

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 Jeff Ervin directed City Clerk, Stacey Briney to call the roll. Upon ROLL CALL, the following answered present: Council Members: Susan Acker, Richard Davis, Terry Dodds, Bob Fishel, Bryan Matteson, 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; Erin Wilson-Laegeler, City Attorney, Eric Thurman, Superintendent of Operations; Rick Wright, Chief of Police; David Haney of *The Rushville Times*; Jamie Headen of Benton & Associates; Elizabeth Boyd, representing the P.L.A.Y. Group; Brad Thurman, representing Schuy-Rush Park Board; and Schuyler Isley, Economic Development Director (*arrived at 7:08 p.m.*).

2. OPENING PRAYER

The Opening Prayer was led by Mayor Jeff Ervin.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Ervin.

4. P.L.A.Y. GROUP TO ADDRESS COUNCIL RE: SUMMERFEST

Elizabeth Boyd, representing the P.L.A.Y. Group reported they are planning Summerfest for Saturday, July 29th, from 10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Boyd said they are requesting to reserve Central Park for that day and to have the north, east, and south inner driving and parking lanes blocked off. **Consensus of the council was to reserve Central Park and block off the sides requested for Summerfest.**

Elizabeth Boyd left the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

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 May 1, 2023
- b) Approve “Claims for Council Approval Dated 05/15/23” & Accept Monthly Reports
- c) Consider Closing S. Liberty Street from the Corner of LaFayette Street South to the Alley behind 55 on Saturday, June 24th for Street Party
- d) Approve Annual Service Agreement with Corpro for Cathodic Protection at a Cost of \$960

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

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

All items were approved on the Consent Agenda.

7. DISCUSS & CONSIDER APPROVING NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD TO HOOD CONSTRUCTION FOR VALVE & HYDRANT REPLACEMENTS

Mayor Ervin reported this is for the Phase I water project and Hood was the low and only bidder for this work. Mayor Ervin stated Hood’s bid was Four Hundred Ninety-Three Thousand Two Hundred Two Dollars (\$493,202). Mayor Ervin noted this was pretty close to what the engineer estimate was.

Ryan MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD TO HOOD CONSTRUCTION FOR VALVE & HYDRANT REPLACEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF FOUR HUNDRED NINETY-THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED TWO DOLLARS (\$493,202). Acker SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL "YEA" VOICE VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Davis, Dodds, Fishel, Matteson, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, & Acker; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT.

8. DISCUSS & CONSIDER APPROVING NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD TO NEUMANN CO. CONTRACTORS FOR WATER TOWER PAINTING

Mayor Ervin noted this item is for painting the water tower on West Washington Street. Mayor Ervin said two (2) bids were received and Neumann Co. Contractors was the lowest bid at Seven Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$774,550) and the other bid was around One Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,100,000).

Dodds MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD TO NEUMANN CO. CONTRACTORS FOR WATER TOWER PAINTING IN THE AMOUNT OF SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$774,550). Fishel SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Dodds, Fishel, Matteson, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, & Davis; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT.

9. DISCUSS & CONSIDER APPROVING NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD TO LEANDER CONSTRUCTION FOR GROUND STORAGE TANK INSTALLATION & DEMOLITION

Mayor Ervin stated this item was for the Logan Street and Hilltop tanks and Leander Construction was the only bidder at Two Million Nine Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars (\$2,995,000). Mayor Ervin said this estimate was a little higher than we hoped.

Rebman MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD TO LEANDER CONSTRUCTION FOR GROUND STORAGE TANK INSTALLATION & DEMOLITION IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO MILLION NINE HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,995,000). Ryan SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Fishel, Matteson, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, Davis, & Dodds; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT.

10. DISCUSS & CONSIDER 2ND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1359, ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

Dodds MOVED TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 1359, ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO THE THIRD (3RD) READING. Rebman SECONDED, THE MOTION CARRIED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Matteson, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, Davis, Dodds, & Fishel; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT.

11. DISCUSS & CONSIDER 2ND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1361, SALARY ORDINANCE

Ryan MOVED TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 1361, SALARY ORDINANCE TO THE THIRD (3RD) READING. Trimble SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, Davis, Dodds, Fishel, & Matteson; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT.

12. DISCUSS & CONSIDER REPLACING AND REPAIRING PUMPS AT LIFT STATION

Sewer Committee Chairman, Paul Trimble reported the committee met and discussed the need to repair or replace the pump at the south master lift station and the northwest lift station (prison). Trimble stated the company was able to send the parts back that the council had previously voted to repair so with a Seven Thousand Dollar (\$7,000) difference, the committee recommended replacing it.

Trimble MOVED TO APPROVE REPLACING THE PUMP AT THE SOUTH MASTER LIFT STATION AT A COST OF SEVENTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED FIVE DOLLARS (\$17,505), AND REPAIRING THE PUMP AT THE NORTHWEST LIFT STATION (PRISON) AT A COST OF SIXTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS & TEN CENTS (\$16,800.10). Fishel SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Ryan, Acker, Davis, Dodds, Fishel, Matteson, & Rebman; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT.

13. DISCUSS & CONSIDER USING ARPA FUNDS FOR FULL HOOK-UPS AT SCHUY-RUSH

Brad Thurman, Schuy-Rush Park Board President reported they are asking the council to appropriate ARPA funds, if they are not being used, to help with starting to make some campsites full hook-ups. Parks & Recreation Committee Chairman, Terry Dodds stated the board has a bid of Eighteen Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$18,450) to make fourteen (14) campsites full hook-ups. Dodds noted these sites would be east of the shower house. Mayor Ervin said there would be enough funds left of the ARPA money that can be used for this. Thurman stated he has bids for other areas, but this will be start for them. A discussion followed.

Thurman stressed that the board appreciated the city's help with this. Thurman stated the board is wanting to make this camp ground a lot better.

Dodds MOVED TO APPROVE USING UP TO TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$20,000) IN ARPA FUNDS FOR FULL HOOK-UPS AT SCHUY-RUSH PARK. Rebman SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Trimble, Acker, Davis, Dodds, Fishel, Matteson, Rebman, & Ryan; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT.

14. DISCUSS & CONSIDER HIRING AUSTIN MYERS AS PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER

Police Committee Chairman, Mayor Ervin reported the committee met and interviewed Austin Myers for part-time police officer.

Trimble MOVED TO APPROVE HIRING AUSTIN MYERS AS PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER. Matteson SECONDED.

Dodds asked if Myers was full-time somewhere else, and Mayor Ervin said he was not but is fully certified. Police Committee Member, Bob Fishel said Myers has applied for full-time in Macomb.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Acker, Davis, Dodds, Fishel, Matteson, Rebman, Ryan, & Trimble; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT.

15. DISCUSS & CONSIDER ADVERTISING FOR FULL-TIME CITY MAINTENANCE WORKERS

Rebman MOVED TO APPROVE ADVERTISING FOR FULL-TIME CITY MAINTENANCE WORKER. Matteson SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Davis, Dodds, Fishel, Matteson, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, & Acker; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT.

21. COUNCIL MEMBER & OFFICIAL'S REPORTS

Council Member, Susan Acker reported she has had several complaints of speeders and racing on East Jefferson. Acker noted she has seen a red pickup and a blue pickup speeding on East Washington as well.

Parks & Recreation Committee Chairman, Terry Dodds reported he attended his first Scripps Park Board meeting and the swimming pool is in the process of being cleaned so they are making progress.

Dodds also reported the board is working on the caretaker house so they can get it rented and they are trying to tidy up some of the weeds in the medians.

City Attorney, Erin Wilson Laegeler reported there were some people at the last council meeting regarding the potential of a bike path and the consensus of the council was to partner with the county board to help them achieve their goals. Attorney Wilson Laegeler stated the same group went to the county board meeting last week and there was more information on the grants that was presented to them that was not presented to the city council. Attorney Wilson Laegeler said herself, Mayor Ervin, County Board Chairman, Chet Esther, and States Attorney, Chuck Laegeler met earlier and discussed the grants.

Attorney Wilson Laegeler noted the first grant is a state grant that is geared more towards repairs, upkeep, and bettering current infrastructure but it is not real clear. Attorney Wilson Laegeler said the second grant is a federal grant and it would cover the projects but they are concerned that the information that was presented was more in depth than the group is ready for. Attorney Wilson Laegeler stated the County Board is going to consider this at a special meeting tomorrow at 4:30 p.m. and depending on what they do, the group may be back to the city council so she wanted everyone to be sure and understand what the grants actually say.

Attorney Wilson Laegeler recommended getting a steering committee together with people from the council, county board, and the group to do more legwork and apply for the grant next year. Attorney Wilson Laegeler noted these grants are five (5) year grants and are matching grants so the city would need to make sure the match is covered or the city will have to come up with that money.

Council Member, Richard Davis asked if the land had been secured that will have to be crossed for this path. Economic Development Director, Schuyler Isley stated there is a lot of stuff being done right now with the grants, which will mostly all be in the city including a paved path at the golf course, crosswalks at Green Gables Motel and out by Los Charros. Isley said that Tim Peters from IDOT is very high up and has been working to help acquire these grants. Isley stressed Peters holds a lot of weight and that is a huge thing to have in this situation. Isley noted she is not sure of the legalities but she does not think the city would have to accept the grant if the matching funds are not there. Davis again asked about the path to Schuy-Rush Park, and Isley noted that is something that is down the road from now. Council Member, Mike Ryan asked if Isley thought the group was in good shape to move forward this year or if this is something that should wait until next year, and Isley stated she feels everything is good to go but it is hard to find someone that can administer the grant. Isley stressed that she would give her personal endorsement to move forward with this. Isley stated this group has been meeting for the last year and have people from both the city and council sitting on the boards. Acker said this grant could encompass the entire county and Isley said it would and that is why the county has been included for the projects down the road.

Mayor Ervin reported he had done some research on these grants and from what he found, the city would be responsible to pay for the project since this is a reimbursable grant and then wait to get paid back later. Mayor Ervin stated he is also concerned about who would administer the grant because the city does not have the personnel to do it. Attorney Wilson Laegeler stressed that she has nothing but great respect for everyone in the group and everything they have done because this will be a great asset to the community. Mayor Ervin agreed that this would be a great asset for the city but everyone needs to understand the grants and who they all entail.

17. ADJOURN

Dodds MOVED TO ADJOURN. Acker SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 8 YEAS – Dodds, Fishel, Matteson, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, & Davis; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT. THE MEETING STOOD ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY AT 7:31 P.M.

Minutes submitted by,

Stacey L. Briney, City Clerk/CMC

Date Minutes Approved