

Note: The Study Session did not include an Executive Session discussing Personnel and Litigation at 6:30 pm; these items were held after the Regular Meeting.

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 Joy Murphy, David Conroy, P. J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer and Jason W. Jones. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas and City Attorney Ted Kutsunis. Aldermen Charles O. Austin III and Terry M.A. Brooks I were absent.

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 December 19, 2011.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Murphy and seconded by Alderman Conroy to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of December 19, 2011. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer and Alderman Jones; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #6

State of the City Address by Mayor Dennis E. Pauley.

Mayor Pauley gave the State of the City Address; the contents of which follow:

City of Rock Island 2012 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

I would like to take a moment to recognize a very dedicated team of City Council members. First Ward -Terry Brooks; Second Ward - David Conroy; Third Ward - P. J. Foley; Fourth Ward – Steve Tollenaer, Fifth Ward – Jason Jones, Sixth Ward – Joy Murphy and Seventh Ward – Chuck Austin. This team puts in a lot of hours working for the citizens of Rock Island. In these tough economic times, our Council members are charged with making some very tough decisions on the immediate and future needs of the City.

As you all know, we had some changes in leadership this past year when City Manager John Phillips and Finance Director Bill Scott both retired after serving over 24 and 32 years respectfully. Their leaving left large gaps to be filled. We received over 60 applications for the City Manager position and after intensive research and interviews; the members of the City Council selected Mr. Thomas Thomas from Macon, Georgia. Mr. Thomas has already proven himself to be an excellent choice and we look forward to him being here for many years to come. As one of his first official acts in his new capacity, Mr. Thomas interviewed several candidates

and ultimately chose Ms. Cynthia Parchert to be the City's new Finance Director and City Treasurer.

As everyone is well aware, 2011 was an extremely difficult financial year. This next year and probably the next several years as well, are going to be filled with challenges. In late November, we were informed that the Community Development Block Grant Funds we receive annually from the Federal Government would be cut by another \$129,000 to \$130,000. Mr. Thomas and his leadership team are already working diligently on the budget to overcome these shortfalls. They have scheduled two sessions in February and March to review the proposed budget with the City Council and we expect some very tough decisions will have to be made at that time. We will continue to take a very close look at staffing when positions come open to see if they can be consolidated or eliminated completely. The charge not to just City Council and staff, but to everyone, is that we all need to do more with less. The City of Rock Island will continue to maintain our financial reserves and to pay our obligations on time. We will continue to fully fund our pension obligations and will continue to carry our solid Aa2 credit rating with Moody's Investment Services.

In these tough economic times, we need to access all of the Federal and State grants possible and the City of Rock Island has a team that does an exceptional job for us. In the past year, we have received Federal grants totaling over \$3.5 million and State grants totaling over \$3.9 million.

Projects that received Federal Funding include:

- Economic Development Administration Grant - \$1.5 million to cover ½ of the cost of the new business park in Southwest Rock Island
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Revolving Loan Fund Grant - \$500,000 for Brownfield site environmental assessments
- Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program Grant - \$6,480 to cover ½ of the cost of new bulletproof vests purchased by the Police Department
- Transient Boat Dock Grant - \$1.5 million

State Grants received in 2011 include:

- Elderly Services Officer Program grant - \$19,500
- Historic Preservation Grant for the website - \$7,382
- Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program - \$52,860
- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Revolving Loan Fund – we received a \$128,879 grant and \$309,676 in a low interest loan to upgrade store / treat basins
- Illinois Environment Protection Agency Revolving Loan Fund – we received a \$2.5 million grant and \$17.5 million in a low interest loan to cover the first portion of the \$45 million expansion of the Wastewater Treatment Plant
- IKE Grant – we received \$750,000 to cover a portion of the 6th Avenue relief sewer project
- Turkey Hollow Road bridge reconstruction – we received \$470,000 towards this project.

Besides those grants just mentioned, the City of Rock Island was also able to invest over \$1.2 million of gaming revenues in street maintenance contracts. The largest single investment was the Ridgewood Road intersection on the Rock Island Parkway totaling \$560,000, but the many smaller projects were also completed throughout the City.

Rock Island also saw several other major projects in 2011, including:

- The completion of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center - \$3,590,000
- 14th Street water tower replacement - \$880,000
- Completion of the City's new municipal garage - \$4,500,000
- The relocation and expansion at Rock Island Auction Company
- Rock Island Housing Authority's Cascade Gardens housing complex
- Grand Opening of Jackson Square apartments
- Phase One completion of Augustana's Old Main, along with their 150th anniversary.
- And construction has already begun on the \$45 million Wastewater Treatment Plant

We continue to work with Brian Hollenback and his excellent team of professionals at Renaissance Rock Island. In 2011, \$14.5 million was invested directly into Rock Island neighborhoods and 29 abandoned, foreclosed and vacant homes were purchased with neighborhood stabilization dollars. Of that number, 16 homes are completed, 10 have been sold, 8 are under construction and one is out to bid. 2012 will bring five new homes built in the Old Chicago redevelopment subdivision and an additional two new homes built in the Broadway Historic District. In addition to the reconstructed homes, 49 blighted structures have been demolished in 2011.

Through October, 2011, overall crime is down 8% compared to 2010 and as I hope you are all aware, the 2010 crime rate was very low compared to previous years. As with any effort to reduce crime, it takes a professional police department and the assistance and support of the community and elected officials. The crime rate has been reduced because everyone is working together. We will continue to partner with other criminal justice agencies towards pursuing violent and often times drug related investigations.

We asked Jerry Jones, Executive Director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center to take a close look at the recommendations of the Safer Communities Task Force for additional measures we can take to work with our youth. It was determined we did not need to create a new program; the United Way already had a program in place called Achieve Quad Cities. After talking with the school district representatives and the United Way, we began to promote the program with a focus on Rock Island and a goal of helping to keep our students in school. I have been making presentations to local organizations and corporate CEOs urging them and their employees to participate in one of the programs, either job shadowing, as mentors or as classroom presenters. Even though we have excellent school systems in Rock Island, both public and private, we still have about 50 students a year that drop out of school. I don't have to tell you what their future will be without an education. I urge everyone to get involved in their schools and help our youth.

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
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As I said before, this is an extremely tough economy. We have experienced some losses, as has every community, but we have also had 25 new companies locate in Rock Island in the past year. They are:

A & J Tires
Comfort Furniture
Complete Balance Chiropractic
District Theatre
Embassy Square Mall
Estate of Grace
Feed the Seed
Granet Concrete
Grape Life
Great River Productions
Illinois Department of Employment Services
IMI Recovery
Las Palamas Restaurant
Lucky Shamrock
Morten Designs
Premier Computers
Pure Elements
Rock Island Auction
Roosters Bar and Grill
Rozz Tox
Fine Things Gifts
Simmers Crave
Sultan's Restaurant
Tapas Yoga Shala
Van Wall Equipment

We have also had a lot of businesses with expansions in 2011, such as:

Aldi Foods
Lungren's Chiropractic
Mama Bosso's Pizza
Martini's on the Rock
Midwest Tools and Equipment
Mississippi River Truck and Trailer
O'Melia's
Oh Nuts
Rock Island Lubricants
Saint Anthony's Care Center
Speed Attic
Spirit Partners / Mandus Group
Media Link
Tri-City Heat Treat

Washington Crane

In 2012, we will continue to focus on casino area development. The revenues received from the casino help to finance street construction and our street maintenance program. We have received approval for access to the northeast quadrant of IL 92 and I280 and we are now working with all of the interested parties to develop the right project for that 88 acre tract of land.

We continue to evaluate our current police facility, recognizing that the current facility does not meet the needs of our community. A needs evaluation has been completed and soon we will have various focus groups review the study and the facility to make their recommendations. This project will take some time, but we want the final result to meet not only the current, but also the future needs of the police department.

I want to talk a bit about the awards received for Schwiebert Riverfront Park and the impact it has had our downtown area. In 2011, Rock Island received ten separate awards for the park, including:

- American College of Engineering Companies in Iowa (for engineering)
- Excellence in Special Projects for Park and Flood Protection
- National Association of Women in Construction (Outstanding Construction Project)
- McGraw Hill Midwest Construction (10 Best Award – Government / Public)
- Partner Recognition Award – Quad City Convention and Visitor Bureau
- Project Recognition Certificate (Riverfront Council)
- River Action (Eddy Award)
- Young Professional Network (Livability Award)
- Quad City Riverfront Council (Bi-State Certificate of Appreciation)
- 2010 Hard Hat Award

In the first half of July, there were more games played on the interactive playground at Schwiebert Riverfront Park than any other city interactive playground in North America – beating out parks in New York, Philadelphia and New Orleans.

During this past summer, there were typically 50 – 100 people in the park until the 10:00 p.m. closing time every night. Red, White and Boom brought thousands of people into the park and the downtown area. The train festival in 2011 brought 30,000 participants from 46 states and 14 countries into the park and downtown area over the 4 day event. The economic impact of this festival has been identified to be \$5.5 million without multipliers. The event was rated by the two national train magazines as “The Best Railfan Event of the Year”. The park is a tremendous asset to the community with requests to hold events at the park continuing to grow.

In addition to all of the positives at Schwiebert Park, Rock Island’s Whitewater Junction had another exceptional year also. With an attendance of approximately 40,000 people, it is estimated that over 3,000 hot dogs, 5,000 orders of nachos, 4,000 slices of pizza and 4,200 soft pretzels were consumed during the season. The average daily attendance was 500 people. Rock Island Fitness and Activity Center continues to have good numbers also and was able to increase the

number of programs and memberships with their new expansion. By moving Park Administration and RIFAC into one building, they were able to reduce their full time work force by two people, thereby reducing their operating costs.

Rock Island hosted the Changing Faces Study Circles involving more than 300 citizens, immigrants and refugees. Participants identified issues facing immigrants and refugees and formed five action teams to recommend specific steps to be taken to help and also to form the Quad City Alliance for Immigrants and Refugees. One of the participants, Morten Wa Byaombe, recently opened Morten Designs, Furniture Creations and Antique Restoration on 3rd Avenue. He plans on helping others learn the trade of woodworking while running his business.

What lies ahead in 2012? In spite of the constant crunch on finances and the need to do more with less, we are looking to move ahead with several major projects for the next year.

The current five year Capital Improvement Plan identifies ten street resurfacing and reconstruction projects for 2012, plus work on:

- The reservoir water tower rehabilitation
- The continued construction on the Wastewater Treatment Plant
- The filming of “Pizza Man”, a \$5 million horror movie to be shot in Rock Island in the Spring
- The ground breaking on Rock Island’s newest transit oriented development on 1st Avenue and 20th Street
- The relocation of the MetroLink transit station
- The development of market driven housing knows as “The Locks”, 51 unit targeted to begin construction in the spring
- Ground breaking on seven new infill houses by GROWTH with five of the houses next door to the Martin Luther King Jr. Center and two in the Broadway District

As I said before, these are extremely challenging times in a very tight economic climate. The Council is prepared to make the tough decisions. Mr. Thomas and his leadership team know the challenges ahead and they are prepared to face them head on. All of the City employees are hard working individuals ready to do what is necessary to make Rock Island the place to live.

New businesses – new homes – new opportunities – new partnerships. That is what makes Rock Island such a great community to live, work and play.

Thank you,

Dennis E. Pauley
Mayor
City of Rock Island

Agenda Item #7

Presentation of the 2011 Commercial Beautification and Holiday Lighting Awards.

Beautification Commission member Bob Towler and Mayor Pauley presented the 2011 Commercial Beautification Awards. The Rotary Trophy winner was presented to City Limits located at 4514 9th Street. The Mayor's Award was presented to Spirit Partners/Mandus Group located at 2408 4th Avenue. The Beautification Commission Award was presented to Old Mexico Restaurant located at 610 45th Street, and the City Council Award was presented to Aldi located at 1880 38th Street. In addition, 17 businesses were awarded with Honorable Mention Certificates.

Beautification Commission member Bob Towler and Mayor Pauley then presented the 26th annual Holiday Lighting Awards to three (3) residential and three (3) commercial winners. The first place residential winner was Kim Reda of 3212 14th Street. The second place award winner was John & Jan Brixey of 1553 39th Street, and the third place award winner was Charles Slack Jr. of 4512 12th Avenue. Commercial winners were Estate of Grace located at 1230 30th Street, which won first place. The second place winner was Juli's Book Keeper located at 2608 21st Avenue, and the third place winner was One Hair Place located at 1301 30th Street.

Agenda Item #8

Proclamation declaring January 16, 2012 as Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Mayor Pauley read the Proclamation declaring January 16, 2012 as Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Martin Luther King Center Director Jerry Jones stepped forward and accepted the Proclamation. Mr. Jones stated that he wanted to welcome everyone to the 29th annual memorial service of Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., which will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, January 16, 2012 in the new banquet room of the Martin Luther King Center. Mr. Jones stated that the event is open to the entire community. In addition, Mr. Jones indicated that the King Center will be saying goodbye to one of its staff, Ida Robinson who will be retiring. It was noted that Ms. Robinson has been with the King Center for over 40 years.

Agenda Item #9

Public Hearing on a request from Karpeles Manuscript Library for a Special Use Permit to operate a manuscript library museum at the former First Church of Christ, Scientist at 700 22nd Street.

Mayor Pauley closed the regular meeting at 7:19 pm and opened a Public Hearing on a request from Karpeles Manuscript Library for a Special Use Permit to operate a manuscript library museum at the former First Church of Christ, Scientist at 700 22nd Street.

Mr. Christopher Kelly with the Karpeles Manuscript Museums at 700 22nd Street (local address) stepped forward. Mayor Pauley swore in Mr. Kelly.

Mr. Kelly thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing Karpeles Manuscript Museum the opportunity to establish a business in this fantastic city. Mr. Kelly stated that this is number 12

for Karpeles and number one for ease of operation in making Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum feel welcome.

Alderman Conroy stated that he was very happy to see this business coming to Rock Island and it will be a great facility to the City of Rock Island.

Alderman Jones indicated that he could not think of a better fit for that neighborhood or for the City of Rock Island. Alderman Jones stated that he is very excited for this business to be in the neighborhood.

Alderman Foley offered that it is great to see the documents that the museum will have circulating through and that it is free and open to the public. Alderman Foley stated that it is a great fit for the building.

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

Ms. Diane Oestreich of 816 22nd Street stepped forward. Mayor Pauley swore in Ms. Oestreich.

Ms. Oestreich stated that she and Mr. Oestreich are adjacent property owners and they are totally delighted with this business coming into the neighborhood. Ms. Oestreich indicated that they are very appreciative of the fact that this is a perfect fit for a building that can be difficult to rehab, restore or to find another use for. Ms. Oestreich welcomed Karpeles Manuscript Library to the neighborhood.

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

With no others 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 7:24 p.m.

It was moved by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Conroy to approve the Special Use Permit as recommended, subject to the stipulations that up to five employees shall be allowed; hours of operation shall be 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Friday; a 15 square foot unlighted attached sign be allowed on the east façade; a minimum of 16 parking spaces be provided; that the use shall meet all other applicable codes and ordinances and refer to the City Attorney for an ordinance. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer and Alderman Jones; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #10

A Special Ordinance removing a handicapped parking space at 1824 10th Street.

Alderman Conroy moved and Alderman Foley seconded to consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinance. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being,

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

Agenda Item #11

A Special Ordinance removing a residential only parking zone on the east side of 22nd Street between 18th Avenue and 20 ½ Avenue.

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

Agenda Item #12

CLAIMS

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

- a. Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding payment in the amount of \$555.33 to Kimberlee Stevenson for General Liability claim.
- b. Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding payment in the amount of \$650.00 to George Whan for General Liability claim.
- c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #4 in the amount of \$30,988.05 to General Constructors, Inc. for services provided for the Turkey Hollow Road Bridge Replacement project. (002)
- d. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$22,500.00 to Elliott Equipment for rental of two refuse packers for the 2011 fall leaf collection. (355)

Agenda Item #13

Claims for the weeks of December 16 through December 22 in the amount of \$3,386,334.64, December 23 through December 29 in the amount of \$292,389.84, and December 30 through January 5 in the amount of \$280,934.38.

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

Agenda Item #14

Payroll for the weeks of December 12 through December 25 in the amount of \$1,210,906.94.

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

Agenda Item #15

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding bids for the installation of a tarp on the Old Lincoln School roof at 2125 7th Avenue.

Note: The recommendation on the report was to reject the bids.

Alderman Jones moved and Alderwoman Murphy seconded to approve the bids.

Discussion followed. Diane Oestreich of 816 22nd Street stepped forward. Ms. Oestreich discussed the timeline as it related to the stabilization of Old Lincoln School in regards to placing a tarp on the roof of the building. Ms. Oestreich stated that she was disappointed several months ago when this item was deferred. Ms. Oestreich advised that after meeting with the City Manager and Alderman Jones, she researched to find a basis for placing a tarp on the roof. It was noted that there was not a lot of support in the state wide preservation community for this being a long term solution. Ms. Oestreich discussed the condition of the roof and offered several suggestions including patching the major holes in the roof.

Mr. Larry Miller of 832 19th Street stepped forward. Mr. Miller voiced concerns that he hoped something would be done with the roof and stated that something should be done.

Linda Anderson of 1718 21st Street stepped forward. Ms. Anderson stated that as Council approaches the deadline to keep in mind that they are still moving forward with the idea of putting a plan together for the neighborhood north of 7th Avenue. Ms. Anderson advised that it would be a mistake to do anything that permanently damages this building prior to a plan coming together.

Alderman Conroy advised that the tarp was going to be put up last October and it wasn't. Alderman Conroy commented that this wasn't a two or three year fix, this was a one year hope and that is why the tarp was going to be put on the roof. Alderman Conroy indicated that it is very late in the process to do what should have been done in October. Alderman Conroy offered that he would not be voting for placing a tarp on the roof.

Alderman Tollenaer discussed the timeline for the stabilization of Old Lincoln School. Alderman Tollenaer pointed out that the City has worked hard on doing something with this building. Alderman Tollenaer commented that he would not be supporting the placement of a tarp on this roof.

Alderman Jones advised that he was extremely disappointed in the timeline of this process. Alderman Jones noted that he would be supporting putting a tarp on the roof of the building.

Alderwoman Murphy stated that she had suggested putting a tarp on the roof to give it more time. Alderwoman Murphy advised that the City as the caretakers of the property did not do due diligence in trying to market it. It was noted that the tarp was initially suggested to give it one more year for different parties to market it. Alderwoman Murphy stated that it is a beautiful building. Alderwoman Murphy stated that she was in support of putting a tarp on the roof.

Alderman Foley stated that he didn't feel that it is a necessary need for the placement of a tarp on the roof. Alderman Foley indicated that he would not be in support of placing a tarp on the roof.

Alderman Jones inquired as to when the next date would be for looking at bids for demolition.

Community and Economic Development Director Greg Champagne advised that he recalled that it was Council's direction to bring bids back to the July 9th meeting for consideration of the demolition of the property.

More discussion followed regarding demolition of the building as it related to salvage and standard demolition.

After discussion, the motion did not carry, it failed by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Jones; those voting No, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley and Alderman Tollenaer.

Agenda Item #16

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding City of Rock Island membership in Quad City Alliance for Immigrants and Refugees (QCAIR).

It was moved by Alderwoman Murphy and seconded by Alderman Conroy to approve membership in QCAIR for discussion purposes.

Discussion followed with Alderman Jones stating that there will be a lot of staff members for the action team. Alderman Jones inquired as to what level of commitment there will be.

Community and Economic Development Director Greg Champagne advised that the commitment level is a one hour meeting. It was noted that the numbers are larger but the time commitment is fairly short. Mr. Champagne added that the maximum number is between 8 and 13 staff members.

Alderwoman Murphy inquired as to what is the size of the immigrant and refugee population in the community.

Mr. Champagne noted that he did not have the numbers but the size has grown significantly over the years.

Mr. Ed Hanna of 2529 35th Avenue stepped forward. Mr. Hanna advised that he has been involved in this for the last year and a half. Mr. Hanna stated that he could not provide the exact number of immigrants and refugees in the Quad Cities, but currently in the Rock Island school

district there is over 30 dialects and languages being spoken. Mr. Hanna offered that this effort is to help immigrants and refugees become assimilated into the community. Mr. Hanna explained the QCAIR structure. Mr. Hanna noted that the QCAIR will be formed on February 23rd and tomorrow there will be a meeting to try and involve the other communities. Mr. Hanna added that it is important for the City of Rock Island to be involved to show support.

Mr. Champagne made reference to various printed material that stated that more than 500 immigrants and refugees have moved into the City in the past five years.

Alderman Murphy's concern was that there would be 13 staff members and Council commitments to this program. Alderman Murphy stated that she also understood it is going to be Quad City wide. Alderman Murphy noted that a lot of the services listed in the report are also offered throughout the City. Alderman Murphy stated that she would not support the commitment of 13 staff members to get involved, but will support having a representative of the community, or Council or staff.

At this time, Alderman Murphy withdrew her motion and Alderman Foley withdrew his second.

Alderman Murphy then moved to approve membership in the QCAIR and appoint two individuals, Council, management or citizens to be delegates, Alderman Jones seconded.

Discussion followed. Alderman Conroy advised that before Council allows any of staff or employees, he would like it to be shown in their budget that they spend time on this so that costs will be known for the future for participation in this program.

At this time, Alderman Murphy withdrew her motion. Alderman Tollenaar then moved to table this item.

More discussion followed. Mr. Hanna stated that the membership deadline is January 31st to have a member for the first go around of QCAIR. It was noted that it would be six months before new members are taken into the organization. Alderman Murphy inquired as to whether commitment was needed for being a member. Mr. Hanna responded yes.

At this time, Alderman Tollenaar withdrew his motion.

Mayor Pauley stated that he has attended several of these meetings and the meetings are important. The Mayor added that what the people need more than anything is information and this organization will help to supply that information. It was noted that Mayor Pauley was not convinced it would take 13 people, but he did not have a problem with two people and to look for additional people that want to volunteer their own time from the City.

Alderman Murphy then moved to approve membership in the QCAIR and appoint two individuals, Council, management or citizens to be delegates, Alderman Jones seconded.

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

Agenda Item #17

Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request (neighborhood petition) to allow parking on the north side of 25th Avenue between McMillan Court and the fire hydrant west of McMillan Court. (A motion remained on the floor - Alderman Foley moved and Alderwoman Murphy seconded to not approve parking on the north side of 25th Avenue from the fire hydrant west of McMillan Court to McMillan Court except 20 feet on the east and west side of the east entrance of Hickory Parking Condos and McMillan Court, and to not refer to the City Attorney for an ordinance.)

Note: Agenda Item #17 was deferred from the December 19, 2011 Council meeting.

At this time, Alderwoman Murphy withdrew her second and Alderman Foley pulled his motion.

Mayor Pauley advised that Agenda Item #17 is eliminated.

Agenda Item #18

Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request (neighborhood petition) to allow parking on the north side of 25th Avenue between McMillan Court and the fire hydrant west of McMillan Court.

Alderman Foley moved to deny the request and Alderman Conroy seconded.

Discussion followed.

Mr. John Shewell stepped forward. Mr. Shewell stated that he owns rental property at 2446 McMillan Court and has agreed to represent the residents of McMillan Court that signed a petition that Council received. Mr. Shewell indicated that there is a parking problem within McMillan Court. Mr. Shewell advised that residents rely on the on street parking because most of their driveways will only allow for one space to park their vehicles. Mr. Shewell stated that residents of McMillan Court want to park as close to their homes as possible. Mr. Shewell further discussed as to why adequate parking should be allowed.

Mr. Randy Heggen of 202 Hilltop Court, Milan, IL stepped forward. Mr. Heggen stated that he was at the Council meeting on behalf of his parents that reside at 1737 25th Avenue. Mr. Heggen advised that in his opinion, it is not up to the City to provide numerous parking spots to one rental property that has had two or three cars parking at the residence on any given night. Mr. Heggen added that this is the cause of the problem. Mr. Heggen commented that jeopardizing safety by restoring two parking spaces on 25th Avenue does not solve any space problem on McMillan Court. Mr. Heggen further discussed this issue.

Alderman Foley stated that he will be voting against this item. Alderman Foley advised that he recently drove to that area to see what it would be like if someone had to go left to head east onto

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25th Avenue. Alderman Foley stated that it is very unsafe. Alderman Foley also read an e-mail that he received that was in favor of no parking.

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

Agenda Item #19

Other Business.

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

Alderwoman Murphy reminded everyone to shop Rock Island. Alderwoman Murphy stated that recently, Sears Holdings Corporation out of Chicago announced that they were closing between 100 to 120 K-Mart and Sears stores. It was noted that the Rock Island K-mart was not on the list. Alderwoman Murphy stated that it is very important as a community to support the Rock Island K-Mart.

Agenda Item #20

Executive Session on Personnel and Litigation.

A motion was made by Alderman Conroy and seconded by Alderman Jones at 8:10 p.m. to recess to Executive Session on matters of Personnel and Litigation. The motion carried on a roll call vote. Those voting Aye being, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer and Alderman Jones; those voting No, none. Alderman Austin and Alderman Brooks were absent.

Agenda Item #21

Recess

Mayor Pauley reconvened the regular meeting at 8:29 p.m. A motion was made by Alderman Conroy and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to recess to Monday, January 16, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer and Alderman Jones; those voting No, none.

The meeting was recessed at 8:30 p.m.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk