

The Rock Island City Council met in Study Session at 5:30 pm in City Council Chambers at Rock Island City Hall. Present were Mayor Dennis E. Pauley presiding, and Aldermen Charles O. Austin III, Terry M.A. Brooks I, David Conroy, P.J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer and Joy Murphy. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas, Public Works Director Bob Hawes, Finance Director Cynthia Parchert, other City staff and City Attorney Ted Kutsunis. Alderman Jason W. Jones was absent.

WATER BILL POLICIES

Finance Director Cynthia Parchert reviewed and explained various sections of Chapter 16 of the Code of Ordinances regarding Water policies. The various sections discussed included, Sec. 16-21: Rules and Regulations for City Water Service; Sec. 16-22: Application for Water Service Connection; Sec.16-34: Water Rates Established; Sec. 16-35: City Collector to Have Charge of Collections; Sec. 16-36: Billing and Collection Procedures; Sec. 16-37: Adjustment of Water Charges; Sec. 16-39: Discontinued Use of Water; Sec.16-41: Owners to Protect Meters; Sec.16-42: Repairing Meters; Sec. 16-44: Lien Claim for Delinquency; and Sec. 16-47: Waste of Water.

Ms. Parchert pointed out Sec. 16-22 and stated that an application for water service must be made with the Finance Department by the owner or agent of the property; the application has to be signed by the same and once accepted, this constitutes a contract between the applicant and the City. Ms. Parchert added that the contract holder is also considered the owner of the property. Ms. Parchert further stated that where rental property is concerned, the landlord is responsible for delinquent charges even if the service is in the name of the tenant.

Ms. Parchert referred to Sec. 16-39 and noted that a person may have their water shut off and the meter removed, but that does not stop the bill; stormwater and refuse charges will still be incurred. Ms. Parchert then referred to Sec.16-42 and indicated that if a water meter fails to register the quantity of water consumed, charges will be based on the average quantity registered during the last preceding year prior to the date of failure, or if the average isn't available, then the minimum of 2,500 cubic feet of consumption will be used.

It was noted that in Sec. 16-44, the ordinance allows the City to file a lien for any unpaid water service that is beyond 30 days. Council discussed this section of Chapter 16.

Ms. Parchert referred to Sec. 16-47 and stated that if there is a defective pipe, faucet or other fixture that has not been repaired or after a reasonable time, the person neglects it or refuses to make repairs, then the Public Works Department may withhold the water supply. Council discussed this issue. Mr. Hawes advised that this ordinance is referring to water services. Mr. Hawes added that the only time this happens, which is rare, is in the wintertime when someone has a leak causing water to the surface and it causes ice to develop. Mr. Hawes stated that they are given time to repair it and if it is not taken care of then the water is shut off to eliminate the waste of water and to eliminate the hazard of the water leaking. Council further discussed this issue as it related to leaking pipes, meters and responsibility.

Ms. Parchert then discussed in length Sec. 16-36. It was noted that if a water bill is unpaid for 30 days or more, the City may shut off the water service to the property. Ms. Parchert stated that when City records reflect that the premises are occupied by tenants, the water may not be shut off for nonpayment without giving at least five days notice to the tenant by contacting them or by posting the notice on the front door of the property. Ms. Parchert added that a penalty of 5% will be added if the bill is not paid prior to the due date. Ms. Parchert also discussed billing to an address other than the service address and the procedure for the issuance of bills.

Ms. Parchert stated that a question had come up in regards to when a property is sold and there is a new owner. Ms. Parchert recommended that the ordinance be modified so that the new property owners are not responsible for utility bills to the previous owner unless a lien has been filed, in which case, they would have taken the property with a clouded title.

Council and City Attorney Kutsunis discussed this issue as it related to the current procedure for liens being filed and modifications to that procedure.

Ms. Parchert and Council discussed the collection process for unpaid utility bills. Ms. Parchert stated that for water and sewer, liens can be filed, but not for stormwater or refuse; in those cases, collection agencies and small claims court can be used. However, there is a cost involved.

Ms. Parchert pointed out that the Illinois Debt Recovery Program is a new program that the State of Illinois has implemented. It was noted that the City has applied to participate in the program. Ms. Parchert further discussed the details of the program.

Mr. Kutsunis discussed types of liens as it related to municipalities. Council discussed types of resources to collect debt as it related to cost. Council further discussed these issues.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Alderman Tollenaer and seconded by Alderman Foley to adjourn the meeting carried by the following Aye and No vote. Those voting Aye being; Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer and Alderwoman Murphy; those voting No, none. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 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 Charles O. Austin III, Terry M.A. Brooks I, David Conroy, P.J. Foley, Stephen L. Tollenaer, Jason W. Jones and Joy Murphy. 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 September 10, 2012.

A motion was made by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderman Austin to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 10, 2012 as printed. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones and Alderwoman Murphy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #6

Update Rock Island by Mayor Pauley.

Mayor Pauley advised everyone to bring their pooch to Bark in the Park on Sunday, September 30, 2012 from 9:00 am to noon for contests, demonstrations, and products and services for every dog. The Mayor stated that everyone can meet Happy the Dog and enjoy delicious pizza from Rock Island Happy Joe's. It was noted that doggy bags filled with goodies will be available for the first 50 dogs.

Mayor Pauley stated that the Fall Community Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, September 22, 2012 at Longview Park from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Mayor Pauley added that over 6,000 square feet of sales will be taking place. It was noted that admission to the event will be free, but call (309) 732-7275 to purchase vendor space.

Mayor Pauley offered that the award winning Pride of Rock Island High School Marching Band will present its 2012 competition show at Preview Night on Wednesday, September 19th at 7:00 pm at the Rock Island High School Stadium. Mayor Pauley added that musicians from Washington and Edison Junior High Schools will also be performing. It was noted that admission is free and concessions will be available before the show.

Mayor Pauley advised that the 2012 Quad Cities Marathon will take place on Sunday, September 23rd. Mayor Pauley stated that the 26.2 mile run starts and ends in downtown Moline, but will cover four cities, three bridges, two states and one island all along the mighty Mississippi River. Mayor Pauley added that along with the marathon, there is a half marathon, a marathon relay, a 5K, a 1-mile walk and even a micromarathon for the kids. Mayor Pauley stated that the race weekend offers something for everyone.

Mayor Pauley stated that the grass just got greener; only \$22.00 gets you a cart and 18 holes of golf anytime after 10:00 am on any day at Saukie Golf Course. Mayor Pauley stated that this is a great deal on a course that is in great shape. It was noted to call (309) 732-2278 for a tee time.

Agenda Item #7

Presentation of the 2012 Labor Day Parade Awards.

Grace Shirk, who is a member of the Labor Day Parade Advisory Board and Mayor Pauley stepped to the podium for the 2012 Presentation of the Labor Day Parade Awards.

Ms. Shirk stated that this year's parade had over 160 entries and noted that "What makes Us Rock" was the parade theme. Ms. Shirk commented on the highlights of the parade. Ms. Shirk thanked everyone involved with the parade for making it safe and successful and a special thank you went out to Mary Chappell, Art Milton and the citizens of Rock Island.

Ms. Shirk along with Mayor Pauley presented the 2012 Labor Day Parade Awards to the winning recipients.

The following are the winners of the 2012 Labor Day Parade Awards:

The Citizen's Choice Award winners were selected by various citizens watching the parade. The winners included; Whitey's Ice Cream, Martin Luther King Center Active Club, QC Paws: Rock Island County Animal Care & Control, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 299, Mississippi Truck & Trailer Repair, Inc. and Church of Peace.

The Council's Choice Award winners included; Earl Hanson Elementary School, Parrick Motorcycle Trike, US Navy Seabee Veterans of America, JBL Enterprises LLC, Longfellow Liberal Arts Elementary School, Tennant Truck Lines, Inc. and American Bank & Trust Company.

Recycled Doll-Fins of the 8 a.m. Swim Class was the recipient of the Parade Committee's Choice Award. Rock Island Center for Math & Science received the Marshal's Choice Award for the best theme-related entry, and the Rock Island Academy was the recipient of the Mayor's Cup Winner. All winners had their pictures taken with the Mayor.

Mayor Pauley congratulated all of the winners and everyone involved with the parade.

Agenda Item #8

Presentation of the Financial Management Report for August 2012.

Finance Director Cynthia Parchert provided highlights of the August Management Report. Ms. Parchert advised that the target balance for August is 42%. Ms. Parchert referred to the report and stated that the Finance Department will be monitoring the Replacement tax, Use tax and Utility tax. Ms. Parchert commented that the Replacement tax shows a surplus of \$7,500.00. Ms. Parchert noted that the Use tax shows a shortfall of about \$12,000.00. Ms. Parchert added that

the Utility tax shows a shortfall of approximately \$186,000.00 and this tends to have more fluctuation month to month than some of the other taxes with the exception of the Income tax.

Ms. Parchert pointed out that the Sales tax for August has been estimated at \$234,000.00. Ms. Parchert noted that the Utility tax was estimated at \$143,000.00, but the department received notification after the report was put together that the August allocation will be almost \$163,000.00. Ms. Parchert noted that the Telecommunications tax was estimated for July and August.

Ms. Parchert stated that the revenue for the Fleet Maintenance fund looks like it is behind but that is due to a lag as to when they do the interdepartmental billing. Ms. Parchert indicated that the revenue for the Hydroelectric Plant comes from MidAmerican and there is a couple of months lag between the time that MidAmerican collects it and sends it to the City. Ms. Parchert further discussed fund activity.

Ms. Parchert stated that General Fund expenditures are below the 42% target for all departments. Ms. Parchert discussed various funds as it related to the Parks and Recreation Department. It was noted that Park revenue is at 53% and overall department expenses are at 39%.

Ms. Parchert further discussed the Management Report for August.

Ms. Parchert pointed out that in regards to Investments and Rates, there was an error under the IIIT Fund for July; it should state 0.030% as the rate of return rather than 0.103%.

Council then discussed the Management Report for August.

Agenda Item #9

A Special Ordinance reinstating a 1984 Ford dump truck previously declared as surplus back into the City fleet.

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

Agenda Item #10

A Special Ordinance providing for the sale of property at 1138 2nd Avenue.

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

Agenda Item #11

CLAIMS

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

- a. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$20,292.58 to Langman Construction for an emergency sewer main repair at 37th Street and 21st Avenue. (197)
- b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #11 in the amount of \$1,620,969.81 to Civil Constructors, Inc. for services provided for the Wet Weather Treatment System project. (202)

Agenda Item #12

Claims for the week of September 7 through September 13 in the amount of \$398,967.76.

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

Agenda Item #13

Report from the Public Works Department regarding the purchase of 350 new register/touch pads from Badger Meters, Inc. in the amount of \$21,000.00.

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

Agenda Item #14

Report from the Public Works Department regarding the purchase of rehabilitation parts for primary clarifier #1 at the Mill Street Wastewater Plant from Zimmer and Francescon, Inc. in the amount of \$37,907.00.

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

Agenda Item #15

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding the purchase of 16 tax auction properties in the amount of \$16,750.00.

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

Agenda Item #16

Report from the Board of Local Improvements regarding bids for the 42nd Street Reconstruction: 29th Avenue to Saukie Golf Course project, recommending the bid be awarded to Langman Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$326,324.31.

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

Agenda Item #17

Report from the Board of Local Improvements regarding bids for the 44th Street Resurfacing: 29th Avenue to Saukie Golf Course project, recommending the bid be awarded to Centennial Contractors of the Quad Cities, Inc. in the amount of \$145,144.00.

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

Agenda Item #18

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a Memorandum of Understanding with Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation for the Veterans and Special Needs Housing and Addendum #1 to the previously approved development agreement for rebating GROWTH property taxes from the 11th Street TIF in access of \$10,000.00 per year for the TIF period.

Alderwoman Murphy moved and Alderman Conroy seconded to approve the memorandum of understanding and the addendum as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones and Alderwoman Murphy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #19

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a request from Ms. Joan VanHecke for rezoning from an R-3 (one and two family residence) district to a B-1 (neighborhood business) district at 3115 14th Avenue.

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

Agenda Item #20

Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding a request from Daniel Clem-McKinley, Friendship In-Home Services Director for Friendship Manor to apply for a Special Use Permit to operate a community integrated living arrangement group home for adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities at 1202 19 ½ Avenue.

Alderman Foley moved and Alderman Conroy seconded to allow for the application of the special use permit as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones and Alderwoman Murphy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #21

Report from the City Clerk regarding an activity application from Necker's Jewelers requesting to hold their third annual Diamond Dash Scavenger Hunt on Saturday, September 22, 2012 from noon to 2:00 pm in downtown Rock Island.

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

Agenda Item #22

Report from the City Clerk regarding an activity application from the American Cancer Society to hold their Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk on Saturday, October 6, 2012 from 8:00 am to 11:00 am.

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

Agenda Item #23

Report from the City Clerk regarding requests from the businesses in the College Hill District to decorate street posts and trees, place signage in the City's right-of-way, place 10

trash receptacles at the area businesses, requesting two (2) Police Officers for traffic control, and the utilization of College Hill District funds in an amount not to exceed \$900.00 for their Hill-O-Ween Festival to be held on October 27, 2012.

It was moved by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderwoman Murphy to approve the requests for decorations, signage and utilization of funds as recommended, and authorize staff to place trash receptacles at the area businesses as stated in the report, subject to the businesses contacting the Police Department for traffic control, providing the proper insurances, removing the decorative bows by November 4th and signage by October 29th. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones and Alderwoman Murphy; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #24

Other Business

Alderwoman Murphy encouraged everyone to shop local; Shop Rock Island.

Ms. Caryl Altemus of 1821 9th Street stepped forward. Ms. Altemus discussed the blue door hanger that she received regarding disconnection of her water services for nonpayment and the notice of delinquency that she received. Ms. Altemus stated that the paycheck that was going to take care of the installment was coming three days after the date on the bill. Ms. Altemus stated that on September 7th, she came to the correct office and paid the water installment and on September 11th, she received a notice of delinquency.

Ms. Altemus inquired as to whether a door hanger and a notice of delinquency is really necessary to notify people of delinquency and to remind them that they have a balance owing on the account; and will a simple phone call to the Finance office stating that the bill will be paid on a certain date if it is due be sufficient without a door hanger or a notice of delinquency coming to the home.

Finance Director Cynthia Parchert advised that the notice is automatically generated if there is a balance on the account. Ms. Parchert noted that if a customer has chosen the installment method, a notice is generated after the second installment and there is a lag for when the notice gets sent out and when the third installment is due. Ms. Parchert further explained to Ms. Altemus the three payment installment method. Ms. Parchert noted that by ordinance, the City is obligated to give the owner of a property at least five days notice.

Ms. Parchert advised that a customer cannot call in to make an arrangement to pay their bill. Ms. Parchert added that a customer can stop by the office to make a payment arrangement. Ms. Parchert stated that if the payment is going past the due date, it has to be in writing because then the Finance Department would be extending the contract with the customer.

Council and Ms. Parchert further discussed this issue.

Agenda Item #25

No Executive Session.

An Executive Session was not held.

Agenda Item #26

Recess

A motion was made by Alderwoman Murphy and seconded by Alderman Austin to recess to Monday, October 1, 2012 at 5:30 pm. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote: those voting Aye being; Alderman Austin, Alderman Brooks, Alderman Conroy, Alderman Foley, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Jones and Alderwoman Murphy; those voting No, none.

The meeting was recessed at 7:38 pm.

Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk