

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, Richard Davis, Terry Dodds, Jeff Ervin, Bob Lambert, Barry Rebman, Mike Ryan, and Paul Trimble. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Others present included: Stacey Briney, City Clerk; Charlie Burton, City Attorney; Nathan Campbell, Superintendent of Operations; David Haney of *The Rushville Times*; Erin Eveland, representing The HUB; and Schuyler Isley, SCEDC Director.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Carson Klitz.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Erin Eveland, representing The HUB reported the Illinois Arts Council Agency is coming for a sight visit on Monday, February 27th and she would love to have everyone on the council come and show their support. Eveland noted this is a pretty big deal. Eveland said there will be coffee, refreshments, and a round table discussion about the arts in the community. Eveland stated this is a really good opportunity to show off the community. Mayor Klitz encouraged everyone to attend this discussion.

Erin Eveland left the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Schuyler Isley, SCEDC Director, reported there was a consultant from Wisconsin in town today to do a feasibility study about the hotel that they are wanting to put in the Industrial Park. Isley stated there are a lot of different options as far as lodging goes with the new model being a hotel/apartment model where the cash flow from the apartment helps keep the hotel going. Isley noted she is not sure that is what would go on that lot but she feels there needs to be options. Isley said the consultants were very impressed with the location and Rushville in general. Isley stated they are going to continue to work with the consultants on the study and would like a little more time to hang onto the 2.6 acres of land in the Industrial Park.

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 held February 6, 2023
- b. Approve the Minutes of the Street Committee Meeting held February 15, 2023
- c. Approve "Claims for Council Approval Dated 02/21/23" & Accept Monthly Reports
- d. Approve Special Event License for Scripps Park Golf Course for Saturday, March 11, 2023, for Nathan Rauch's Benefit at the Virginia
- e. Approve Closing the Alley between the 1st United Methodist Church and the Parsonage from West Jefferson Street to North Monroe Street on Friday, March 3, 2023, for a Drive-Thru Food Pick-up for Linda Clark Benefit
- f. Approve Reserving Central Park & Closing the South Side of the Square on Friday, May 5, 2023, for Ag Day on the Square
- g. Consider Line-Item Transfers

Ervin MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. Lambert SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Acker, Davis, Dodds, Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, & Trimble; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT.

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

All items were approved on the Consent Agenda.

6. DISCUSS & CONSIDER DONATION TO SCHUYLER COUNTY FAIR FOR FIREWORKS

Council Member, Jeff Ervin reported he was contacted by some of the fair board members regarding the donation that the city gives them every year for the fireworks. Ervin stated the price for the fireworks has gone up significantly so he would like to raise the donation from Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000).

Ervin MOVED TO APPROVE A DONATION OF THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) TO THE SCHUYLER COUNTY FAIR FOR FIREWORKS. Rebman SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Davis, Dodds, Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, & Acker; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT.

7. DISCUSS & CONSIDER ADVERTISING FOR EMPLOYEE IN CITY HALL

Mayor Klitz reported Judy Caputo has put in her retirement date, which will be in November. Mayor Klitz stated it is going to take some time to train someone and felt this should be referred to the personnel committee. Ervin said he thinks the city should start advertising before the committee meeting or even the next council meeting because Caputo does the water and sewer billing and there is only about two (2) or three (3) billing cycles left. Grievance & Personnel Committee Chairman, Paul Trimble noted he will call a meeting, and City Clerk, Stacey Briney suggested doing this sooner rather than later.

8. DISCUSS & CONSIDER REPAIRING OR REPLACING FLOOR ON GAZEBO

Parks & Recreation Committee Chairman, Barry Rebman reported the committee met Thursday to look at some options for the floor on the gazebo. Rebman said Superintendent of Operations, Nathan Campbell and the city crew have already fixed the floor twice but it is not in good shape. Rebman stated Four Seasons Construction quoted Nineteen Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty-Four Dollars (\$19,824) to replace the floor. Mayor Klitz asked if the floor was going to be put back just like it is and Rebman said it was. City Attorney, Charlie Burton recommended the city get a contract with Four Seasons Construction before the work is done.

Rebman MOVED TO APPROVE REPLACING THE FLOOR ON THE GAZEBO AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED NINETEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$19,824) WITH FOUR SEASONS CONSTRUCTION DOING TO WORK. Dodds SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Dodds, Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, & Davis; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT.

9. DISCUSS & CONSIDER FUNDING OPTIONS FOR NEW MOWER AT GOLF COURSE

Rebman also reported the committee met with Greenskeeper, Andy Ebey and the zero-turn mower has been fixed several times and continues to bend rods but no one can figure out why. Rebman stated Ebey got a quote on a new mower from Henry's and it came in at Twelve Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$12,700), and that included a One Thousand Five Hundred Dollar (\$1,500) trade-in and a Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollar (\$3,500) municipality discount. Rebman noted there was some talk about keeping the old mower since they were only giving the park One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500), which would make the cost of the new mower Fourteen Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$14,200). Mayor Klitz asked if anyone has looked at the Scripps Park balance, and Clerk Briney said there is a claim that was approved to transfer Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000) from the Scripps Trust Fund to the Scripps Park Fund. Mayor Klitz then explained how the trust money was supposed to be spent. Rebman felt that the money for the new mower could be split with half coming from the Scripps Park Addition Fund and the other half coming out of the Scripps Park Fund.

Rebman MOVED TO APPROVE PURCHASING A NEW ZERO-TURN MOWER FOR THE GOLF COURSE WITH ONE-HALF (1/2) COMING OUT OF THE SCRIPPS PARK ADDITION FUND AND THE OTHER ONE-HALF (1/2) COMING OUT OF THE SCRIPPS PARK FUND. Ervin SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “ROLL” CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, Davis, & Dodds; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT.

10. DISCUSS & CONSIDER STREET REPAIRS

Campbell reported the Street Committee met to discuss the summer street maintenance. Campbell stated the city used to have a road grader where they could do a lot of street work, but we do not have it anymore so nothing has been done for at least ten (10) years. Campbell said he spoke with the engineer about hiring someone to come in and level the streets down to the base and then totally redo them, which had an estimated cost of Nine to Ten Dollars (\$9-\$10) per square yard, or do what the city used to do and

that would cost around Six to Seven Dollars (\$6-\$7) per square yard. Campbell noted that over time, the oil and chipped streets have built up higher than the driveways or curbs and if the city continues to pile on the oil and chip, we are going to have more problems. Campbell stated there are also a lot of streets that have had street cuts and this would help with hose as well. A discussion followed.

Mayor Klitz asked Campbell if he ever thought about getting an intergovernmental agreement with one of the townships to use their grader to scarify on our own and save some money. Campbell said that was a good thought and he will do some checking. Campbell stated the city needs to get on a plan to turn things around. **No action was taken at this time.**

11. COUNCIL MEMBER & OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Council Member, Susan Acker reported Mayor Klitz had asked her to serve on the SCEDC board and at a meeting there has been some discussion about the Safe Streets for All program. Acker said there is a very good chance to get into this program but we have until September to work on it. Acker stated the Schuyler County board has already passed the Vision Zero resolution to show their support and she thinks the city should also pass the resolution showing our support as well. **Clerk Briney was directed to place this resolution on the next council agenda.**

Sewer Committee Chairman, Jeff Ervin reported the steel entry doors on the Northwest Lift Station at the prison and the South Master Lift Station on Route 67 are completely rusted through. Ervin said Campbell ordered two (2) new doors that the city crew will install. Ervin stated the cost for the two (2) doors is One Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-Three Dollars (\$1,573).

Ervin also reported that he thinks the city should advertise for a person to water in Central Park now to see what we might get. **Consensus of the council agreed to advertise.**

12. ADJOURN

Ervin MOVED TO ADJOURN. Dodds SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, & Acker, Davis, Dodds, & Ervin; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT. THE MEETING STOOD ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY AT 7:26 P.M.

Minutes submitted by,

Stacey L. Briney, City Clerk/CMC

Date Minutes Approved