

**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

City Hall

1528 Third Avenue, Rock Island IL

City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor

4/12/2021 - Minutes

1. Call to Order

Mayor Thoms called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

2. This meeting will be conducted by audio and video conference without 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 Interim City Clerk Linda Mohr to call the roll.

Present: Mayor Mike Thoms and Alderman Mark Poulos.

Alderman Ivory D. Clark, Alderman James Spurgetis, Alderwoman Jenni Swanson, Alderman Dylan Parker, and Alderman Dave Geenen were present via remote connection in accordance with Governor Pritzker's Executive Order.

Absent: Alderman Randy Hurt.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

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

5. Moment of Silence

Mayor Thoms called for a moment of silence. A moment of silence was observed.

6. Public Comment

Mayor Thoms asked if anyone in the public wished to speak.

Rock Island Resident Andy Boswell came up and wished to speak about the water and sewer privatization discussion within the City. He said he depends on City services and does not worry about profit and loss as a private company would, and privatizing would be a mistake. He provided a personal anecdote regarding street light outages and the lack of action from MidAmerican Energy to replace them. He noted his participation in the City's water and sewer

insurance program, and wondered if a similar delay in action would be occur under a private company's purview.

Rock Island Resident Daryl Brekke came up and wished to speak about the water and sewer privatization discussion within the City. He stated he is not in favor of that possibility. He noted his past work in a different city's public works department, and the experience of discussing privatization. He said the cost involved in a transition would be immense, and provided detail on what they would be. He added the day-to-day experience of local departments brings more value than privatizing, which would invite additional costs. He said it would be a detriment to the resident's taxpayers.

Mayor Thoms said most of the previous outages with lights were City-owned fixtures, and the City worked with MidAmerican Energy to have repairs done, but some are still not working, and will be taken down. He noted all currently working lights are owned by MidAmerican.

7. Minutes of the March 22nd, 2021 City Council Meeting.

MOTION:

Alderman Poulos moved to approve the minutes as printed; Alderman Clark seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

8. Update Rock Island by Mayor Thoms

Grow a Reader this Spring at the Rock Island Public Library – The Rock Island Public Library kicked off their Grow a Reader giving campaign this week to welcome young users back to the library. Grow a Reader donation “trees” are on display at the Downtown and Southwest Libraries. Each display contains tags with an account balance of over \$5 or more for an anonymous young person between 6 and 18 years of age with an active library card. Donors can choose to pay part or all of the amount on the bookmark to help crowd-fund a new start back to the library. The donation drive lasts until May 29.

For more information about Rock Island Public Library events and services, visit the Rock Island Library website, www.rockislandlibrary.org, or call 309-732-READ. Rock Island Library events are also listed on Facebook and at Burbio.com.

Quad City Botanical Center Plant Sale – The horticultural team and staff have selected beautiful annual and perennial plants, and easy to master container combinations, for your garden. Choose individual pots, combos or new staff favorites for 2021. Proceeds from the annual plant sale support our educational mission. Order by Sunday, April 18 for May 8th pickup. To view the catalog of plants, visit www.qcgardens.com.

Picnic Shelter Reservations – Rock Island Parks and Recreation is currently accepting picnic shelter reservations for the 2021 season. Reservations can be made over the phone or in person at the park office at the Rock Island Fitness & Activity Center, 4303 24th Street. Reserving a shelter is first come, first serve and payment is required at the time of reservation. Call the Rock Island Park Office at (309) 732-PARK for more information.

National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week is April 11th – 17th. In many instances these professionals make the difference between life and death. Most people don't stop to think about

these seemingly nameless, faceless individuals until they experience actual emergencies themselves. Every day, millions of people depend on the skills, expertise and commitment of the men and women who work in public safety telecommunications. These individuals' help save lives by answering emergency phone calls, dispatching emergency professionals and equipment and providing moral support to citizens in distress.

To provide the city of Rock Island with 24 hour support we currently have 12 Telecommunicator positions and one Supervisor. Rock Island Telecommunicators handle over 34,000 911 calls and another 190,000 calls for service annually. All Telecommunicators are fully certified in Emergency Medical Dispatch. Please do your part to honor and recognize your Rock Island Police / Fire / EMS Dispatchers this week!

9. Proclamation promoting roadway safety

Interim City Clerk Linda Mohr read the proclamation. Mayor Thoms read his declaration.

10. Proclamation declaring April 2021 as Earth Month.

Interim City Clerk Linda Mohr read the proclamation. Mayor Thoms read his declaration.

11. Public Hearing regarding the HUD CDBG Program Year 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance Report.

Mayor Thoms closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing.

Planning and Redevelopment Administrator Miles Brainard gave a background on why the Hearing was taking place. He said the performance report showed that the department spent CDBG dollars according to plan. He invited questions from the public regarding the report or the department's performance.

Mayor Thoms also asked if anyone in the public wished to speak. No one spoke.

Mayor Thoms closed the Public Hearing and reopened the regular meeting to entertain a motion.

MOTION:

Alderman Poulos moved to approve the Program Year 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance report as submitted; Alderwoman Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

12. A Special Ordinance updating the current zoning map for the City of Rock Island - Second Reading.

MOTION:

Alderman Parker moved to approve the Ordinance; Alderman Clark seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

13. Claims

- a. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding payment to City Attorney, David Morrison, Rock Island, in the amount of \$12,520.86 for services rendered in March, 2021.

MOTION:

Alderwoman Swanson moved to approve Claims Item A; Alderman Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

- b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment to Miller Trucking and Excavating, Silvis, IL, in the amount of \$13,992.10 for an emergency water main repair on 26th Street and 15th Avenue.

MOTION:

Alderman Spurgetis moved to approve Claims Item B; Alderman Clark seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 5-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

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

14. Claims for the week of March 18th through 25th, 2021 in the amount of \$526,140.17; the week of March 26th through April 1st, 2021 in the amount of \$417,624.20; payroll (revised) for the weeks of February 22nd through March 7th, 2021 in the amount of \$1,480,955.23; and payroll for the weeks of March 8th through March 21st, 2021 in the amount of \$1,508,067.42.

MOTION:

Alderman Clark moved to approve the claims and payroll; Alderman Spurgetis seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

15. Report from the Public Works Department regarding the bid for the 2021 Sod Replacement and 50/50 Tree Program, Projects 2141 and 2352, recommending the bid be awarded Greenspace Associates, Inc., Bettendorf, IA in the amount of \$234,300.00 for the Sod Replacement Program and \$13,870.00 for the 50/50 Tree Program.

MOTION:

Alderman Clark moved to award the bid as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents; Alderman Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

16. Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding the Sale of City owned real estate described as 3106 10th Street, Parcel #102639, PIN #1611301043 to Deborah Neely for \$800.00 plus closing costs. (First Reading)

MOTION:

Alderman Spurgetis moved to approve the sale as recommended, authorize the City Manager to execute the sale agreement, and consider the ordinance; Alderman Clark seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

17. Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding the Sale of City owned real estate described as 1419 and 1425-1427 11th Street, Parcel #094294, PIN #1611301043 and Parcel #094296, PIN #1602128025 to Olthea Stevenson for \$2,531.00 plus closing costs. (First Reading)

MOTION:

Alderman Swanson moved to approve the sale as recommended, authorize the City Manager to execute the sale agreement, and consider the ordinance; Alderman Spurgetis seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

18. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding a three year contract agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #57 representing police officers and detectives.

MOTION:

Alderman Parker moved to approve the contract agreement as recommended; Alderman Poulos seconded.

Human Resources Director John Thorson came to the front and thanked Assistant Police Chief Rich Landi for his work on the final agreement.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

19. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget adjustment, increasing the revenues and expenses by \$24,000.00 for the DeLaCerde House Permanent Supportive Housing Program.

MOTION:

Alderman Poulos moved to approve the budget adjustment as recommended; Alderman Clark seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

20. Request from the Traffic and Engineering Committee regarding a request to install a handicapped parking space in front of the residence at 2049 46th Street - First Reading.

MOTION:

Alderman Geenen moved to approve the request as recommended and consider the ordinance; Alderman Spurgetis seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

21. Report from the Traffic and Engineering Committee regarding a request for two handicapped parking spaces in front of their residence at 1024 22nd Street - First Reading

MOTION:

Alderman Clark moved to approve the installation of one handicapped parking space as recommended and consider the ordinance; Alderman Spurgetis seconded.

Alderman Poulos requested confirmation of the number of parking spaces covered by the ordinance. Ms. Mohr stated the motion was recommended by Staff. Alderman Spurgetis stated the resulting recommendation was a good compromise.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

22. Report from the Traffic and Engineering Committee regarding a request from Rock Island High School to install bump outs, a parent pick up and drop off lane, a crosswalk, a bus pick up and drop off lane and a traffic signal with push buttons on 25th Avenue at the High School - First Reading.

MOTION:

Alderman Spurgetis moved to approve the request as recommended and consider the ordinance; Alderwoman Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 5-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

Alderman Clark recused himself from the vote due to the nature of his employment.

23. Report from the Mayor's Office regarding the reappointment of Dr. John Hildreth to a three year term on the Fire and Police Commission.

MOTION:

Alderwoman Swanson moved to reappoint Dr. Hildreth as recommended; Alderman Clark seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

24. Report from the City Clerk's office regarding an Activity Permit and Resolution from the Quad City Bandits to hold their annual Quad City Bandits Race to Home 5K event on Saturday, August 21, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

MOTION:

Alderman Parker moved to approve the event as recommended and adopt the resolution; Alderman Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

25. Other Business

Alderwoman Swanson encouraged residents to participate in the "Grow A Reader" program through the Library. She also thanked the Rock Island Health Department for running the vaccine clinics within the City. Mayor Thoms concurred and encouraged everyone to have theirs.

Alderman Clark congratulated everyone that ran for office.

26. Executive Session:

MOTION:

Alderman Poulos moved to go into Executive Session for the reasons cited; Alderman Spurgetis seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Clark, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

27. Executive Session:

28. Executive Session:

29. Motion to Adjourn

MOTION:

Alderman Geenen moved to adjourn to Monday, April 26, 2021; Alderwoman Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion passed on a 5-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Geenen, Spurgetis, Swanson, Parker, and Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

Alderman Clark was unable to vote due to a dropped connection.

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Josh Adams, Deputy City Clerk