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 Stephen L. Tollenaer, Kate Hotle, Charles O. Austin III, Ivory D. Clark and Virgil J. Mayberry. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas, Community and Economic Development Director Jeff Eder, Public Works Director Randy Tweet, Parks and Recreation Director Bill Nelson, other City staff, Ken Ballard, President of Ballard*King and Associates and City Attorney Dave Morrison. Aldermen Joshua Schipp and P.J. Foley arrived at 5:41 pm.

PRESENTATION BY BALLARD*KING

Mr. Ken Ballard of Ballard*King presented the Parks and Recreation Department’s Operational Audit and Business Plan Study to Council. Mr. Ballard discussed the assessment tasks as it related to the study. The tasks discussed included; market analysis; community needs; financial assessment; maintenance and asset management; organizational structure and performance; and action plan.

The strengths of the Parks and Recreation Department that Mr. Ballard discussed included; a long history of providing parks and recreation facilities and services; serves a diverse population including non-residents; there are a significant number of facilities and they are generally well run and maintained; offers a broad range of programs and services, which are well organized and well run; has a state of the art outdoor aquatic center; and Parks and Recreation has two first class golf courses.

Next, Mr. Ballard discussed the weaknesses that were identified from the assessment in regards to the Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Ballard stated that the department operates as a quasi-independent entity. Mr. Ballard advised that funding for Parks and Recreation has remained relatively static and the department has been using its unrestricted fund balance for operations. Mr. Ballard pointed out that there is a lack of time and resources being allocated to long range planning and most services are provided in-house. Mr. Ballard further discussed these two items. Mr. Ballard advised that the department would benefit from reorganization. Mr. Ballard further stated that staff needs to be more efficient and effective to improve the performance of the department. Mr. Ballard further discussed these weaknesses.

Mr. Ballard indicated that there are many challenges identified in the general assessment. Mr. Ballard stated that it will be difficult to continue to operate the department at its current level with the existing rate of tax support. Mr. Ballard added that there is a strong emphasis on revenue generation and cost recovery. Mr. Ballard commented that the department’s enterprise operations are impacted by having to carry depreciation, capital debt and internal service charges. Mr. Ballard noted that the Parks and Recreation Board has a significant level of operational and budget responsibility and Parks and Recreation operates with a different structure than other departments, which can strain relations. Other challenges Mr. Ballard discussed included; the department’s facilities are aging and will need capital improvements; operational improvements are possible but this will not be enough to balance the budget; there is a need to have an updated Parks and Recreation master plan; and coordinating efforts with other providers will be important. Mr. Ballard advised that Rock Island will need to determine if Parks and Recreation
services will remain at the current level, and if they are to remain at the current level then a higher level of funding will be required.

Mr. Ballard discussed the whole assessment process. Mr. Ballard advised that they toured the Parks and Recreation facilities, interviewed key staff, completed a demographic analysis and had community input. Various forms of community input included; attending Parks and Recreation Board meetings; input from focus groups; and an on-line survey was completed. Mr. Ballard stated that there was a total of 539 responses from the on-line survey. Mr. Ballard advised that one of the questions on the survey asked the participant if they felt that the City should continue to operate and maintain the current inventory of indoor and outdoor facilities. Mr. Ballard added that there were 403 responses that stated yes. It was noted that another question was if the participant would support an increase in the tax levy to support the indoor and outdoor facility improvements. Mr. Ballard stated that 126 responses stated yes, 150 responses stated that they may be willing to increase taxes for that purpose, 95 responses opposed the increase and 178 responses were unsure. Mr. Ballard further discussed the on-line survey as it related to other questions presented and responses.

Next, Mr. Ballard discussed the key financial recommendations of their findings, which included; find an alternative to the current method of assessing depreciation costs to enterprise funds; the department should be in full compliance with City budget practices; the department needs an operations plan and fee policy; and expand the use of cost center accounting practices. Mr. Ballard advised that for the golf courses, there is a need to establish open and closure dates for Highland Springs; consider making Saukie a seasonal course; and plan for renovation or replacement of the club houses.

Mr. Ballard stated that for RIFAC, there is a need for an upgrade on the weight/CV equipment; eliminate tanning, towel and laundry service; limit hours for drop-in child care; and include fitness classes in membership fees. Mr. Ballard commented that the department may consider adding a new slide and splash pad to Whitewater Junction. Mr. Ballard added that Hauberg should be a rental and events center only. Mr. Ballard indicated that no new facilities or programs should be added in the next two years. Other financial assessment recommendations Mr. Ballard discussed included; capital investment will need to grow; the City will need to increase funding or curtail services; and a reduction in services should include; closing underutilized parks and facilities, reduce the level of maintenance, and contract operations and maintenance of other facilities.

In addition, Mr. Ballard discussed maintenance and asset management recommendations. The recommendations discussed included; developing a formal maintenance plan; establish and classify parks and facilities by level of service; develop an emergency action plan; determine which maintenance functions should be contracted; complete an asset inventory; complete a full ADA assessment; determine if the greenhouse should be closed; and consider having facility user groups be responsible for the maintenance.

Next, Mr. Ballard discussed organizational structure and performance recommendations. Mr. Ballard advised that they may want to consider changing the role of the Parks and Recreation
Board to more of an advisory function. Mr. Ballard added that changing from policy making to an advisory function is more appropriate. Mr. Ballard commented that the City Council has the policy and financial authority. Other organizational structure and performance recommendations that Mr. Ballard discussed included; updating the department’s operations policies and procedures; establish an overall staffing plan; develop a staff training and education program; and establish three to four general categories for part-time staff. Mr. Ballard discussed creating a one-year short term action plan, a two to three year middle term plan and a four to five year long term plan as it related to the recommendations.

Council, Mr. Ballard and Parks and Recreation Director Bill Nelson discussed the presentation as it related to the master plan. Council and Mr. Ballard also discussed data and usage as it related to Saukie Golf Course and Highland Springs Golf Course. Council and Mr. Ballard discussed RIFAC as it related to towel and laundry services in terms of cost, and fitness classes and membership fees as it related to increasing the rates. In addition, Council and Mr. Ballard discussed contracting out services, lowering maintenance costs in parks and eliminating various parks in terms of cutting costs in reference to financial issues. Council further discussed the presentation.

PRESENTATION ON SUNSET MARINA RATES

Public Works Director Randy Tweet presented an overview of Sunset Marina and Marina rates.

Mr. Tweet advised that the Marina has 473 slips in which some are covered and some are uncovered, and some have power and others do not have power. Mr. Tweet stated that they do winter storage for up to 250 boats; there is non-potable water for all slips, a fuel dock and a large travel lift for pulling the boats out of the water.

Mr. Tweet referred to the chart and explained the layout of the dock area. Mr. Tweet advised that the 100 Dock houses the larger slips. Mr. Tweet added that the 200 Dock is suffering from the siltation issue. It was noted that the 100 Dock and 300 Dock are the most occupied docks. Mr. Tweet commented that the 400 Dock will be usable this spring. Mr. Tweet indicated that the 500 Dock has the larger uncovered slips in which some have power and some do not have power. It was noted that the 600 through 900 Docks house the small boats. Mr. Tweet further discussed the layout of the dock area.

Mr. Tweet advised that originally, which was about 115 years ago, Sunset Marina was a farm and slaughter house and then it became a sand and gravel company. Mr. Tweet indicated that the City got involved in it in the late 1940’s or early 1950’s and started purchasing some land, and in the early 1950’s, the CORPS opened up access to the river. Mr. Tweet stated that in the late 1950’s, the City started the Marina with 50 slips and at that time, the Parks and Recreation Department ran the Marina. Mr. Tweet explained that in 1962, the Marina was leased out for the next 20 years to a number of different operators, and the City took it over in 1980 because it had fallen into disrepair. Mr. Tweet further discussed the history of the Marina.

Mr. Tweet stated that in regards to staffing, the Marina has a manager, an office assistant, one Marina yard worker and there are two to three part-time seasonal employees that work the fuel
dock. Mr. Tweet further discussed staffing. Mr. Tweet advised that the operating season for the Marina is March through November, but the actual boating season is April through October. Mr. Tweet added that the Marina office is open Monday through Friday. Mr. Tweet commented that the office is not open on Saturdays or Sundays, but they do man the fuel dock during those times. Mr. Tweet further discussed this item.

Mr. Tweet discussed occupancy as it related to the slips. Mr. Tweet commented that in 2009, there was a decline and there was a big drop from 2012 to 2013 and that was due to how Public Works considered a slip being occupied. Council and Mr. Tweet further discussed this item.

Next, Mr. Tweet discussed Marina rates. Mr. Tweet advised that there were some large increases in 2004 when improvements were done, which included the parking lot and landscaping. Mr. Tweet commented that in 2014, the price of covered slips went down; the 400 Dock rates were reduced by 25%. Mr. Tweet commented that the people on the 400 Dock are actually paying 2009 rates. Mr. Tweet added that there is no increase in the rate this year. Mr. Tweet referred to the chart and discussed the 2014 customer satisfaction survey. Mr. Tweet offered that the responses indicated that customer service and support facilities ranked excellent or good. However, the docks rated acceptable, poor or very poor. Mr. Tweet further discussed the survey.

Mr. Tweet discussed the challenges in regards to the Marina. Mr. Tweet advised that the Marina is operating at a break-even point or below that depending on how many boaters there are year to year, and there is no money for capital. Another challenge Mr. Tweet discussed was the competition for winter storage. Mr. Tweet explained that in the past, the lot was full with winter storage, but now there are other companies that will charge half of what Public Works charges. Mr. Tweet further discussed this challenge. Other challenges Mr. Tweet discussed included; the need for constant dredging; harbor entrance siltation; and the shrinking number of leaseholders and boaters in general.

Mr. Tweet discussed maintenance issues. Mr. Tweet stated that the 400 Dock needs to be replaced and the cost would be approximately $1.5 million dollars. Mr. Tweet added that there is also a need for Marina dredging, which is estimated at about $150,000.00. Mr. Tweet indicated that the Marina office and workshop roof needs repairing, which is estimated at $150,000.00. In addition, Mr. Tweet stated that the 300 Dock gangway needs repairing and the cost for that would be about $20,000.00. Mr. Tweet commented that for next year, the Marina has budgeted $15,500.00 for maintenance supplies. Mr. Tweet explained that all of that money was put in for supplies, and even if all of the money was taken from supplies, there wouldn’t be enough money to cover those repairs to the 300 dock gangway.

Mr. Tweet discussed Marina rates for 2016. Mr. Tweet stated that he is proposing no rate increase for 2016. Mr. Tweet explained that they looked at other marinas in the area, and it is impossible to compare dock to dock or slip to slip because sizes are different and the amenities are different. Mr. Tweet noted that the Marina is at the high end of the cost and it is not realistic for the boaters to pay more. Mr. Tweet commented that it is being recommended that summer and winter storage rates remain the same. It was noted that there will be some small increases to some labor and service rates. Mr. Tweet added that they still support the 25% discount for the 400 Dock covered slips and the 50% summer lease rate after July 15th.
Mr. Tweet advised that to sustain the Marina, additional funding sources are needed. Mr. Tweet added that he wasn’t sure where that funding will come from. Mr. Tweet stated that there will have to be some discussion on that issue before the next budget cycle; decisions will have to be made. Mr. Tweet further discussed this item.

Council and Mr. Tweet discussed the presentation as it related to possible options for the Marina in reference to whether or not the City wants to be in the Marina business. Mr. Tweet noted that the rates would be on the Agenda for Council consideration next week.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Alderman Mayberry and seconded by Alderman Hotle to adjourn the meeting carried by the following Aye and No vote. Those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none. The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 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 Stephen L. Tollenaer, Kate Hotle, Joshua Schipp, Charles O. Austin III, Ivory D. Clark, Virgil J. Mayberry and P.J. Foley. Also present were City Manager Thomas Thomas and City Attorney Dave Morrison.

Introductory Proceedings

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

Agenda Item #5
Minutes of the meeting of November 9, 2015, November 16, 2015 and November 23, 2015.

A motion was made by Alderman Clark and seconded by Alderman Foley to approve the Minutes of the meeting of November 9, 2015, November 16, 2015 and November 23, 2015 as printed. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #6
Update Rock Island by Mayor Pauley.

Mayor Pauley stated that the City of Rock Island’s Beautification Commission has selected the winner of the October 2015 “Yard of the Month” award. The winner was selected from among six nominees. Mayor Pauley added that the October winner is Barbara Walton at 4041 – 25th Avenue. This is the final Yard of the Month award for the 2015 season. Photos of this year’s winning yards can be found under the Beautification Commission section of the City’s website at www.rigov.org.

Mayor Pauley advised that the City of Rock Island’s Beautification Commission is sponsoring the 30th Annual Holiday Lighting Contest. To nominate a residential or commercial light display, send the name and address of the display via email to planning@rigov.org or call (309) 732-2900 by 5:00 pm on Monday, December 14. Mayor Pauley stated that judging will take place on the evening of December 22, when all displays should be illuminated by 5:30 pm. Winners of the 2013 and 2014 Holiday Lighting Contest are not eligible.

Saukie Pro Shop is open for great shopping deals. Stop in for great stocking stuffers such as gift certificates, golf balls, shirts, hats and more. Mayor Pauley noted that Saukie’s Pro Shop will be open through December 23. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 am to noon, Wednesday & Friday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Saturday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. We can sell gift certificates over the phone with a credit card too! Call (309) 732-2277.

Mayor Pauley advised that Gallery Hop is the foremost winter-time event of the Rock Island Arts & Entertainment District. Local and regional artists will have their artwork on display, Friday, December 11, 2015 from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm. The “Hop Stops” stretch all the way from 16th Street to 25th Street and from 1st Avenue to 5th Avenue and a map will guide “Hoppers” to
Mayor Pauley stated that these locations are not limited to art galleries; artists will exhibit in coffee shops, restaurants, retail shops, and entertainment venues. This is a perfect event to take care of some holiday shopping, all while supporting local businesses and artists. For more information, please visit www.ridistrict.com.

Mayor Pauley advised that Augustana College’s John Deere Planetarium at 820 38th Street will present its annual holiday program from Saturday, December 12, 2015 to Friday, December 18. The planetarium show “Season of Light” will be offered weekdays at 7:00 pm and Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 pm. Mayor Pauley commented that the show uses the planetarium sky projector, astronomical images, music and narration. Admission is free and reservations are requested. The program is not recommended for children ages 7 and under. For reservations, call (309) 794-7318.

Agenda Item #7
Public Hearing on a request from Steven and Cynthia Pressly for an amendment to an approved Special Use Permit to locate a new internally lighted freestanding sign at approximately the same location as a previous freestanding sign, which was lighted with ground flood lights at 2106 7th Avenue.

Mayor Pauley closed the regular meeting at 6:49 pm and opened a Public Hearing on a request from Steven and Cynthia Pressly for an amendment to an approved Special Use Permit to locate a new internally lighted freestanding sign at approximately the same location as a previous freestanding sign, which was lighted with ground flood lights at 2106 7th Avenue.

Mr. Steven Pressly of 3235 29th Avenue Court stepped forward. Mayor Pauley swore in Mr. Pressly.

Mr. Pressly stated that the report from City staff outlines what we intend to do at the corner of 21st Street and 7th Avenue. Mr. Pressly added that the sign mirrors the sign that is in the current location at 3030 7th Avenue. Mr. Pressly offered that the Broadway neighborhood is in support of the sign. Mr. Pressly indicated that the sign will actually be smaller than the sign it is replacing. Mr. Pressly advised that the previous sign was 4’ wide and 8’ tall and this sign will be a little bit longer, but it is shorter and the light will go off at 10:00 pm; it will not be a detriment to the neighborhood.

Mayor Pauley stated that two letters were received in support of the sign, one from Alan and Brenda Carmen and the other letter was from Diane Oestreich.

Alderman Hotle thanked Mr. Pressly for his efforts.

Alderman Austin inquired as to when the building will be in use. Mr. Pressly stated that part of the building will be used this week. Mr. Pressly offered that he and his wife will be moving there. Mr. Pressly added that the neighbors have been fantastic; this has been a great project.

Mayor Pauley inquired as to whether there was anyone that wished to speak in favor of the special use permit to locate a new internally lighted freestanding sign at approximately the same
Mr. Dylan Parker of 817 22nd Street stepped forward. Mayor Pauley swore in Mr. Parker. Mr. Parker stated that he is a resident of Broadway. Mr. Parker stated that he has no objection to the sign and supports it. Mr. Parker commented that it is a great contribution to the neighborhood.

Mayor Pauley then inquired as to whether there was anyone who wished to speak in opposition to the special use permit to locate a new internally lighted freestanding sign at approximately the same location as a previous freestanding sign, which was lighted with ground flood lights at 2106 7th Avenue. No one stepped forward.

With no other persons present to speak in favor of or in opposition to the special use permit, Mayor Pauley closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the regular meeting at 6:53 pm.

It was moved by Alderman Hotle and seconded by Alderman Foley to approve the special use permit as recommended, subject to the stipulations that the internally lighted freestanding sign shall be set on a timer for the lights to turn off at 10:00 pm; the sign shall meet all other applicable codes and ordinances; and refer to the City Attorney for an ordinance. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #8

Public Hearing regarding the Calendar Year 2016 Budget.

Mayor Pauley closed the regular meeting at 6:54 pm and opened a Public Hearing on the Calendar Year 2016 Budget.

Finance Director Cynthia Parchert stated that the grand total of all funds is $131,716,131.00 and the General Fund is $37,070,234.00. Ms. Parchert commented that there were a few minor changes since Council last met and those changes are identified in one of the documents that Council received tonight.

Mayor Pauley then closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the regular meeting at 6:55 pm.

Agenda Item #9

An Ordinance providing for the levy, assessment and collection of taxes for the City of Rock Island for fiscal year January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

It was moved by Alderman Tollenaer and seconded by Alderman Schipp to consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinance.

Discussion followed. Alderman Austin inquired as to when Council will know the final EAV figure. Ms. Parchert stated that she did not know.
Alderman Austin stated that the City actually is approving a levy that will keep the rate the same; if the EAV would be up or down a little bit then the rate may have to fluctuate a little bit up or down to accommodate that.

Ms. Parchert advised that there has not been a rate increase in the last five years. Ms. Parchert added that when this was started, the rate was 2.40; the intent was to keep the rate the same. Ms. Parchert added that the final numbers came in and the EAV went up more than what was anticipated or it didn’t go down as much as was anticipated. Ms. Parchert noted that the rate will fluctuate.

Council and Ms. Parchert further discussed this item.

After discussion, the motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #10
An Ordinance adopting the Budget for the Calendar Year beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2016.

Alderman Foley moved and Alderman Hotle 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 Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #11
A Special Ordinance establishing stop intersections at 45th Street and 9th Avenue and 45th Street and 10th Avenue.

It was moved by Alderman Tollenaer and seconded by Alderman Hotle to consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinance. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #12
A Resolution Opposing the Extension of Disastrous Trade Policies.

Alderman Schipp moved and Alderman Hotle seconded to adopt the resolution.

Discussion followed. Alderman Schipp stated that the City knows firsthand the devastating impact when manufacturing leaves a city and what it does to people and property values. Alderman Schipp stated that there are municipalities and county boards across the country that are considering these resolutions. Alderman Schipp advised that the resolution points out that we live in a city where there is 6.2% unemployment and a 20% poverty rate; there are similar numbers in the region. Alderman Schipp advised that when the intent of the trade deals are looked at and you contrast that with the delivery of NAFTA and the Korean free trade deal, the
promises are always grand but the results are generally ill received. Alderman Schipp stated that it is important to support this type of resolution and call upon the federal elected officials to consider real people in local communities when discussing national trade deals that have historically shown to benefit the multi-national corporations and keeps the power and wealth in their hands, and really does nothing to move the ball on poverty or real wages.

Alderman Austin stated that this is written by the AFL-CIO. Alderman Austin added that John Deere and Alcoa are two of the major employers in this area and questioned whether or not anyone knows what their thoughts are on this matter. Alderman Austin and Alderman Schipp discussed this subject.

After more discussion on this resolution, Alderman Schipp stated that this resolution calls for specific things to be included in these trade deals that benefit workers and domestic production here. Alderman Schipp noted that historically, these trade deals have not done that.

Alderman Austin inquired upon City Attorney Morrison for his comments. City Attorney Morrison stated that this would not have a binding effect or legal effect in regards to passing the resolution. City Attorney Morrison indicated that he didn’t see any harm in going forward with the resolution; it is a matter of preference.

Alderman Foley stated that it is a matter of being symbolic; there is no legal issue here. Alderman Foley commented that if anyone wants to know the impact on Deere and Alcoa, just call and ask them.

After discussion, the motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, Alderman Tollenaer and Alderman Austin.

Agenda Item #13
CLAIMS

It was moved by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Schipp 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 Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

a. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding payment in the amount of $16,347.16 to Dave Morrison for legal services rendered for the month of November.

b. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding payment in the amount of $1,522.62 to MidAmerican Energy for General Liability claim.

c. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding payment in the amount of $126,462.00 to Broadspire for Worker's Compensation settlement for Donald J. Muhlenburg.
d. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding payment in the amount of $7,216.60 to Broadspire for Worker's Compensation settlement for Robert Schroeder.

e. Report from the Information Technology Department regarding payment in the amount of $14,328.96 to DLT Solutions, Inc. for the annual AutoDesk subscription maintenance.

f. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #9 in the amount of $910,509.17 to Brandt Construction for services provided for the 6th Avenue Relief Sewer project.

g. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #1 in the amount of $12,036.64 to Central Salt for providing salt for this year's winter season.

h. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #1 and final in the amount of $51,937.50 to Mechanical Jobbers Marketing, Inc. for services provided for the 2015 Manhole Lining Program project.

i. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of $29,134.24 to Brandt Construction Company for an emergency sewer main repair on 15th Avenue and 31st Street.

j. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of $13,140.25 to Langman Construction, Inc. for an emergency sewer main repair at 3429 25th Street.

k. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #1 in the amount of $163,574.55 to Walter D. Laud, Inc. for services provided for the 22½ Avenue Reconstruction, east of 29th Street project.

l. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #1 and final in the amount of $22,030.00 to CDB Utility Contractors, Inc. for services provided for Fiber Optic Cable Phase 8.

m. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #1 in the amount of $97,136.98 to Brandt Construction Company for services provided for the 2015 Seal Coat Program project.

n. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #42 in the amount of $186,868.00 to Civil Constructors, Inc. for services provided for the Wet Weather Treatment System project.

o. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #43 in the amount of $84,229.09 to Civil Constructors, Inc. for services provided for the Wet Weather Treatment System project.
p. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #5 in the amount of $85,134.65 to Centennial Contractors of the Quad Cities, Inc. for services provided for the 2015 Sidewalk and Pavement Patching Program projects.

q. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #24 in the amount of $1,220,564.99 to Gilbane Building Company for construction services provided for the Rock Island Police Station.

r. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #2 in the amount of $115,683.94 to Centennial Contractors of the Quad Cities for services provided for the 20th Avenue Resurfacing: 27th Street to 30th Street project.

s. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #2 in the amount of $12,552.39 to Central Salt for providing salt for this year's winter season.

t. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of $23,045.00 to Acadian Tree Service for the 2015 Tree Trimming, Removal and Stump Grinding Contract.

u. Report from the City Attorney regarding payment in the amount of $4,668.75 to the Law Offices of Andich & Andich for legal services rendered from November 2014 through January 2015 for appeal litigation.

Agenda Item #14
Claims for the weeks of November 6 through November 12 in the amount of $2,433,342.77, November 13 through November 19 in the amount of $556,786.58 and November 27 through December 3 in the amount of $2,414,901.87 and payroll for the weeks of October 26 through November 8 in the amount of $1,413,106.67 and November 9 through November 22 in the amount of $1,429,657.72.

Alderman Clark moved and Alderman Mayberry seconded to allow the claims and payroll. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being: Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #15
Report from the Information Technology Department regarding the purchase of Panasonic Toughpads and accessories from CDS Office Technologies in the amount of $14,995.00.

It was moved by Alderman Tollenaer and seconded by Alderman Hotle to approve the purchase as recommended and authorize payment. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.
Agenda Item #16
Report from the Information Technology Department regarding the purchase of two Toshiba copier/printers from Office Machine Consultants along with a maintenance agreement in the amount of $11,750.00.

Alderman Tollenaer moved and Alderman Mayberry seconded to approve the purchase 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 Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #17
Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the purchase of a 2017 refuse packer, recommending the bid be awarded to RNOW, Inc. in the amount of $186,512.00.

It was moved by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Hotle to award the bid as recommended, authorize purchase, and refer to the City Attorney for an ordinance declaring the 1989 refuse packer as surplus and allow for trade-in. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #18
Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for a three year lease of nine 2016 Ford F150 pickups, recommending the bid be awarded to Enterprise Fleet, Inc. in the amount of $71,655.84.

Alderman Austin moved and Alderman Foley seconded to award the bid as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents.

Discussion followed. Alderman Tollenaer stated that this is terrible and asked Council to say no until the City can get a better deal. Alderman Tollenaer added that there will always be a payment when there is a lease on a vehicle.

Alderman Hotle inquired upon Public Works Director Randy Tweet to explain why a lease was chosen.

Mr. Tweet advised that sometimes a vehicle is kept longer and it is past its amortization. Mr. Tweet added that typically, a vehicle is replaced after 10 years.

Alderman Foley inquired about mileage and the time component for keeping these vehicles. Mr. Tweet advised that they put about 8,600 miles on these vehicles per year; this would be a three year lease and if it works out, we would get three new vehicles after that. Mr. Tweet commented that if the City buys the vehicles, it would take about nine years to pay them off.
Council further discussed this issue. Mr. Tweet advised that they chose this option to lease because it is saving money and the City gets a new vehicle every year. Mr. Tweet added that for CED, the savings is $13,000.00 a year and for the Library, the savings would be $1,300.00 a year.

Alderman Tollenaer further discussed this issue as it related to cost and time in reference to it not being much of a savings to lease the vehicles.

Mr. Tweet stated that the lease would be through Enterprise and Public Works will be doing the maintenance work. Mr. Tweet advised that Enterprise pays fleet services to perform the warranty work for the life of the agreement.

Council further discussed this item as it related to the cost and savings component. Mr. Tweet noted that this is a three year test.

After more discussion, the motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being: Alderman Hotle, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark and Alderman Mayberry; those voting No, Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Schipp and Alderman Foley.

Agenda Item #19
Report from the Community and Economic Development Department regarding bids for the emergency demolition and site clearance of 903 22nd Street, recommending the bid be awarded to H. Coopman Trucking in the amount of $23,760.00.

It was moved by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Hotle to award the bid as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents.

Discussion followed.

Alderman Foley stated that this fire happened in Alderman Hotle’s ward. Alderman Foley inquired as to why the City is paying for it and not the property owner.

Community and Economic Development Director Jeff Eder advised that in emergency demolition situations, the City steps in and the City pays for it. Mr. Eder advised that the City will go after the insurance company and landlord to get reimbursed for it. Mr. Eder commented that the landlord does have insurance and the City is in contact with the landlord and insurance company. Mr. Eder added that since the City authorized the contractor to do the work, the City is obligated to pay for it.

City Attorney Morrison advised that there is a mandate that if you have insurance for a fire, and the City ends up tearing it down or it looks like it will have to be torn down, they are mandated to withhold funds from the payment on the proceeds from that fire policy. City Attorney Morrison added that CED is very good at sending those letters out.
After discussion, the motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #20
Report from the Public Works Department regarding a lease agreement with Verizon for the installation of cellular antennas on the 24th Street and 31st Avenue water tower.

Alderman Foley moved and Alderman Clark 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 Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #21
Report from the Police Department regarding a Statement of Work agreement with IOS for the creation and validation of a new physical agility test for the new police applicant testing process in 2016.

It was moved by Alderman Austin and seconded by Alderman Schipp to approve entering into the statement of work 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 Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #22
Report from the Parks and Recreation Department regarding the Fire Station at Douglas Park, recommending the transfer of budgeted Gaming funds from the Hauberg and Chalet projects in the total amount of $39,127.00 to fund the removal of the Fire Station.

Alderman Clark moved to not approve the request, Alderman Foley seconded.

Discussion followed. Alderman Clark stated that there was a study session tonight where we discussed the assessment of the parks. Alderman Clark stated that Council needs a little bit more time to talk with Mr. Nelson and the Board to discuss the future of the parks and especially Douglas Park that means so much to the City of Rock Island. Alderman Clark commented that a little more time is needed before Council decides to remove any facilities from the parks.

Alderman Hotle agreed with Alderman Clark’s comments. Alderman Hotle stated that this is a 100 year old building and the City keeps losing some of the landmarks that we have had that reminds us where the City came from. Alderman Hotle stated that if the City can come up with an alternative way to potentially reuse that building, it would be a win for the City.

Alderman Austin commented that it is functionally obsolete and Council has already looked at some numbers.
After discussion, the motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, Alderman Tollenaer and Alderman Austin.

Agenda Item #23  
**Report from the Parks and Recreation Department regarding bids for the demolition of the old Fire Station at the northeast corner of 9th Street and 18th Avenue, recommending the bid be awarded to McAdams and Associates in the amount of $39,127.00.**

Mayor Pauley stated that this makes Item #23 irrelevant, and at this time, we will strike this item from the Agenda.

Agenda Item #24  
**Report from the Public Works Department regarding water rate increases for 2016 through 2020.**

Alderman Schipp moved and Alderman Austin seconded to approve the water rate increases as stated in the report and refer to the City Attorney for an ordinance.

Discussion followed. Alderman Schipp stated that he is like everyone else, you don’t want to ever have to pay to increase the fees for a service you already have. Alderman Schipp advised that earlier this year, Council approved the design for a new water filtration system. Alderman Schipp added that the current building was built in 1910. Alderman Schipp pointed out that there is a chance that the current system could go down.

Public Works Director Randy Tweet stated that is correct. Mr. Tweet added that any replacement parts have to be manufactured.

Alderman Schipp stated that there is no backup plan to deliver water to 40,000 people and the urgency now is to build the new facility and the City has to pay for it. Alderman Schipp explained that these rates are going towards the payment of the construction of the new plant; this is for the City’s water now and in the future and to cover costs; it is not for profit.

After discussion, the motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #25  
**Report from the City Attorney regarding the Chronic Nuisance Property Ordinance, recommending to modify the City’s current ordinance to comply with the new State law that became effective November 19, 2015.**

It was moved by Alderman Hotle and seconded by Alderman Schipp to approve the modification as recommended and authorize the City Attorney to create the ordinance.
Discussion followed. Alderman Austin inquired upon City Attorney Morrison to explain this item.

City Attorney Morrison stated that during the late 1980’s or early 1990’s, the Attorney General’s office was trying to come up with ways to help law enforcement work with problem properties, and they set out a number of different criteria where if a house had so many calls for drug arrests or other types of disturbances, you could use that to declare the property a nuisance. City Attorney Morrison pointed out that one of the unintended consequences of that was domestic violence and sexual abuse, which were included in the criteria. City Attorney Morrison commented that as a result, a person that might be abused by their spouse or significant other would have to make the choice of calling the police and getting kicked out of the place they live in or basically do nothing. City Attorney Morrison stated that people were forced to make that choice. City Attorney Morrison advised that the legislators decided that no person should have to make that choice.

After discussion, the motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #26
Report from the Finance Department regarding an adjustment to the CY 2015 Budget, recommending increasing the Martin Luther King Jr. Activity Fund in the amount of $1,125.00.

Alderman Clark moved and Alderman Hotle seconded to approve the budget adjustment as recommended. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #27
Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request from Julie Mosher to install yield signs at the intersection of 8th Street and 42nd Avenue.

Mayor Pauley inquired as to whether anyone was going to make a motion on this item. No one motioned. Mayor Pauley inquired again as to whether anyone was going to make a motion on this item. No motion came forward. With no motion coming forward, item #27 died for lack of a motion.

Agenda Item #28
Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request from Shirley Welch to install a handicapped parking space in front of her home at 2319 20th Avenue.

Alderman Tollenaer moved and Alderman Austin seconded 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 Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle,
Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #29
Other Business.

Alderman Tollenaer made a motion to reconsider item #18 (the lease vehicle agreement), Alderman Schipp seconded.

Alderman Austin stated that it has to be voted on.

Mayor Pauley stated that this means it would come back next week. Mayor Pauley advised that the motion before Council can be voted on now, but the item would come back next week for reconsidering the motion.

The motion then carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being; Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Mayor Pauley stated that this item will come back next week for reconsideration of the motion.

Alderman Hotle stated that the Governor signed the motor fuel tax today, so the City will be getting that revenue to get the roads done.

Mayor Pauley advised that the City will also be getting Gaming revenue of about $2.7 million dollars back from the State that they have been holding on us.

Alderman Tollenaer discussed the two cents sales tax per gallon on gasoline. Alderman Tollenaer stated that the City of Rock Island charges two cents a gallon on every gallon of gasoline and he would like a report from staff and have it investigated in regards to whether or not the City should look at eliminating the two cents per gallon tax. Alderman Tollenaer advised that it would allow for the petroleum dealers in Rock Island to be more competitive. Alderman Tollenaer further discussed this item.

Alderman Foley stated that this Saturday, he will be attending the Army/Navy game.

Alderman Schipp advised that a rally will be held tomorrow night at 5:30 pm at the Plumbers and Pipefitters Hall in regards to standing up for fairness. Alderman Schipp stated that they will be calling on the Governor to pass a fair budget for working families in Illinois, and to pass a fair contract for the State workers who have been faithfully doing their jobs without a contract for many months. Alderman Schipp further discussed this item.

Nicole Pinnuck who had signed up to address Council to speak on a topic had already left the meeting.
Ron Senteras of 506 Green Ct. Colona, IL stepped forward. Mr. Senteras stated that he is a striking worker from Brandt Construction Company. Mr. Senteras voiced concerns in regards to Brandt Construction not providing enough training for their employees. Mr. Senteras also expressed concerns in regards to the verbal abuse, unsafe working conditions and very old equipment being used in regards to this company.

Dakota Upshaw of 715 East 7th Street, Muscatine, IA stepped forward. Mr. Upshaw stated that he is a striking worker from Hy-Brand Industrial Contractors, which is a subsidiary of Brandt Construction in Milan, IL. Mr. Upshaw voiced concerns in regards to the severe lack of training with this company as well as the poor condition of heavy equipment and other types of equipment. Mr. Upshaw also voiced concerns in regards to the verbal and physical abuse he has seen with this company. In addition, Mr. Upshaw expressed concerns in regards to the unsafe working conditions that he has experienced with this company.

Austin Horendon of 14657 100th Street Lot 32 stepped forward. Mr. Horendon stated that he is a striking worker from Hy-Brand. Mr. Horendon voiced concerns in regards to not receiving any type of training and unsafe working conditions with this company.

Vince DiDonato of 12628 Towerline Road, Pekin, IL stepped forward. Mr. Didonato stated that he is affiliated with the Center for Worker’s Justice. Mr. DiDonato commented that he has been talking to some of the striking workers for a few months on some of their issues. Mr. DiDonato read a letter from Ms. Nicole Pinnuck who had already left the meeting in regards to unsafe working conditions, not being trained and old and unsafe vehicles in reference to Hy-Brand. Mr. DiDonato stated that there are two striking workers from Brandt Construction and six striking workers from Hy-Brand; all of these individuals have been terminated for going on strike for asking for safe working conditions. Mr. DiDonato asked the City to look at the contractors and use contractors that treat their employees a little bit better.

Brad Long stated that he represents Laborer’s Local Union 309 at 2835 7th Avenue. Mr. Long voiced concerns in regards to double standards in reference to building permits. Mr. Long stated that several incidents have taken place where contractors were working on jobs and did not have permits from the City. Mr. Long added that he called the City about these incidents, but there was no response. Mr. Long discussed an incident where they took action and the contractor finally came down to the City and got a permit. Mr. Long stated that in another incident, he called Mayor Pauley and that was taken care of; the contractor came to the City to get a permit. Mr. Long indicated that a contractor was working on their building and he told the contractor to get a permit before he started the project, but he didn’t and the City came and shut the contractor down within 15 minutes of starting the project. Mr. Long stated that he was glad the contractor was shut down. Mr. Long added that the contractor finally went down and obtained a permit.

Mr. Long stated that there is a double standard; some people have to follow the rules and other people don’t. Mr. Long added that we have to do a better job of screening these contractors that work in the City. Mr. Long further discussed this issue.

Liz Sherwin of 3748 12th Street stepped forward. Ms. Sherwin stated that she was at the meeting on behalf of the IL-IA Center for Independent Living. Ms. Sherwin stated that they just
constructed a new building at 501 11th Street. Ms. Sherwin noted that they have had issues with that site since they moved in. Ms. Sherwin explained that semi-trucks drive up onto the property. It was noted that the center has posted signs that say no traffic, but the signs are ignored. Ms. Sherwin distributed some photographs to Council. Ms. Sherwin stated that shortly after the new construction of the street, a truck drove up onto the easement and sidewalk. Ms. Sherwin advised that she spoke to the owners that have the trucks coming in and they have said that they cannot do anything. Ms. Sherwin added that she has discussed this issue with the City and they have not given her any alternatives. Ms. Sherwin further discussed this issue.

Mayor Pauley inquired upon Public Works Director Randy Tweet to take a look at it and see what the City can do to help Ms. Sherwin and the building.

Ms. Sherwin commented that since the reduction of the street, there is less room for the trucks to turn than it was before; they are up on the boulevard; they are destroying our landscaping.

Mayor Pauley stated to Ms. Sherwin that Mr. Tweet will look at it to see what can be done and he will bring it back to Council next week.

Agenda Item #30
Executive Session on Personnel, Property Acquisition and Litigation.

A motion was made by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Mayberry at 8:00 pm to recess to Executive Session on matters of Personnel, Property Acquisition and Litigation. The motion carried on a roll call vote. Those voting Aye being: Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none.

Agenda Item #31
Recess

Mayor Pauley reconvened the regular meeting at 8:22 pm. A motion was made by Alderman Foley and seconded by Alderman Clark to recess to 5:30 pm, Monday, December 14, 2015. The motion carried by the following Aye and No vote; those voting Aye being: Alderman Tollenaer, Alderman Hotle, Alderman Schipp, Alderman Austin, Alderman Clark, Alderman Mayberry and Alderman Foley; those voting No, none. The meeting was recessed at 8:23 pm.

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Aleisha L. Patchin, City Clerk