

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 David Conroy, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Jason W. Jones, Joy Murphy and Charles O. Austin III. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas, Public Works Director Bob Hawes, other City staff and City Attorney Ted Kutsunis. Alderman Terry M.A. Brooks I was absent. Alderman P.J. Foley arrived at 6:20 pm.

MILL CREEK UPDATE

Public Works Director Bob Hawes provided an update to Council on Mill Creek South Slough. Mr. Hawes distributed a draft report in regards to this item. Mr. Hawes then referred to the executive summary of the report and stated that a lot of progress has been made. Mr. Hawes commented that the City has been dealing with this issue for 30 years. It was noted that this is the first time that there is a Corps report that recommends that they need to restart the maintenance to the area. Mr. Hawes indicated that this report was submitted several weeks ago to Vicksburg.

Mr. Hawes discussed the public meeting that was held a week ago in regards to Mill Creek. Mr. Hawes advised that one thing that was heard at that meeting, which is contrary to the report, is that this project will be starting in the summer. Mr. Hawes advised that according to the report, the project is scheduled for the wintertime, which will help to reduce costs.

Mr. Hawes advised that if the project was done all at once, it would start at the Mississippi River and go upstream. Mr. Hawes added that since the Corps only has the money to do half of the project at this time, they will start upstream and work down. Mr. Hawes advised that this will have the most impact on the water over the City's utilities and the water that is affecting Milan; this will help to relieve some of the water problems. Mr. Hawes commented that these are the two conditions that are driving the Corps' change of opinion.

Mr. Hawes and Council further discussed the project as it related to how the project would be done, where the project would begin and when the project would start.

Council discussed dredging as it related to the Corps' Fiscal Year 2013 and Fiscal Year 2014 Budget concerning funds. Mr. Hawes commented that the report suggests that a full dredging has to be done about every 10 years.

Mr. Hawes advised that the City needs to let everything run its course, obtain approval and keep working with the Corps to get the rest of the money so that they can do the project. Council further discussed this project.

After more discussion, Mayor Pauley inquired as to whether Council would like an Executive Session scheduled in the next two weeks to discuss the legal issues on this item. It was noted that Council agreed to have an Executive Session. Mayor Pauley stated that Attorney Roy Harsch would be in attendance at this upcoming session.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderman Conroy to adjourn the meeting carried by the following Aye and No vote. Those voting Aye being, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy and Alderman Austin; those voting No, none. The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 pm.

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 12, 2012.

A motion was made by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to approve the Minutes of the meeting of March 12, 2012 as printed. 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 tonight is the last City Council meeting for Greg Champagne, Rock Island's Community & Economic Development Department Director. Mayor Pauley indicated that Greg has been on staff for 34 years. The Mayor added that Greg started as an Urban Planner in 1978 and then became an Administrative Assistant to the City Manager in 1979 and was promoted to Public Works Director in 1984. It was noted that in 1986, Mr. Champagne moved on to become the Community Development & Services Director and in 1987, he took his current title of Community & Economic Development Director. Mayor Pauley advised that Greg Champagne has worked with four mayors and three city managers and currently manages a staff of 20 employees. It was noted that Rock Island residents, business owners and other members of the community have been impacted by his efforts in some way. The Mayor stated that Mr. Champagne pulled the City out of the downturn of the 1980's and has worked hard to accommodate the needs of the present while looking ahead to the future. Mayor Pauley advised that the City thanks Greg for his commitment and service to the City of Rock Island; his impact on our community will last a lifetime.

Mayor Pauley stated to bring your bags and baskets to Lincoln Park at 11th Avenue and 38th Street on Saturday, March 31st for an Easter Egg Hunt. The Mayor commented that there will be many colorful eggs throughout the hunt areas and some contain special prizes! It was noted that there may even be a surprise visit from a very popular bunny. Mayor Pauley stated that the hunt is free and will begin promptly at 9:30 am. Do not be late, as eggs are only available for a short time! It was noted that the rain location will be the Rock Island Fitness & Activity Center at 4303 24th Street.

Mayor Pauley advised that business and property owners, residents, community leaders, and college and high school students are invited to participate in a public meeting to review the draft of the College Hill District Revitalization Plan on Monday, March 26th at 6:30 pm. The Mayor added that the meeting will be held at South Park Presbyterian Church at 1501 30th Street. Mayor Pauley stated that a sneak peak of the draft plan document, along with the visual preference survey final report can be found at www.rigov.org. Click on "About Rock Island," then "Community Plans," then "College Hill District."

Mayor Pauley indicated that a reception for the 36th annual Rock Island Fine Arts Exhibition will be held on Friday, March 30th from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm at Augustana College Art Museum. The Mayor commented that this annual juried competition for artists residing within a 150-mile radius of the Quad Cities is co-sponsored by the Augustana College Art Museum and the Rock Island Art Guild. It was noted that the exhibition catalog will be debuted and awards will be announced at 5:40 pm. The exhibition will be displayed through April 22nd. Mayor Pauley advised that the art museum's hours are noon to 4:00 pm, Tuesdays through Saturdays, and this exhibition also is open on Sundays; April 1st, April 15th and April 22nd from noon to 4:00 pm. It was noted that it will be closed on Easter Weekend. Mayor Pauley commented that the art museum is located on the northwest corner of the intersection of 7th Avenue and 38th Street, Rock Island. It was noted that there is no admission fee.

Mayor Pauley stated that to better meet the needs of individuals and households, Rock Island's Pioneering Healthy Community team is seeking community input that will help define its goals and objectives to meet resident's needs to create and sustain positive change in support of healthy living in western Rock Island. Mayor Pauley added that residents and members of the community are invited to attend a public input session on Tuesday, April 3rd from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center.

Agenda Item #7

Presentation of the Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for budget presentation and preparation.

Mayor Pauley stated that the City has had this award for several years and it is a great accomplishment. The Mayor advised that a panel of independent reviewers completed its examination of the City's budget document. Mayor Pauley stated that the City was informed that the panel voted to award the City's budget documents the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the current fiscal period. Mayor Pauley indicated that this award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting. It was noted that its attainment represents a significant achievement by the City. Mayor Pauley stated that the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is valid for one year.

Mayor Pauley then presented a Certificate of Recognition to Budget Coordinator Don Reichert and a plaque for the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award that was given to the City of Rock Island.

Mr. Reichert thanked Council and stated that all City staff did a great job this year.

Agenda Item #8

Proclamation declaring Friday, March 23, 2012 as Crawford Company Day.

Mayor Pauley read the Proclamation declaring Friday, March 23, 2012 as Crawford Company Day. Mr. Bob Frink, Ian Frink and Jim Maynard accepted the Proclamation and the business benchmark award.

Mr. Frink thanked the Mayor and Council for the Proclamation and the award. Mr. Frink stated that in 2000, they began a series of acquisitions that enabled the company to diversify from the traditional heating, air conditioning and ventilation. Mr. Frink indicated that the company moved into fabrication, expanded into contract laser cutting, manufacturing and most recently plumbing.

Mr. Frink acknowledged that the company is in the process of expanding with a 26,000 square foot addition, which will allow their workforce to grow to a total of approximately 75 to 80 people over the next five years. Mr. Frink concluded that the City of Rock Island is a good place to work and live.

Agenda Item #9

Special Ordinances amending Special Ordinances related to various fines and fees for Chapters 4, 9, 10 and 13 of the Code of Ordinances.

Alderman Murphy moved and Alderman Conroy seconded to consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinances.

Discussion followed.

Alderman Austin inquired as to whether everything in the ordinance is representing a change or are some of these repeats of what is already in place in regards to the rental inspection fees.

Finance Director Cindy Parchert stated that these are the ordinances that are already in place; the changes that are seen were discussed in previous budget meetings. Ms. Parchert then explained the additions to Sec.4-183 of the Code of Ordinances in regards to fees.

Alderman Austin discussed costs as it related to delivering services concerning whether or not the compliance inspection cost of \$55.00 may not actually cover the cost of delivering the services. Alderman Austin inquired as to whether this would be reviewed. Finance Department Director Cindy Parchert responded yes.

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

Agenda Item #10

An amended Ordinance providing for the levy, assessment and collection of taxes for the City of Rock Island for fiscal year April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012.

It was moved by Alderman Conroy and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinance. 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

An Ordinance adopting the Budget for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2012 and ending March 31, 2013.

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

Agenda Item #12

A Special Ordinance establishing a handicapped parking space at 4520 13th Avenue.

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

Agenda Item #13

CLAIMS

It was moved by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Conroy to accept the following report 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 \$3,500.00 to Country Mutual for General Liability Claim.

Agenda Item #14

Claims for the week of March 9 through March 15 in the amount of \$2,818,170.12.

Alderman Jones moved and Alderman Tollenaer 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 #15

Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the Southwest Rock Island Railroad Crossing repairs, recommending the bid be awarded to Crafton Railroad Company, Inc. in the amount of \$136,776.00.

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

Agenda Item #16

Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the 2012 Seal Coat Program, recommending the bid be awarded to Brandt Construction in the amount of \$24,973.90.

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

Agenda Item #17 and #18

It was moved by Alderman Conroy to award the bids as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents for Agenda Items 17 and 18, Alderman Tollenaer 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 #17

Report from the Board of Local Improvements regarding bids for 15th Avenue resurfacing from 33rd to 38th Street, recommending the bid be awarded to Brandt Construction Company in the amount of \$248,633.95.

Agenda Item #18

Report from the Board of Local Improvements regarding bids for 16th Avenue resurfacing from 33rd to 38th Street, recommending the bid be awarded to Brandt Construction Company in the amount of \$220,937.45.

Agenda Item #19

Report from the Public Works Department regarding a Gas Main Extension agreement with MidAmerican Energy for extending natural gas facilities to the new Wet Weather Treatment System Expansion in the amount of \$52,000.00.

It was moved by Alderwoman Murphy and seconded by Alderman Austin 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 #20

Report from the Public Works Department regarding the Coast Guard Auxiliary lease renewal agreement at Sunset Marina.

Alderman Jones moved and Alderwoman Murphy 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 #21

Report from the Public Works Department regarding an amended ordinance authorizing the City of Rock Island to borrow funds from the Water Pollution Control Loan Program as it relates to increasing the debt authorization limits for the Long Term Control Plan Construction projects.

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

Agenda Item #22

Report from the Finance Department regarding an adjustment to the Fiscal Year 2012 Budget, recommending a budget transfer decreasing the Turkey Hollow Bridge Replacement project budget in the amount of \$65,000.00 and increasing the Southwest Rock Island Railroad Repair project budget in the amount of \$65,000.00.

Alderman Conroy moved and Alderman Foley seconded to approve the budget adjustment 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 #23

Report from the City Clerk regarding an application and Resolution for the Bi-State Motorcycle Awareness Ride to be held on Saturday, May 5, 2012.

Alderman Foley moved and Alderman Jones 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 #24
Other Business

Alderman Conroy stated that he is on the board for an organization that is dedicated to the research of ovarian cancer. Alderman Conroy stated that several years ago, he lost a very dear sister to ovarian cancer. Alderman Conroy advised that on April 21st at 6:00 pm, this organization will hold a fundraiser at the civic center by the Isle of Capri. It was noted that the tickets are \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door.

Alderman Foley advised that he has had several phone calls and has talked to several constituents concerning one of the cameras in City Council Chambers. Alderman Foley stated that the concern is that the camera located on his side of the room depicts the images of Council as distorted or blurred. Alderman Foley inquired upon staff to review this issue.

Alderman Austin advised that earlier in the meeting, the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Budget was passed. Alderman Austin thanked former City Manager John Phillips for his fiscal conservatism and City Manager Thomas Thomas for coming in, taking the ball and running with it and keeping the fiscal conservatism.

City Manager Thomas advised that he couldn't have done it without the assistance of Budget Coordinator Don Reichert and Finance Director Cindy Parchert.

Alderman Brooks discussed the possibility of the installation of mobile cameras as it related to the Longview Park area.

Police Chief Scott Harris stated that staff is working on the cameras. Chief Harris advised that technology is not where they want it to be. Chief Harris stated that cameras are cheap; it is getting the signal to the facility and then getting it downloaded that is the concern. Police Chief Harris added that they are still working on it.

Alderwoman Murphy reminded everyone to Shop Rock Island. Alderwoman Murphy stated that U-Haul by Events on Fifth Avenue is a new business. They are located at 2016 5th Avenue. Alderwoman Murphy commented that they offer local and long distance moving. It was noted that they also offer storage units, which are available for business and personal storage, and they sell boxes. Alderwoman Murphy added that they also offer Megatalk cell phone services from i-wireless. Alderwoman Murphy encouraged everyone to shop local; Shop Rock Island.

Mr. Bob Towler of 4232 8th Street stepped forward. Mr. Towler voiced concerns in regards to the deer issue. Mr. Towler stated that at the last Study Session, the people that were against the deer hunt voiced their concerns. Mr. Towler commented that he believed the impression was given that if there were a deer management program, it would be the end of the deer. Mr. Towler also stated that the people (archers) that would hunt deer have to be certified and there would be fewer problems with the concern that there would be deer running around with arrows in them.

Ms. Sue McDevitt of 2940 17th Street stepped forward. Ms. McDevitt stated that she represents the Citizens for Managing the Deer Population in Rock Island. Ms. McDevitt commented that

her group would be very supportive of having an aerial deer count in Rock Island to get a good estimate of the number of deer and where they are located in the City. Ms. McDevitt stated that she was disappointed that the deer count could not be done this year. Ms. McDevitt hoped that Council would start planning the deer count before next fall. Ms. McDevitt further discussed the deer issue.

Alderman Brooks stated that Council is looking at the best way to handle the deer situation and the decision should not be rushed.

Sheila Guse of 4010 29th Avenue stepped forward. Ms. Guse stated that her yard is being vandalized by hooved animals. Ms. Guse commented that 400 citizens have put a lot of effort into their yards and strongly urged Council to do a deer count next winter.

Mr. Howard Braren of 29 Thornwood Court stepped forward. Mr. Braren was concerned about health issues in regards to deer-vehicle accidents and the population growth of deer as it related to Lyme disease. Mr. Braren also voiced concerns in regards to humanitarian issues and supported a deer count.

Agenda Item #25

No Executive Session.

An Executive Session was not held.

Agenda Item #26

Recess

A motion was made by Alderman Conroy and seconded by Alderman Foley to recess to Monday, April 2, 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 7:29 pm.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk