

The Rock Island City Council met in Study Session at 6:15 pm in City Council Chambers at Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley presiding, and Aldermen Terry M.A. Brooks I, David Conroy, P.J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Jason W. Jones, Joy Murphy and Charles O. Austin III. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas, various City staff and City Attorney Ted Kutsunis.

## **DEER ISSUE DISCUSSION**

Mayor Pauley advised that Council has heard from the citizens that wanted a deer hunt in the City and heard from the citizens that opposed a deer hunt in the City. Mayor Pauley then presented four options for discussion on the deer issue.

Mayor Pauley advised that the first option is to do nothing. It was noted that the second option would be to request that the DNR do a count and the City would work with them to do the count. It was noted that a count would need to be done when there is a minimum of three inches of snow on the ground. Mayor Pauley commented that he did not know how much it would cost to do a count in regards to the deer population. Mayor Pauley indicated that the third option is to form a task force with specific goals. It was noted that this option would only be if Council agreed that a count was not needed because there is already a significant amount of deer. Mayor Pauley stated that the last option would be to begin plans for a hunt provided that Council believed that enough information was received from the people that wanted the hunt.

Council discussed this issue.

Alderman Austin advised that everything that has been heard has been based on impressions rather than facts or data. Alderman Austin stated that he may support a count if Council is given the data that is needed.

Alderman Foley stated that he supported a count or a task force. Alderman Foley also agreed that data is needed to make an informed decision.

Alderman Conroy indicated that there are a lot of different rules and regulations between different states. Alderman Conroy was concerned about how much staff time the City may want to devote to this issue. Alderman Conroy advised that the City not only needs to look at whether or not there should be a count, but also how much money in staff time would be spent on researching this deer issue. Council further discussed this issue as it related to how much a program would cost per year after it has been developed.

Alderman Tollenaer advised that he did not want a hunt in the city of Rock Island.

Alderman Brooks stated that this is not a health or disease issue; it's an issue of deer eating plants. Alderman Brooks did not support any type of analysis. Alderman Brooks advised that he didn't believe that the deer issue is a big enough issue to be concerned about at this time.

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Alderman Jones advised that data is needed before any type of decision could be made. Alderman Jones stated that he was not prepared to make a decision.

Alderwoman Murphy stated that she hasn't been convinced that the deer population is a safety issue and Alderwoman Murphy was concerned about cost as it related to research and staff time.

Mayor Pauley advised that he has heard two things from Council, which is that Council wants a count or Council wants a report first on what it would cost to do a count and an estimate of what it would cost to put some type of system in place. It was noted that Mayor Pauley supported a deer count.

After more discussion regarding this issue, Mayor Pauley stated that a written proposal concerning a count should be prepared and a cost estimate of what it would be to implement a program.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion made by Alderman Brooks and seconded by Alderman Conroy to adjourn the meeting carried by the following Aye and No vote. Those voting Aye being, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none. The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm.

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Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk

Rock Island City Council met in regular session at 6:45 pm in Council Chambers of Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley presiding, and Aldermen Terry M.A. Brooks I, David Conroy, P. J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Jason W. Jones, Joy Murphy and Charles O. Austin III. 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. Alderwoman Murphy gave the Invocation.

Agenda Item #5

#### **Minutes of the meeting of March 3, 2012 and Minutes of the meeting of March 5, 2012.**

A motion was made by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Foley to approve the Minutes of the meeting of March 3, 2012 and Minutes of the meeting of March 5, 2012. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #6

#### **Update Rock Island by Mayor Pauley.**

Mayor Pauley stated that the 2012 St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am at 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Rock Island. It was noted that parade floats, bands, vehicles and walkers will head through downtown Rock Island, across Centennial Bridge and continue its course through downtown Davenport. The Mayor stated to visit [www.ridistrict.com](http://www.ridistrict.com) for updates.

Mayor Pauley advised that after the St. Patrick's Day Parade has concluded, stay downtown and enjoy the post parade festivities. The Mayor added that Roosters Sports Bar and Grill at 2130 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue will party until 5:00 pm, Lucky Shamrock Irish Pub at 313 20<sup>th</sup> Street will celebrate with live Irish music until 3:00 pm and Steve's Old Time Tap at 17<sup>th</sup> Street between 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues will paint the town green until 7:00 pm.

It was noted that Sixth Ward Alderwoman Joy Murphy and Mayor Dennis Pauley invited the public to attend a Coffee & Conversations event on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 9:30 am to 11:30 am at South Park Presbyterian Church at 1501 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Rock Island. The Mayor commented that Coffee & Conversations is an opportunity for the public to ask questions, get answers and visit with the Mayor. Mayor Pauley stated that the event is being hosted to give citizens a chance to voice their concerns or just ask a question. The Mayor advised that he looks forward to meeting with residents to learn what's important to them.

Mayor Pauley stated that Ava Ketter, Director of the Rock Island Public Library since 1999, has announced her pending retirement, effective May 1, 2012. Mayor Pauley stated that Ms. Ketter has worked for 31 years in the library field. It was noted that Ms. Ketter started at the Rock Island Public Library as Assistant Director in 1998. Ms. Ketter had stated that after helping the

library work through the transition to the new RiverShare Library consortium, and the conversion to the new Polaris computer system, she feels comfortable that she is leaving the library in a good place for future success. Mayor Pauley indicated that among Ms. Ketter's accomplishments, she has automated the library for public internet in 1998, managed the Vision 2000 capital campaign that resulted in four building projects, and led the library through multiple consortium and computer conversions. It was noted that as director, Ms. Ketter also works with the boards of the Rock Island Public Library Foundation, the Friends of the Rock Island Public Library, the Milan-Blackhawk Area Public Library District and the Rock Island Library Board of Trustees.

Agenda Item #7

**Public Hearing on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2012/2013.**

Mayor Pauley closed the regular meeting at 6:50 pm and opened a Public Hearing on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2012/2013.

Finance Director Cindy Parchert stepped forward. Ms. Parchert advised that the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Budget process started in August. It was noted that in December, there was a gap in the budget. Ms. Parchert stated that the budget was then refined. It was noted that after eliminations, the total budget is \$108,293,924.00. Ms. Parchert indicated that this is 2.48% over the current budget year. Ms. Parchert added that most of this is in health insurance, which is an 8.0% increase and IMRF, which is a 4.50% increase.

Ms. Parchert advised that the property tax has no increase in the rate; it remains at \$2.41. It was noted that the City was able to preserve the current staffing levels and avoid layoffs or furloughs. Ms. Parchert stated that the City has maintained services to the citizens as they have in the past; maintained financial security of the City; and accomplished Council's goals.

Mayor Pauley inquired as to whether anyone from the audience would like to speak in favor of the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 budget. No one stepped forward.

Mayor Pauley then inquired as to whether anyone from the audience would like to speak in opposition to the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 budget. No one stepped forward.

With no person coming forward, Mayor Pauley closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the regular meeting at 6:53 pm.

Agenda Item #8

**CLAIMS**

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

- a. Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding payment in the amount of \$1,157.90 to Ronald Dixon for General Liability claim.
- b. Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding payment in the amount of \$2,566.48 to Liberty Mutual Insurance Company for General Liability claim.
- c. Report from the Martin Luther King Center regarding payment #1 in the amount of \$10,161.00 to Reference Audio/Visual for a deposit for audio/visual equipment for the Ida Robinson Banquet Room as part of the expansion/renovation project.
- d. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$27,900.00 to HNTB for services provided for the permit process for the Big Island Levee project. (060)
- e. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #5 in the amount of \$2,055,834.33 to Civil Constructors, Inc. for services provided for the Wet Weather Treatment System project. (061)

Agenda Item #9

**Claims for the week of March 2 through March 8 in the amount of \$872,980.38.**

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

Agenda Item #10

**Payroll for the weeks of February 20 through March 4 in the amount of \$1,223,373.40.**

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

Agenda Item #11

**Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding a proposed three-year labor agreement between the City and AFSCME B for the period of March 19, 2012 through March 29, 2015.**

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

Agenda Item #12

**Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a contract with EnviroNet, Inc. for an environmental assessment of Parking Lot C in the amount of \$30,000.00 to be paid from Downtown TIF funds.** (Motion whether or not to take off the table.) (*A Motion remained on the floor* - Alderman Jones moved and Alderwoman Murphy seconded to approve the contract as recommended, authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents and authorize staff to enroll the site in IEPA's Site Remediation Program.)

Note: Agenda Item #12 was tabled at the November 7, 2011 Council meeting.

Alderman Jones moved and Alderman Conroy seconded to take Agenda Item #12 off the table. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

At this time, Mayor Pauley inquired as to whether anyone had questions or comments in regards to the motion that remained on the floor.

Alderman Tollenaer inquired as to whether anyone has signed an agreement for the development of this property.

Community and Economic Development Director Greg Champagne stated that the City does not have a signed development agreement. Mr. Champagne advised that it is important that this work is done whether or not there is a signed agreement for this lot. Mr. Champagne indicated that if the work is not done, the City may never get a signed agreement on this lot. Mr. Champagne added that this is something that needs to be done to develop this property.

Renaissance Rock Island President Brian Hollenback stated that a conference call is set up for Friday with City staff and Inspections to address some of the design issues and there is definitely something in the works. Mr. Hollenback advised that this is consistent with any predevelopment efforts.

After discussion, the motion that remained on the floor carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, Alderman Tollenaer.

Agenda Item #13

**Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding a 2.00% General Wage Increase for non-affiliated employees effective April 2, 2012.**

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

Agenda Item #14

**Report from the Public Works Department regarding a request for qualifications, recommending the selection of Missman, Inc. to provide design and construction inspection services related to the Ridgewood Business Park.**

It was moved by Alderwoman Murphy and seconded by Alderman Foley to approve the selection of Missman, Inc. as recommended and authorize the Public Works Department to negotiate a service agreement. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #15

**Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request from Dan Vinar to install a handicapped parking space at 4520 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue.**

Alderwoman Murphy moved to approve the request as recommended and have the parking space be west of the steps in front of Mr. Vinar's residence and refer to the City Attorney for an ordinance, Alderman Conroy seconded. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #16

**Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request from Panther Uniforms, Inc. to install two 30 minute parking meters on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue in front of their new location at 1600 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.**

It was moved by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to approve moving the two current 30 minute parking meters in front of 1609 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to 1600 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #17

**Report from the Mayor regarding a reappointment to the Police and Fire Commission.**

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

Dr. John Hildreth was reappointed to the Police and Fire Commission with a term expiring on April 20, 2015.

Agenda Item #18

**Report from the City Clerk regarding a request from Reverend Willie E. Jones of the People's Missionary Baptist Church for parking to be permitted at the curbside along the east and west sides of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues on Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5:00 pm until 9:00 pm for their Leadership Workshop.**

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

Agenda Item #19

**Report from the City Clerk regarding an application and Resolution for the Cornbelt Running Club to hold their Quad Cities Distance Classic Half Marathon and 5K Road Race on Sunday, May 13, 2012.**

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

Agenda Item #20

**Report from the City Clerk regarding two Plaza activity applications from RIBCO requesting two additional days as part of their annual outdoor Summer Concert Series to be held on Friday, July 27 and Friday, August 17, 2012.**

It was moved by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to approve the events as recommended, subject to complying with all liquor and Plaza regulations. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #21

**Other Business**

Alderman Tollenaer stated that tomorrow night, the Corps of Engineers will hold a public meeting at 6:00 pm at the Milan Community Center in regards to the work they will be doing at Mill Creek.

Alderman Conroy stated that Schwiebert Riverfront Park received another award from the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Society of Landscaping and Architecture. Alderman Conroy advised that the City has not only one of the outstanding parks in the Quad Cities, but it is also recognized throughout the country.

Alderman Austin stated that on Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, he will be holding his annual Ward meeting

at the Nazarene Church at 6:30 pm. Alderman Austin advised that City Manager Thomas will be there. Alderman Austin added that this is an opportunity for not only citizens of the 7<sup>th</sup> Ward, but for all citizens of Rock Island to listen to ideas and concerns and to share ideas and concerns.

Alderwoman Murphy reminded everyone to Shop Rock Island. Alderwoman Murphy stated that the St. Patrick's Day Parade is on Saturday, and there are lots of businesses in Rock Island that are having post parade events or celebrations. Alderwoman Murphy encouraged everyone to shop local; Shop Rock Island.

Mary DeVine of 4563 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue stepped forward. Ms. DeVine stated that her property is located in the Parkview neighborhood located in the Keystone District. Ms. DeVine advised that she was at the meeting on behalf of the neighbors to petition for the removal of the green and red hazard signs placed at the end of 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue off of 45<sup>th</sup> Street located in the Parkview neighborhood. It was noted that the signs were placed by the City. Ms. DeVine commented that the signs are unsightly and are in great contrast to this quiet and unique secluded area.

It was noted that a petition and other documents were distributed to Council in regards to this issue. Ms. DeVine advised that the neighbors would like the industrial looking hazard signs removed and be replaced with a low bearing wall or decorative fence, which would be more fitting with the uniqueness of the neighborhood. Ms. DeVine further discussed this issue.

Council discussed this issue.

Alderman Austin inquired as to whether the signs are there for a safety purpose or is it mandated.

Street Maintenance Superintendant Randy Tweet stated that it is not required, but the only authorized marker according to the Uniform Code of Traffic Devices is that type of sign.

Alderman Tollenaer inquired as to whether Traffic and Engineering has told the neighborhood that the signs would not be taken down.

Ms. DeVine stated that they were told that the signs would not be taken down.

After more discussion, Alderwoman Murphy inquired upon Council to support the removal of the signs. Alderwoman Murphy stated that if the purpose is to let people know that it is a dead end then a lower profile warning would accomplish the same thing.

Mayor Pauley advised that no action could be taken at this time; staff would have to prepare a report for the Agenda for Council consideration.

Agenda Item #22

**Executive Session on Personnel.**

A motion was made by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Conroy at 7:14 pm to recess to Executive Session on matters of Personnel. The motion carried on a roll call vote. Those

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

Agenda Item #23

**Recess**

Mayor Pauley reconvened the regular meeting at 7:17 pm. A motion was made by Alderman Conroy and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to recess to Monday, March 19, 2012 at 5:30 pm. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none.

The meeting was recessed at 7:18 pm.

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Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk