

CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall

1528 Third Avenue, Rock Island IL

City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor

3/28/2022 - Minutes

1. Call to Order

Mayor Thoms called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

2. This meeting will also be conducted by audio and video conference without the requirement of a physically present quorum of the Rock Island City Council due to the disaster declaration issued by Governor Pritzker.

3. Roll Call

Mayor Thoms asked City Clerk Samantha Gange to call the roll.

Present: Mayor Mike Thoms, Alderpersons Moses Robinson, Randy Hurt, Judith Gilbert, Jenni Swanson, Dylan Parker, Mark Poulos, and Bill Healy.

Absent: None

Staff: Interim City Manager John Gripp, Attorney Dave Morrison (via remote connection), City Clerk Samantha Gange, and other City Staff.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Thoms led in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Moment of Silence

Mayor Thoms requested a moment of silence. A moment of silence was observed.

6. Public Comment

Vincent Thomas, resident of Rock Island came to the podium to address Council about the Black Hawk sign. He remarked the Native American Coalition of the Quad Cities are not

strangers to Rock Island and provided examples of events at the Blackhawk Historic Site. He indicated he would like to have additional discussions with the City on the donation of the Black Hawk sign.

Mayor Thoms called Ian Empen to the podium for the purpose of receiving a Certificate of Achievement for his Eagle Scout rank. Mr. Empen remarked Eagle Scout is the highest rank in Boy Scouts. He noted he completed his service project for the Rock Island - Milan School High School band program by building shelving and benches for the band room. Mayor Thoms and Mr. Empen had their picture taken.

Aldersperson Robinson remarked he would like to acknowledge two Rock Island natives for their accomplishments. First, Brea Beal, who plays basketball for the South Carolina Gamecocks and is competing in the Women's NCAA Final Four tournament next weekend. Second, Vershaun Lee, Rock Island Boxing Club, who is preparing for a boxing fight overseas.

7. Minutes from the March 14, 2022 City Council Meeting.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to approve the minutes as printed; Aldersperson Hurt seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None.

8. Minutes from the March 14, 2022 Closed Session.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to approve the Closed Session minutes; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None.

9. Update Rock Island

Did someone say Adult Easter Egg Hunt? Join Friends of Hauberg Civic Center for this fun Bunnies, Baskets, and Brews event to benefit the restoration of the Hauberg Mansion. The event will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2022 at 4:00 pm and will feature an Easter Egg Hunt, Taco Bar, Bunny Photo Booth, and Easter Swag. For more information and to purchase tickets visit [HTTPS://HAUBERGESTATE.ORG/](https://haubergestate.org/)

Rock Island Parks and Recreation to host the Fifth Annual Underwater Egg Hunt! Hop in the pool to hunt for eggs! This unique egg hunt will take place on Sunday, April 3rd at 3:00 p.m. at the RIFAC swimming pool. Participants will grab empty eggs out of the pool to turn in for an

Egg-cellent goodie bag! Registration is required. Visit [HTTPS://WWW.RIGOV.ORG/164/PARKS-RECREATION](https://www.rigov.org/164/PARKS-RECREATION) to register.

The Rock Island Public Library continues its Tuneful Tuesday's with Jarabe Mexicano performing a versatile songbook of Mexican folk as well as other genres of music. The event will be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 12:00 pm and is free and open to the public. For more information, visit their website at [HTTPS://WWW.ROCKISLANDLIBRARY.ORG/](https://www.rockislandlibrary.org/).

Leaf Collection Program - the City of Rock Island is providing leaf collection for its residential garbage customers from **Monday, April 11 through Friday, April 29, 2022**, with the following conditions: Customers must place the leaves in approved paper yard waste bags. Customers may provide their own approved paper yard waste bags or use bags provided by the City. The bags must be placed at the normal garbage collection location on the regular scheduled collection day. The bags may not contain anything other than leaves. In addition to providing leaf collection, the City will also furnish bags for this program at no cost. The bags will be available for pick up beginning on **Monday, April 4** at the Public Works Department, South Rock Island Township Office, Rock Island Township Assessor's Office, Highland Springs Golf Course, and Saukie Golf Course.

10. Proclamation declaring April 7, 2022 Junior Achievement Day in the City of Rock Island.

City Clerk Samantha Gange read the proclamation. Mayor Thoms read his declaration. Jill Iams, Community Relations Director with Junior Achievement came forward to accept the proclamation and speak on Junior Achievement Day. A picture was taken with Mayor Thoms.

11. Presentation from the Rock Island Parks and Recreation Department for the T-Mobile Hometown Grant - Douglas Park Field Lighting.

Representatives from the Parks and Recreation Department, Friends of Douglas Park, and T-Mobile came to the front for a check presentation. A representative from T-Mobile remarked the City of Rock Island received a \$50,000 hometown grant from T-Mobile to install field lighting for the youth baseball diamond and multi-purpose field to complete renovation of historic Douglas Park. A picture was taken with Mayor Thoms.

12. An Ordinance amending Appendix A of the Code of Ordinances adding Article XI, Section 17H to the Zoning Code for Regulating Intermodal and Portable Storage Containers. (Second Reading)

Aldersperson Hurt moved to pass the ordinance; Aldersperson Robinson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None.

13. Claims
 - a. Report from the Information Technology Department regarding payment in the amount of \$20,990.71 to System Innovators, Chicago, IL for the iNovah System annual support maintenance contract.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to approve claims item a; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

- b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #7 and final to Walter D. Laud, Inc., East Moline, IL in the amount of \$529,514.92 for services provided from June 15, 2021 through December 31, 2021 as part of the Sidewalk and Pavement Patching Program, Projects 2140, 2158, 2377, 2434, 2564, and 2526.
- c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$33,300.11 to McClintock Trucking & Excavating Inc., Silvis, IL for services provided at 3203 35th Avenue, 1611 21st Street, 2526 35th Avenue, and 28 Hillcrest Court as part of the Water Service Repair Program, Project 2526, and the Sewer Lateral Repair Program, Project 2564.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Swanson moved to approve claims items b and c; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

Aldersperson Parker recused himself from the vote due to the nature of his employment.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, and Swanson. Nay: None. Absent: None

- 14. Claims for the week of March 4th through March 10th, 2022 in the amount of \$989,767.77; March 11th through March 17th, 2022 in the amount of \$978,608.89; and payroll for the weeks of February 7, 2022 through February 20, 2022 in the amount of \$1,478,841.15.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Healy moved to allow the claims and payroll; Aldersperson Robinson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

- 15. ACH payments for the month of February 2022 in the amount of \$783,071.68.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Poulos moved to approve the ACH payments; Aldersperson Robinson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

16. Purchase Card claims for the period of January 27, 2022 through February 28, 2022 in the amount of \$66,383.86.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Swanson moved to approve the purchase card claims; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

17. Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the Levee and Right-of-Way Vegetation Control Contract, recommending the bid be awarded to JIMAX Landscape LLC, Peoria, IL in the amount of \$65,510.00.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to award the bid as recommended and authorize the Interim City Manager to execute the contract documents; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

18. Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the installation of barrier gates at Sunset Marina, Lincoln Park, and Longview Park, recommending the bid be awarded to Sampson Fence Ltd., Blue Grass, IA in the amount of \$16,965.00.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to accept the bid and authorize the Interim City Manager to execute the contract documents; Aldersperson Hurt seconded.

Aldersperson Swanson remarked she had a constituent call and report that he witnessed several cars going around the current barriers at Sunset Park and is in favor of these gates being installed to prevent cars from going around. She opined she was also in favor of the gates being installed as the roads are getting ruined as a result of people going around the current barriers. Alderspersons Gilbert and Healy indicated they received the same call.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

19. Report from the Public Works Department regarding an extension of the lease agreement with T-Mobile for use of cellular antennas located on the 1405 36th Street water tower.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Poulos moved to approve the extension and authorize the Interim City Manager to sign the lease agreement; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

20. Report from the Public Works Department regarding a request from the Bi-State Regional Commission for the City of Rock Island to draft a letter of support for a proposed study of the IL-92 Corridor in 2023 as part of an application for an Illinois Special Planning and Research Grant.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Hurt moved to commit to the IL-92 Corridor Study, authorize City staff to finalize the draft letter of support; and authorize the Interim City Manager to sign the letter on behalf of the City; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

Aldersperson Swanson remarked an email was sent to Council regarding a change in the motion to reflect Andalusia Road-Indian Bluff Road Corridor Study in place of the IL-92 Corridor Study

Alderspersons Hurt and Poulos withdrew their motions.

Aldersperson Hurt moved to commit to the Andalusia Road/Indian Bluff Road Corridor Study, authorize City staff to finalize the draft letter of support; and authorize the Interim City Manager to sign the letter; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

Aldersperson Parker asked Public Works Director Mike Bartels to come to the podium to answer a question. He asked Mr. Bartels what happens to these studies once they are completed. He noted that no action was taken with the previous IL-92 Corridor Study that was completed a few years ago. Mr. Bartels responded he was not sure what happens with these studies after they are complete and would need to reach out to Bi-State Regional Commission for the answer. He added this specific study will focus on non-motorized vehicles and he hoped in the future they will implement the findings of these studies.

Mayor Thoms indicated they might use these studies for applying for grants. Mr. Bartels indicated he would ask Bi-State and get back to Council.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

21. Report from the Finance Department regarding an agreement with Promotional Support Services, Inc., Davenport, IA for printing and mailing services.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Swanson moved to approve the agreement and authorize the Interim City Manager to execute the contract documents; Aldersperson Robinson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

22. Report from the Community & Economic Development Department regarding a Special Ordinance requesting the transfer of the City's 2022 Home Rule Volume Cap to Quad Cities Regional Economic Development Authority (QCREDA). (First Reading)

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinance; Aldersperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

23. Report from the Community & Economic Development Department regarding a request from Good Shepherd Presbyterian to vacate a segment of a City north/south alley adjacent to a church owned dwelling at 1822 24th Street on the East and a church parking lot on the West.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to direct staff to prepare the ordinance per the agreement negotiated today between MidAmerican Energy and representatives of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

Miles Brainard, Director of the Community & Economic Development Department came to the podium to provide additional details. He indicated MidAmerican met with the church to discuss what they were trying to accomplish, including adjustments to the current plan that would make MidAmerican more comfortable with the vacation request and the installation of solar panels. He noted that if MidAmerican is ok with it, staff would recommend approving the request.

Aldersperson Gilbert asked City Attorney Morrison if a specific date needed to be added to the motion. He responded it wasn't necessary. Mr. Brainard indicated he would bring this item back with a recommendation to approve the request at the next City Council meeting.

Dave Stockdale, representative from Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church came to the podium to address Council. He noted there are a few factors that are still keeping them from making a final decision on whether to install the solar panels. He said there is still a slight chance of the

solar panels not being done at all or going in a different area.

Mr. Morrison recommended that the ordinance be brought back to Council to include that the vacation request is contingent upon them doing the solar panel project.

Alderspersons Poulos and Gilbert withdrew their motions.

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to direct staff to prepare the ordinance per the agreement negotiated with MidAmerican Energy and representatives of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church making the ordinance and alley vacation contingent upon the church doing the solar project; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

24. Report from the Finance Department regarding an adjustment to the CY 2022 budget, decreasing expenditures in the Community & Economic Development Fund by \$14,750.00 and increasing expenditures by \$20,750.00 in the Rock Island Labor Day Parade Fund for the 2022 Labor Day Parade.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to approve the budget adjustment as recommended; Aldersperson Robinson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

25. Report from the Finance Department regarding an adjustment to the CY 2022 budget, increasing the Library Fund revenue and expenditure budgets by \$50,000.00.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Swanson moved to approve the budget adjustment as recommended; Aldersperson Parker seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

26. Other Business

Aldersperson Gilbert remarked the Rock Island Hy-Vee will no longer be offering pick up or delivery services and residents will need to use the Milan or Moline locations for pick up or delivery. She noted she would be curious to see if the sales tax from Hy-Vee will decline as a

result.

Aldersperson Robinson indicated that pizza delivery does not service the West End of Rock Island. He noted he understood the reasoning behind this many years ago, but was unsure why they don't deliver to this area now. Mayor Thoms indicated he would reach out to the various pizza establishments in the City and ask for the delivery service to resume again.

Aldersperson Hurt asked if Positive Brothers United could briefly speak about their organization. Mayor Thoms responded affirmatively.

A representative from Positive Brothers United came to the podium to address Council. He indicated his organization is focused on helping kids stay off of the streets and out of trouble. They provide kids with positive interactions and encourage them to take advantage of opportunities in the community. He provided Council with a handout that detailed all of the services they provide. He noted how hard it is to get these kids involved.

Aldersperson Robinson indicated he heads the Metropolitan Youth Program and noted it is hard to get young men to change. He said the number of kids involved in his program has declined over the years as they cannot get them involved and noted it isn't "cool" to be associated with these types of programs. He encouraged Positive Brothers United to continue their good work.

Aldersperson Hurt remarked on the great work Positive Brothers United is doing to help local kids and indicated he would set up a meeting with them and City staff in the future.

Aldersperson Gilbert noted Positive Brothers United just received their 501(c)(3) status (non-profit) from the IRS.

Mayor Thoms remarked there were two youth organizations he would like to mention. First, Youth Rebuild is a great program that is offered at Thurgood Marshall that teaches youth how to build homes. Second, Recharge Teen Center in Galesburg works with youth ages 13-18 teaching them how to cook, do laundry, financial literacy, how to change a tire, and other basic skills.

Aldersperson Gilbert remarked she would like to commend Information Technology Director Tim Bain for bringing the Simplicity app to the City of Rock Island. It's a free app to the City and residents and she is able to utilize this app to provide Third Ward residents with information, including articles that she posts on her blog. She asked Mr. Bain if he could add a link on the City's website to encourage residents to download and take advantage of the free app.

27. Closed Session.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Poulos moved to enter into Closed Session for the exceptions cited; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: None

28. Motion to Adjourn.

Upon re-entering the regular meeting, roll call was taken.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to adjourn; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE: Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, and Parker. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

The meeting concluded at 8:35 p.m.

__Samantha Gange_____

Samantha Gange