

The Rock Island City Council met in Study Session at 5:45 pm in City Council Chambers at Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Pro Tem Charles O. Austin III presiding, and Aldermen, P.J. Foley, Jason W. Jones, Joy Murphy and Terry M.A. Brooks I. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas, Public Works Director Bob Hawes, Administrative Services Director John Thorson, other City staff, City Attorney Ted Kutsunis, Quad Cities Chamber CEO Tara Barney, Bill Martin, President of Quad Cities First, Daniel Mann, Vice President of National Sales and Paul Rumler, Executive Vice President of the Quad Cities Chamber. Alderman David Conroy arrived at 6:00 pm. Mayor Dennis E. Pauley was absent for the initial Study Session, but arrived at 6:17 pm at the Executive Session. Alderman Stephen L. Tollenaer was absent.

QUAD CITIES CHAMBER PRESENTATION

Tara Barney, CEO of the Quad Cities Chamber thanked Council for the opportunity to be at the session. Ms. Barney stated that through a national search they were looking for someone to lead all of their economic development efforts, not just with Quad Cities First, but with all of the work they do to make sure businesses in the region have a chance to expand and grow, and to make sure new businesses are fostered in every possible way so that businesses are created and added to the entrepreneurial climate. Ms. Barney then introduced Bill Martin and stated to Council that Mr. Martin will update Council on what the Chamber has been doing the last several months.

Mr. Martin briefly discussed his background in economic development. Mr. Martin advised that the economic development effort in the Quad Cities is a well rounded program and involves attraction of new businesses through Quad Cities First as well as the retention and expansion of existing businesses and the creation of new businesses through the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Martin referred to a document that was distributed to Council in regards to Results since July of 2010. Mr. Martin indicated that the Chamber of Commerce and Quad Cities First were involved in 16 projects with local partners. It was noted that these 16 companies have pledged to create a total of 856 jobs in which 384 of these jobs are retained and 472 are new jobs. Mr. Martin offered that this has a direct output gross product of \$622.8 million dollars over a three year period. Mr. Martin commented that the average wage of these 856 jobs is \$42,421.00 per job. It was noted that three of these companies are in Rock Island, which include Comedy Sportz, Crawford Company and Mandus Group.

Mr. Martin discussed the economic impact analysis model. It was noted that this is a computer model of the total impact of what the 16 projects with 856 jobs would be. Mr. Martin advised that according to the computer model, an additional 991 jobs would be created as a result of these 16 projects and that is 1,847 total jobs with an average salary of \$40,615.00 each. Mr. Martin further discussed economic development as it related to businesses and jobs.

Mr. Martin indicated that on Wednesday, May 16th at St. Ambrose University, the Quad Cities Chamber will hold their 2012 Small Business of the Year and Outstanding Small Business Leader awards.

Mr. Martin then showed a brief video of a young professional's group called the Network.

Council discussed economic development as it related to the possible increase in the minimum wage in Illinois to \$10.00 per hour.

Chamber Executive Vice President Paul Rumler stated that the Quad Cities Chamber has been advocating for some serious reforms in Illinois. It was noted that they are focused on Medicaid and pension reform. Mr. Rumler indicated that the Quad Cities Chamber is being cautious and has voiced concerns in Springfield, Illinois and locally that they not move forward in advancing the minimum wage to a dollar value that is \$2.75 more than the national rate. Council further discussed this issue.

Council also discussed education as it related to Associate degrees and Bachelor degrees in regards to the high rate of Associate degrees in the Quad Cities compared to the very low rate of Bachelor degrees in the Quad Cities compared to the national average. Mr. Rumler further discussed this issue. Council further discussed Mr. Martin's presentation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to recess to Executive Session on matters of Litigation. The motion carried on a roll call vote. Those voting Aye being, Alderman Foley, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none. The meeting was recessed at 6:13 pm. Mayor Pauley arrived at 6:17 pm and Alderman Tollenaer was absent.

Mayor Pauley reconvened the regular meeting at 6:25 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Alderman Conroy and seconded by Alderman Jones to adjourn the meeting carried by the following Aye and No vote. Those voting Aye being, Alderman Foley, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none. The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 pm.

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

Introductory Proceedings

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

Agenda Item #5

Minutes of the meeting of April 23, 2012.

A motion was made by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Foley to approve the Minutes of the meeting of April 23, 2012 as printed. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #6

Update Rock Island by Mayor Pauley.

Mayor Pauley stated that the Broadway Mother's Day Tour of Homes is back. It was noted that the tour is scheduled from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm on Sunday, May 13th. The Mayor offered that it will feature five homes in the historic district dating to the 19th and early 20th centuries. Mayor Pauley indicated that admission is \$10.00 per person at the door or through Pay Pal. It was noted that for more information, please go to www.broadwaydistrict.org or call (309) 786-1307.

Mayor Pauley advised that The District and MidCoast Fine Arts present Gallery Hop on Friday, May 11, 2012 from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm, which is an open house in downtown Rock Island. The Mayor added that Gallery Hop showcases local artists in over 20 locations that include galleries, restaurants, shops and hot spots in downtown Rock Island. Mayor Pauley offered that it is fun, casual, and it's where you can find unforgettable items for yourself, that someone special, and don't forget Mom. Mayor Pauley stated that jewelry, photography, woodwork, glass, paintings, book signings, sculpture and performance art will all be featured. Mayor Pauley added that you can talk with the artists, indulge your senses, shop and watch live demonstrations.

Mayor Pauley stated that you can treat Mom and the whole family to a special Mother's Day concert for a good cause on Sunday, May 13th in beautiful Schwiebert Riverfront Park in downtown Rock Island. Mayor Pauley commented that the event is hosted by Rock Island Parks and Recreation and it features five bands, children's activities, food, adult beverages and soft drinks. It was noted that proceeds benefit the ALS Division of the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois. Mayor Pauley stated that the gate opens at noon, with admission at \$10.00 for adults (cash only) and free for children 12 and under.

Mayor Pauley advised that on April 20, 2012, two new firefighters graduated from the academy at the Illinois Fire Service Institute in Champagne, Illinois. Mayor Pauley stated that the six-week academy presents both physical and academic challenges. Mayor Pauley advised that at the academy, all recruits compete for two distinguished awards. The Mayor added that the “Doc Eskridge” award is given out for academic excellence and the “Clark Rutledge” award is given out for best overall firefighter for that academy. It was noted that Firefighter Thomas Drummond came close to receiving the Doc Eskridge award for academic excellence, missing it by only 0.2 points. Mayor Pauley stated that Firefighter Scott Ketner received the Clark Rutledge award for best overall firefighter. It was noted that Fire Chief Jim Fobert commented that “This is a testament of their dedication and hard work, as well as an example of the quality of personnel we have been able to bring on the RIFD team. We are pleased to have them representing the City of Rock Island.”

Mayor Pauley stated do you know someone that deserves to be recognized for what they do for the community? If so, this is your opportunity to nominate them for the 2012 Citizen of the Year Awards, sponsored by the Mayor and City Council. The Mayor commented to please include their address and telephone number so they may be contacted. Mayor Pauley added that it is important to include your name and telephone number so we may contact you for additional information if necessary. Mayor Pauley advised that the deadline for receiving nominations is June 11, 2012. The Mayor commented that you may nominate more than one person for the award. It was noted to please be sure to complete the information on the form. Mayor Pauley offered that if you have questions, please call Committee Co-Chairpersons/Aldermen Chuck Austin at 786-6978 or Joy Murphy at 721-3254 or City Clerk Aleisha L. Patchin at 732-2010.

Agenda Item #7

Proclamation declaring the month of May as QC Bike Month.

Mayor Pauley read the Proclamation. Mr. Dean Mathias accepted the Proclamation. Mr. Mathias thanked the Mayor and Council for the Proclamation. Mr. Mathias mentioned that the City spearheaded the effort in regards to bike lanes and the Bikeways Plan. Mr. Mathias made several suggestions for expanding bike lanes and also suggested a Ward ride in the City.

Agenda Item #8

Public Hearing on a request from Joyce Boggness (Heaven's Delight Restaurant) for an amendment to an existing Special Use Permit to change the Special Use Permit business owner from Monique Morris to Heaven's Delight, owned by Joyce Boggness at 1728 9th Street.

Mayor Pauley closed the regular meeting at 6:56 pm and opened a Public Hearing on a request from Joyce Boggness (Heaven's Delight Restaurant) for an amendment to an existing Special Use Permit to change the Special Use Permit business owner from Monique Morris to Heaven's Delight, owned by Joyce Boggness at 1728 9th Street.

Ms. Joyce Boggness and Mr. Gary Boggness of 1728 9th Street stepped forward.

Ms. Boggness stated that they will be preparing and selling fast food.

Mayor Pauley clarified that Ms. Bogguess just wants to change the name to Heaven's Delight, owned by Joyce Bogguess. Ms. Bogguess responded yes.

Mr. Bogguess stated that they offer hamburgers, Cornish fried hens, fried ribs, fried chicken skins and they provide prompt service.

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

Mayor Pauley 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 one 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 7:01 pm.

It was moved by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Brooks to approve the amendment to the special use permit as recommended and refer to the City Attorney for an ordinance changing the business name to Heaven's Delight, owned by Joyce Bogguess. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #9
CLAIMS

It was moved by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to accept the following reports and authorize payments as recommended.

Discussion followed. Alderman Tollenaer inquired about item (c). Alderman Tollenaer advised that he thought there was a maximum payout under the Sanitary Lateral Repair Program and believed it was an \$8,000.00 fee. Alderman Tollenaer stated that he did not understand why the City was paying that amount in item (c).

Public Works Director Bob Hawes advised that the amount the City pays is limited at \$8,000.00; \$4,000.00 for the plumbing bill and \$4,000.00 for surface restoration. Mr. Hawes stated that the City pays the contractor the full amount. Mr. Hawes added that the amount over the program limits are billed to the property owner, but the actual contractor is working for the City.

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

- a. Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding payment in the amount of \$3,236.14 to Brenda Spicer for General Liability claim.

- b. Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding payment in the amount of \$5,308.95 to Kutsunis and Weng for legal services rendered for the month of April.
- c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$12,821.61 to Langman Construction for repairs made under the 2011 Sanitary Lateral Repair Program at 1407 24 ½ Street.
- d. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #7 in the amount of \$1,027,507.44 to Civil Constructors, Inc. for services provided for the Wet Weather Treatment System project.
- e. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #1 in the amount of \$174,680.82 to Langman Construction for services provided for the 2012 PCC Street Patching project.

Agenda Item #10

Claims for the weeks of April 20 through April 26 in the amount of \$1,386,655.43 and April 27 through May 3 in the amount of \$538,059.53.

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

Agenda Item #11

Payroll for the weeks of April 16 through April 29 in the amount of \$1,336,714.15.

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

Agenda Item #12

Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the 2012 Sod Replacement Program, recommending the bid be awarded to Bush Sports Turf in the amount of \$23,550.00.

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

Agenda Item #13

Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for 24th Street Resurfacing from 5th to 9th Avenue, recommending the bid be awarded to Valley Construction Company in the amount of \$748,878.20.

It was moved by Alderman Tollenaer and seconded by Alderman Foley to award the bid as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #14

Report from the City Attorney regarding a license agreement with Larry O Melia for construction of a retaining wall on public right-of-way at 2535 35th Avenue.

Alderman Tollenaer moved and Alderman Foley seconded to approve the agreement as recommended, authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents and require Mr. O Melia to pay the recording fees for the agreement. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #15

Report from the Public Works Department regarding an amendment to the agreement with Symbiont for additional engineering services related to the proposed wet weather treatment system at the Mill Street wastewater treatment facility in the amount of \$387,000.00.

It was moved by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to approve the amendment as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents.

Discussion followed. Alderwoman Murphy inquired upon Public Works Director Bob Hawes to explain why this wasn't part of the original request.

Mr. Hawes advised that staff pulled it from the original agreement because it would be less expensive to do the design once they know the actual equipment and electronic components are there, and then they can design specifically for what is being installed rather than do a generic design.

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

Agenda Item #16

Report from the Public Works Department regarding an agreement with Missman, Inc. for professional services for the Ridgewood Business Park in the estimated amount of \$409,200.00.

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

Agenda Item #17

Report from the Administrative Services Department regarding annual utility bills and contract purchase orders as stated in the report for Fiscal Year 2012/2013.

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

Agenda Item #18

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding an appeal of the Preservation Commission's denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness to demolish Old Lincoln School at 2125 7th Avenue.

Alderman Austin moved and Alderman Tollenaer seconded to approve a certificate of appropriateness to demolish Old Lincoln School as recommended.

Discussion followed.

Mayor Pauley inquired as to whether anyone wants to address this item. Mayor Pauley advised that this is different from the last time; all of the testimony has been incorporated into the records and now, whoever wants to address Council on this item, may only make a brief statement.

Mr. Larry Miller of 823 19th Street stepped forward. Mr. Miller stated that the school should be saved at all costs.

Ms. Diane Oestreich of 816 22nd Street stepped forward. Ms. Oestreich stated that she wanted to correct an error that was in the newspaper this morning. Ms. Oestreich advised that the Preservation Commission's motion to deny was basically due to the building still meeting the criteria for a landmark and that was the only reason. Ms. Oestreich explained that this is the process the Preservation Commission goes through with Preservation Ordinances.

Mr. Vince Thomas of 1000 21st Street stepped forward. Mr. Thomas spoke in favor of keeping a national landmark and preserving it.

Ms. Linda Anderson of 1718 21st Street stepped forward. Ms. Anderson spoke in favor of letting Old Lincoln School stand.

Mr. Joe Schuch of 14th Street West stepped forward. Mr. Schuch suggested putting a new roof on Old Lincoln School until the right person comes along to restore the building.

Alderman Jones stated that when the City purchased this building, there was a vision in mind. Alderman Jones stated that he didn't know if every feasible effort has been made in regards to Old Lincoln School. Alderman Jones advised that he would be listening to the Preservation Commission and the constituents and will be voting no.

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

Agenda Item #19

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a request from OGAD Holdings LLC (for Subway Restaurants) for a Riverfront Corridor Overlay District site plan review for a proposed freestanding sign at 4110 Blackhawk Road.

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

Agenda Item #20

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding the review of a three-lot minor final plat of Shah's Addition located at 4711 11th Street and 4715 11th Street.

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

Agenda Item #21

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a request from the Rock Island Center for Math and Science for an amendment to an approved site plan within a PUD (planned unit development) district for an internally lighted freestanding sign on the site at 2101 16th Avenue.

It was moved by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to approve the request with the sign height variance as recommended, subject to the sign being set on a timer to turn off at 9:00 pm. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being,

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

Agenda Item #22

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a request for a correction in a legal description error for a 1978 alley right-of-way vacation ordinance for a segment of 9 ½ Street south of 29th Avenue.

Alderman Foley moved and Alderwoman Murphy seconded to approve the request as recommended and refer to the City Attorney for an ordinance vacating the 40' by 50' segment of 9½ Street as identified in the report. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #23

Report from the City Clerk regarding a request from Martinis on the Rock to hold live entertainment outside on Friday and Saturday nights beginning in the latter part of May 2012 through April 30, 2013.

It was moved by Alderwoman Murphy and seconded by Alderman Foley to approve the request as recommended, subject to complying with all liquor license regulations and subject to being closed down early if noise complaints are received.

Alderman Tollenaer commented that people will be able to listen to music in the rain. Alderman Tollenaer stated that Martinis has put a pavilion up and it will promote the outside experience in a rainstorm.

Alderman Austin stated that he lives more than 75 feet from the establishment and there was a time when he could hear the music. Alderman Austin stated that he had talked to the owner and the owner is very responsible and responsive.

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

Agenda Item #24

Report from the City Clerk regarding a Plaza activity event application from Malarkey's to hold a concert performance on Thursday, July 19, 2012 from 7:00 pm to 12:30 am.

Alderman Jones moved and Alderman Tollenaer seconded to approve the event as recommended, subject to complying with all liquor and Plaza regulations.

Discussion followed. Alderwoman Murphy stated that she was concerned that this event will take place on a week night; there are residents living in this vibrant neighborhood.

Alderman Murphy inquired upon Don Davison, owner of Malarkey's as to whether the ending time of this event (12:30 am) could be moved up a little bit.

Don Davison of 1814 56th Street Court in Moline stepped forward. Mr. Davison stated that he was aware of that and was not opposed to moving the time up. Mr. Davison advised that the event could start at 9:00 pm and be over by 10:30 pm, 11:00 pm or 11:30 pm. Mr. Davison explained that this is a pass through day by the performer and that is why the event is on a weekday. Mr. Davison added that this is a major performing artist; this will bring a lot of business to the Downtown.

Alderman Murphy inquired as to whether Mr. Davison could have the music end by 11:30 pm. Mr. Davison responded yes.

Alderman Murphy stated that she would not amend the motion, but would hold Mr. Davison to his word. Alderman Murphy added that the City has to think of the people living in the Downtown area.

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

Agenda Item #25

Report from the City Clerk regarding a Plaza activity event application from Steve's Old Time Tap to host an Irish Family Festival on Saturday, August 25, 2012 from noon to 10:00 pm.

It was moved by Alderman Conroy to approve the event as recommended, subject to complying with all liquor license regulations and to waive the fees associated with closing the street. Alderman Foley seconded.

Alderman Conroy advised that he motioned to waive the fees because this is also a fundraiser for an organization.

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

Agenda Item #26

Other Business

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

Alderman Austin stated that it is time again for the Citizen of the Year nominations. Alderman Austin indicated that there are eight categories, which include; Business, Professional, Youth, City Employee, Education, Organization and Individual, and there is also an Honorary category in which a person does not live in the City, but where the impact they have made on Rock Island

is unquestioned. Alderman Austin encouraged everyone to nominate someone they feel deserves the honor. It was noted that forms are available at City Hall and on the website at www.rigov.org. Alderman Austin offered that it is a fun event, and the winners will ride in the Labor Day Parade and the overall winner will be the Grand Marshal of the Parade.

Alderman Austin stated that the Quad City Convention and Visitors Bureau had a ribbon cutting in the new Visitors Center in downtown Rock Island. It was noted that the visitors center was previously located in the old Centennial Bridge Visitors Center. Alderman Austin added that the new visitor center was open on the day of the St. Patrick's Day Parade and they had more people come through the door that day than they did in the entire year at the previous site. Alderman Austin indicated that they have Quad City and Rock Island products for sale. It was noted that the Centennial Bridge Visitors Center will still have literature available. However, the Quad City Convention and Visitors Bureau will no longer be manning that facility and the bike rentals are on hold.

Alderman Brooks discussed a letter he wrote to the editors of the Argus and Quad City Times in regards to alerting people to their responsibility in their communities concerning the safety of their environment. Alderman Brooks also stated that violent crime is down in the City and the Rock Island Police Department does a good job serving the citizens. Alderman Brooks further discussed the issue of responsibility of citizens in their community.

Alderman Jones stated that Hope, Pride and Sense of Purpose is the theme for the Broadway Tour of Homes that will be held on Sunday, May 13th from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Alderman Jones added that tickets can be purchased for \$10.00 per person at the door or on their website at www.broadwaydistrict.org. Alderman Jones also thanked the volunteers that participated in the Downtown Cleanup on May 5th.

Alderwoman Murphy reminded everyone to Shop Rock Island. Alderwoman Murphy stated that the drive-up coffee kiosk at Bent River Brewing Company on 24th Street and 5th Avenue is now open. Alderwoman Murphy encouraged everyone to shop local; Shop Rock Island.

Agenda Item #27

Executive Session on Litigation.

The Executives Session on Litigation was held prior to the regular meeting.

Agenda Item #28

Recess

A motion was made by Alderman Brooks and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to recess to Monday, May 14, 2012 at 5:30 pm. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaar, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Murphy, Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks and Alderman Conroy; those voting No, none. The meeting was recessed at 7:31 pm.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk