

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, and Paul Trimble. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Council member, Barry Rebman, was absent.

Others present included: Stacey Briney, City Clerk; Nathan Campbell, Superintendent of Operations; Rick Wright, Chief of Police; David Haney of *The Rushville Times*; Jason Traeder of TNT Golf Car; Jeff Boyd & Amy Wiley, representing the Rushville Little League; Kent Paisley, representing the Late Knight Cruisers; Andy Ebey, Golf Course Groundskeeper; Evan Harrison, representing the Scripps Park Board; Schuyler Isley, SCEDC Director; and Bryan Matteson.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Carson Klitz.

3. LITTLE LEAGUE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL RE: SCOREBOARDS

Jeff Boyd, representing the Rushville Little League (RLL) stated the condition of the two (2) scoreboards at the ball diamonds is poor and the parts for one of them are obsolete. Boyd noted the RLL board thinks one was purchased in the 1980's and the other one in the 1990's. Boyd reported the RLL board met and decided to talk to Pepsi to see if they would donate at least one scoreboard, but they do not do that anymore. Boyd said the board had fundraisers, went to businesses asking for donations, etc. and have collected Ten Thousand Eighty Nine Dollars and Nine Cents (\$10,089.09) for the scoreboards. Boyd stated the two (2) scoreboards the RLL board would like to purchase would cost Twenty-Eight Thousand One Hundred Ninety-Five Dollars (\$28,195). Boyd noted that amount is delivered and not installed but the board would like to install them themselves, which they figured would cost an additional One Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$1,800), bringing the total budget for the two (2) scoreboards to approximately Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000). Boyd said that would leave the RLL Nineteen Thousand Nine Hundred Ten Dollars (\$19,910) short.

Council Member, Mike Ryan arrived at the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Boyd stated the RLL board estimates getting the new scoreboard in about five (5) years with the rate they are collecting. Boyd stressed that he does not want to see the kids go without scoreboards. Boyd noted there was some suggestion at the RLL board meeting to ask the city council if they could borrow Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) and pay it back. Boyd said some of the members did not want to ask the council because they want the city to know that they can operate on their own. Council Member, Bob Lambert asked about the third (3rd) field and it needing a scoreboard. Boyd stated all of that started before he was on the board but the cost of that has skyrocketed, so they are just concerned about the two (2) fields they have right now. A short discussion followed regarding the third (3rd) field.

Council Member, Jeff Ervin said that he does not think the council should get into the banking business but it is also the council's park and the youth. Ervin stated he was in favor of donating Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to the RLL so they can purchase the new ones now. Mayor Klitz reported that he has been in town for a very long time and spent about fifteen (15) years on the Scripps Park Board and he does not ever remember the RLL asking the city for a dime. Mayor Klitz stressed that it is up to the city to provide services for the community. Mayor Klitz told Boyd to come back when they need the third (3rd) scoreboard. Boyd said he and the rest of the RLL board appreciates this very much because he would love to see the new scoreboards sooner rather than later. **Consensus of the council was to donate Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to the Rushville Little League to purchase two (2) new scoreboards.**

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kent Paisley, representing the Late Knight Cruisers reported he was there to ask for permission to close off the northeast and south side of the square on Sunday, June 18th for the Father's Day Car Show. **City Clerk, Stacey Briney was directed to place this on the next council Consent Agenda.**

5. 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 21, 2023
- b. Approve the Minutes of the Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting held February 16, 2023; Grievance & Personnel Committee Meeting held February 27, 2023; & Public Building Committee Meeting held February 28, 2023
- c. Approve "Claims for Council Approval Dated 03/06/23" & Accept Monthly Reports
- d. Approve Annual Audit for Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2022
- e. Approve Reserving Central Park on Saturday, April 8, 2023, for the Masonic Lodge Easter Egg Hunt
- f. Adopt Resolution No. 1137, Vision Zero Resolution
- g. Approve Safety Apparel Policy

DAVIS REQUESTED TO HAVE ITEM "5F" REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA.

Dodds MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ITEM "5F". Ervin SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Acker, Davis, Dodds, Ervin, Lambert, Ryan, & Trimble; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Rebman.

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

Item "5F": Council Member, Richard Davis stated he was not clear on what this resolution was so he was not comfortable voting on it. Council Member, Susan Acker said this resolution is within the Schuyler County Economic Development Commission (SCEDC) and they are working on a "Safe Streets for All" grant that encompasses the entire county. Acker noted SCEDC has until September to get the grant submitted. Acker said this resolution and grant also includes the Escapa Trail.

Schuyler Isley, SCEDC Director reported Vision Zero is nationwide so there are a lot of communities adopting this resolution. Isley noted this grant has a direct impact to our community. Isley stated they have a better chance at getting the grant if it is supported by cities, counties, etc.

Acker MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM "5F", PASS & ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 1137, VISION ZERO RESOLUTION. Lambert SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Davis, Dodds, Ervin, Lambert, Ryan, Trimble, & Acker; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Rebman.

8. DISCUSS & CONSIDER ADVERTISING FOR EMPLOYEE IN CITY HALL

Grievance & Personnel Committee Chairman, Paul Trimble reported the committee met and discussed hiring a person in City Hall at Eighteen Dollars (\$18) per hour part-time and then transitioning to full-time at least two (2) months prior to Judy Caputo retiring. Ervin stated he is concerned that the city might not receive attention on the posting or get quality employees because it is only part-time for now. Ervin noted that not too many people will quit a full-time job to work part-time. Ervin stated there are a lot of things that come up that do not happen on a regular basis and if a person is only part-time, they could miss out on that training. Grievance & Personnel Committee Member, Acker asked Ervin if he thought that the person should be hired full-time right off the bat, and Ervin said yes. Council Members, Acker, Mike Ryan, and Terry Dodds all agreed with Ervin.

Trimble MOVED TO APPROVE ADVERTISING FOR A FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE IN CITY HALL. Dodds SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Dodds, Ervin, Lambert, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, & Davis; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Rebman.

9. DISCUSS & CONSIDER ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR ROOF & CEILING WORK ON CITY MAINTENANCE BUILDING

Superintendent of Operations, Nathan Campbell reported the Public Buildings Committee met last week to discuss doing some work on the city maintenance building. Campbell stated the roof is the original roof and leaks pretty good in a lot of places. Campbell noted if the city is going to keep this building then we really need to take care of it.

Campbell said there are three (3) bays that are heated, one (1) bay has a drop ceiling, and the other two (2) do not. Campbell stated the city puts a new roof on, they need to decide how to insulate the other two (2) bays. A discussion followed. Mayor Klitz noted that someone will have to come up with some specifications and get them to Clerk Briney.

Dodds MOVED TO APPROVE ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR A NEW ROOF AND CEILING WORK ON THE CITY MAINTENANCE SHED. Trimble SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Ervin, Lambert, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, Davis, & Dodds; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Rebman.

10. DISCUSS & CONSIDER APPROVING GOLF CART LEASE WITH TNT GOLF

Jason Traeder of TNT Golf Car introduced himself to the council. Traeder presented a proposal for the purchase of golf carts. *Said proposal is attached and a part of these minutes.* Traeder noted all thirty (30) golf carts are earmarked for Scripps Park at his store ready to go. Mayor Klitz reported the golf course needs ten (10) carts to make a total of thirty (30). Mayor Klitz said he did not feel like a lease was beneficial to the park or the city because it would cost One Hundred Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$112,000) for the five (5) year lease period, or Twenty Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$22,500) per year. Mayor Klitz stated if the park could afford to make that kind of payment per year, then they could afford to make a payment to the bank on a loan or the city could purchase the ten (10) carts for the golf course with the proviso that the park board set aside money to purchase new ones in the future. Mayor Klitz noted when the lease is over, the park has nothing but a memory. Traeder stated that before the fourth (4th) year of the contract, or even sooner, the city would hear from him about either renewing the lease or purchasing the carts, so the park will not necessarily be stuck with a five (5) year lease. Mayor Klitz stressed that owning beats leasing.

Ervin reported that the golf course is in dire need of a lot of equipment and this issues needs to resolved. Ervin said he hates to put them behind the eight ball either way but he feels like the city needs to purchase the ten (10) carts with the understanding that the park has to put away money to buy at lease five (5) carts at a time. Mayor Klitz stated he is not opposed to the city buying the carts. Mayor Klitz noted the golf course, alone, lost Eighty Six Thousand Dollars (\$86,000) last fiscal year and we have to do something to stem the tide. Ervin said he appreciates Traeder and everything he has done to help out. Ryan stated he would rather wait until next meeting to vote on this, and Ervin said we have all the information we can get tonight and we are under the gun to do something because the course is opening April 1st.

Ervin MOVED TO APPROVE THE CITY PURCHASING TEN (10) GOLF CARTS FOR THE GOLF COURSE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE PARK BOARD PUT BACK MONEY TO PURCHASE AT LEASE FIVE GOLF CARTS WHEN NEEDED. Lambert SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Lambert, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, Davis, Dodds, & Ervin; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Rebman.

10. COUNCIL MEMBER & OFFICIALS’ REPORTS

There were no reports at this time.

11. ADJOURN

Acker MOVED TO ADJOURN. Dodds SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Ryan, Trimble, Acker, Davis, Dodds, Ervin, & Lambert; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Rebman. THE MEETING STOOD ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY AT 7:34 P.M.

Minutes submitted by,

Stacey L. Briney, City Clerk/CMC

Date Minutes Approved

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