy agreed and advised that part of the same e-mail indicated as to how tax dollars could be used for something like this. Alderman Conroy assured everyone that this was a private production someone did. Alderman Conroy added that the City had no input and was not consulted, and the City should not be consulted. Alderman Conroy commented that people have the right to say anything and produce any kind of work they so desire.

Mr. Timothy Dooling of 832 14 ½ Street stepped forward. Mr. Dooling discussed the video and controversy over his comments at the October 10, 2011 Council meeting. Mr. Dooling stated that a portion of the tape was redacted before it was placed on the internet.

Mayor Pauley advised that before the video was replayed on that Wednesday night, that portion (Mr. Dooling's comments) of the tape was redacted on Tuesday, October 11th. The Mayor added that the last portion of that tape was removed.

After more discussion regarding whether or not an original or copy of the tape was given to Hy-Vee and what constitutes public information in regards to the Freedom of Information Act, the Mayor was advised by City Attorney Kutsunis to not respond to these questions. After more discussion, Mr. Dooling formally requested access to a copy of the original unredacted videotape of the October 10, 2011 Council meeting.

Mr. Tim Sparkman of 3700 15th Street stepped forward. Mr. Sparkman voiced concerns regarding curfew laws and CORA in the City of Rock Island. Mr. Sparkman stated that his son was issued a \$75.00 curfew ticket in November; he was pulled over for speeding and the car was towed and stored. Mr. Sparkman added that the total cost was \$505.00. Mr. Sparkman stated that his biggest complaint is that the punishment does not fit the crime. Mr. Sparkman noted that he contacted other municipalities on how they handle curfew in their communities. Mr. Sparkman further discussed that issue.

Alderman Foley stated that he would like to have a Study Session to review CORA and look at fines and towing.

City Manager Thomas stated that he is prepared to schedule a work session on this matter.

Alderman Brooks advised that there are certain rules that have to be followed. Alderman Brooks inquired upon Police Chief Scott Harris to respond to this issue.

Mayor Pauley stated that this matter is under investigation and the details of the case cannot be discussed. Chief Harris stated that he could not talk about the facts of the case; it will go through the court system.

Chief Harris noted that no minor under the age of 17 can be out past 11:00 pm on Sunday through Thursday and midnight on Friday and Saturday.

Chief Harris discussed CORA and curfew laws. Chief Harris stated that according to the City's ordinances, there are seven reasons that a minor can be out after curfew, which include; being accompanied by the minor's parent or guardian; running errands with the permission of the parent or guardian without any detour or stop; engaged in an employment activity, or going to or returning home from an employment activity; involved in an emergency; attending an official school, religious, or other recreational activity supervised by adults; exercising first amendment rights; or married or had been married or is an emancipated minor.

Chief Harris advised that if curfew doesn't kick in then CORA doesn't kick in; and CORA is only if driving a vehicle is involved. Chief Harris further discussed curfew as it related to tickets being issued and CORA laws.

Alderman Foley stated that the City would contact Mr. Sparkman when a Study Session is scheduled in regards to curfew and CORA. Council further discussed CORA and curfew regulations.

Agenda Item #19

Executive Session on Personnel.

A motion was made by Alderman Foley, seconded by Alderman Jones at 7:29 p.m. to recess to Executive Session on matters of Personnel. The motion carried on a roll call vote. Those voting Aye being Alderman Jones, Alderman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**December 12, 2011
MINUTES**

Agenda Item #20

Recess

Mayor Pauley reconvened the regular meeting at 7:42 p.m. A motion was made by Alderman Conroy and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to recess to Monday, December 19, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley and Alderman Tollenaer; those voting No, none.

The meeting was recessed at 7:43 p.m.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk