

RUSHVILLE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL & CALL TO ORDER

The Rushville City Council met in the meeting room of the City Hall building. Upon convening, Mayor Carson Klitz directed City Clerk, Stacey Briney to call the roll. Upon ROLL CALL, the following answered present: Council Members: Susan Acker, Terry Dodds, Jeff Ervin, Bob Lambert, and Mike Ryan. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Council Members, Richard Davis, Barry Rebman, & Paul Trimble were absent.

Others present included: Stacey Briney, City Clerk; Charlie Burton, City Attorney; Nathan Campbell, Superintendent of Operations; Rick Wright, Chief of Police; David Haney of *The Rushville Times*; and Schuyler Isley, representing Schuyler County Economic Development Commission (SCEDC).

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Carson Klitz.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at this time.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

All items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as the first item after approval of the Consent Agenda.

- a) Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting March 21, 2022
- b) Approve the Minutes of the Public Buildings Committee Meeting held March 24, 2022; Grievance & Personnel Committee Meeting held March 29, 2022; & Combined Sidewalk & Lighting & TIF Committee Meeting held March 30, 2022
- c) Approve "Claims for Council Approval Dated 04/04/22" & Accept Monthly Reports
- d) Consider Reserving Central Park on Saturday, April 30th, for Prom Preview
- e) Approve \$500 Donation to the Culbertson Memorial Foundation for the Dr. Russell Dohner Golf Outing (*as per past practice*)
- f) Pass & Adopt Ordinance No. 1342, Ordinance Renewing an Existing Franchise & Granting for a Period of 5 Years to Ameren Illinois, a Corporation, Its Successors and Assigns, The Franchise Right Permission & Authority to Construct, Reconstruct, Excavate for, Places, Remove, Extend, Maintain, & Operate a Gas Utility System in the City of Rushville, County of Schuyler and State of Illinois
- g) Pass & Adopt Ordinance No. 1343, Ordinance Renewing an Existing Franchise & Granting for a Period of 5 Years to Ameren Illinois, a Corporation, Its Successors and Assigns, The Franchise Right Permission & Authority to Construct, Reconstruct, Excavate for, Places, Remove, Extend, Maintain, & Operate an Electric Utility System in the City of Rushville, County of Schuyler and State of Illinois

Dodds MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. Ervin SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 5 YEAS – Acker, Dodds, Ervin, Lambert, & Ryan; 0 NAYS; 3 ABSENT – Davis, Rebman, & Trimble.

5. ITEMS TO BE REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA – IF APPLICABLE

All items were approved on the Consent Agenda.

6. DISCUSS & CONSIDER PURCHASING SECURITY CAMERAS FOR CITY BUILDINGS

Superintendent of Operations, Nathan Campbell reported Advanced Communications had done an assessment of most of the city buildings and have decided to hold off on the well site since it needs better internet and Logan Street until after the construction is completed. Campbell said he spoke to Chief of Police, Rick Wright about monitoring the cameras and Chief Wright noted that as long as they have a computer they can monitor them anywhere.

Public Building Committee Member, Terry Dodds stated there was discussion at the committee meeting at putting two (2) cameras on City Hall. Mayor Klitz asked if this is something that is going to have to be bid, and Campbell said it was not because it was under the Twenty Thousand Dollar (\$20,000) threshold.

Campbell reported he went with Advanced Communications because they are out of Beardstown, so fairly local, and they do a lot of the communications in town with the police, sheriff, and fire departments.

Ervin MOVED TO APPROVE PURCHASING SECURITY CAMERAS FOR CITY HALL (2), WATER PLANT, AND THE STREET SHED ALONG WITH A MONITOR AT CITY HALL. Ryan SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 5 YEAS – Dodds, Ervin, Lambert, Ryan, & Acker; 0 NAYS; 3 ABSENT – Davis, Rebman, & Trimble.

7. DISCUSS & CONSIDER 1ST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1345, ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES, WAGES, & BENEFITS FOR CITY DEPARTMENT SUPERINTENDENTS & EMPLOYEES

Ervin MOVED TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 1345, ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES, WAGES, & BENEFITS FOR CITY DEPARTMENT SUPERINTENDENTS & EMPLOYEES TO THE SECOND (2ND) READING. Lambert SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 5 YEAS – Ervin, Lambert, Ryan, Acker, & Dodds; 0 NAYS; 3 ABSENT – Davis, Rebman, & Trimble.

8. DISCUSS & CONSIDER 1ST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1346, ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

Lambert MOVED TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 1346, ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO THE SECOND (2ND) READING. Ryan SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 5 YEAS – Lambert, Ryan, Acker, Dodds, & Ervin; 0 NAYS; 3 ABSENT – Davis, Rebman, & Trimble.

9. COUNCIL MEMBER & OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Council Member, Susan Acker reported she and City Attorney, Charlie Burton had a web meeting with some people of IDOT to discuss the junction at West LaFayette Street and Route 67. Acker stated IDOT will first have to do a traffic count so the city will not have any answers until that is done. Acker said IDOT asked if lights were installed at that intersection if the city would pay the electricity. Acker noted she informed them that she could not speak for the entire council but she would mention it. Attorney Burton stated there was some talk of stop lights and overhead lighting.

Acker stated they all discussed placing guardrails at that intersection as well but IDOT did not think that warranted them but they might be able to slope that off some instead.

Cemetery Committee Chairman, Bob Lambert reported it is time to look at hiring mowers for the cemetery so the city will need to advertise. Mayor Klitz said he fears the city will have a problem getting people. Council Member, Jeff Ervin noted that no one has put in an application for the watering on the square either. City Clerk, Stacey Briney said there might be a fourteen (14) year old that might be interested in that job.

Council Member, Terry Dodds reported he has received more complaints regarding the signs on the building across from City Hall and the Post Office. Dodds noted one of the complaints was that the kids on the school buses have been talking about them to the bus drivers. Lambert asked if Dodds had any ideas on what can be done, and Dodds said he has been searching the internet and found somewhere in Florida that passed an ordinance that nothing like this was grandfathered in. Dodds stressed that the ordinance would have to be worded correctly. Dodds stated that people come to look at our town and then have to see that across from two (2) major buildings in town. Mayor Klitz said he is afraid that if anything is done or said that it will infringe on a person's freedom of speech. Mayor Klitz stressed that the city would have to make sure that whatever we do, it is right.

Schuyler Isley stated that when she was at the meeting to talk about designating the downtown as a historic preservation district that would give the city some teeth to say what can go on the outside of a building. Isley noted that is something the city might want to think strongly about although it does not help now but it might in the future. Dodds said he is afraid that if this keeps going, things like this will pop up all over town. Isley noted there is a difference in a community space, like downtown, and personal property.

Attorney Burton stated that he had sent a letter to the owner of the building but never heard anything from him. Chief Wright reported when he first went and approached the building owner, the owner told him to leave and that was his right. Chief Wright said he informed the building owner that he was asked to speak to him to see if he would move or take down the signs and that did not go over well. A discussion followed regarding the ordinance from Florida.

Fire & Water Committee Chairman, Jeff Ervin reported he was contacted by Fire Chief, Vic Menely saying that Vernon Boker had resigned from the fire department. Ervin stated Chief Menely would like to replace Boker with Marc Wilson. **Consensus of the council was to approve Marc Wilson as a new fireman.**

Ervin also reported that the Phase I water project funding was approved and the city should be getting One Million Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,700,000) from Darrin LaHood. Ervin noted this is what LaHood's office has been working on since last March. Ervin said Jamie Headen of Benton & Associates is aware of this as well and he is trying to find out when the money would be available so the city can let the project out for bids. Ervin stressed that this is a very nice gift and it is a grant so nothing has to be paid back.

10. ADJOURN

Dodds MOVED TO ADJOURN. Acker SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 5 YEAS – Ryan, Acker, Dodds, Ervin, & Lambert; 0 NAYS; 3 ABSENT – Davis, Rebman, & Trimble. THE MEETING STOOD ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY AT 7:23 P.M.

Minutes submitted by,

Stacey L. Briney, City Clerk/CMC

Date Minutes Approved