

## 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 called the meeting to order and directed City Clerk, Stacey Briney to call the roll. Upon ROLL CALL, the following answered present: Council Members: Susan Acker, Mike Carey, Mike Farniok, Bryan Matteson, & Mike Ryan. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Council Members, Terry Dodds, Bob Fishel, and Paul Trimble were absent.

Others present included: City Clerk, Stacey Briney; City Attorney, Erin Wilson-Laegeler; Superintendent of Operations, Drew Ralston; Moe Billingsley of *The Rushville Times*; and Scott Stoll of Moreland & Devitt.

### 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.

*Council Member, Terry Dodds arrived at 7:01 p.m.*

### 4. SCOTT STOLL TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL RE: PARKING ON WEST WASHINGTON STREET

Scott Stoll reported he was in attendance on behalf of Moreland & Devitt. Stoll stated Moreland & Devitt has purchased the County Market pharmacy. Stoll noted the biggest thing they have heard over the last week is the concern of there not being a drive-thru so they have been looking at how they can fix that, but their building is old and it just cannot happen without major work. Stoll said time is of the essence because County Market's last day will be November 24<sup>th</sup>, and Moreland & Devitt will take over November 25<sup>th</sup>.

Stoll presented a map of an example of what he would like to see as far as parking goes. *Said map is attached and a part of these minutes.* Stoll stated Moreland & Devitt would like to have curb side delivery spaces that might be painted red or whatever bright color to denote "reserved" spaces. Stoll said they would purchase a sign to somehow put up specifying the parking spaces are for curb-side pickup. Council Member, Bryan Matteson asked Stoll if he thought they needed two (2) spaces, and Stoll thought that was a good question because they do not really have any idea on what they are going to have with pickups and deliveries. Stoll noted that Moreland & Devitt could probably get away with only having one (1) space. Stoll stressed that they do not want people blocking the police parking or alley. Council Member, Susan Acker said if they see they do not need two (2) spaces, they can always turn one (1) back to a regular parking spot.

Stoll reported they have an old window at the back of the building that they could turn into a drive-thru window, but it would take some remodeling. Mayor Ervin wondered about making two (2) spots behind the police department for curbside pickup, and Stoll thought that might be doable. Acker thought maybe one (1) in the back of the police department and one (1) at the end of the spaces on West Washington Street. Stoll noted Moreland & Devitt will pay for the paint, sign, etc.

Mayor Ervin directed this matter to the street committee and hopefully they can vote on something at the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

*Scott Stoll left the meeting at 7:12 p.m.*

### 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments at this time.

**6. 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 November 3, 2025
- b) Approve the Minutes of the Claims & Insurance Committee Meeting held October 30, 2025
- c) Approve “Claims for Council Approval Dated 11/17/25” & Accept Monthly Reports
- d) Approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance No. 1404, Annual Tax Levy

**Matteson REQUESTED TO HAVE ITEM “6A” REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

**Farniok MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ITEM “6A”. Dodds SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 6 YEAS – Acker, Carey, Dodds, Farniok, Matteson, & Ryan; 0 NAYS; 2 ABSENT – Fishel & Trimble.**

**7. ITEMS TO BE REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA – IF APPLICABLE**

Matteson reported the following changes: Page 1, item 7, from “*Fishel MOVED TO PASS & ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1398....*”, to “*Farniok MOVED TO PASS & ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1398....*”. City Clerk, Stacey Briney noted said changes.

**Matteson MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM “6A”, APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 3, 2025. Farniok SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 6 YEAS – Carey, Dodds, Farniok, Matteson, Ryan, & Acker; 0 NAYS; 2 ABSENT – Fishel & Trimble.**

**8. DISCUSS & CONSIDER RELEASING TWO RIVERS FROM LEASE**

Mayor Ervin reported Two Rivers would like to move out of the police department. Mayor Ervin noted the only items that can be taken out of there would be their computers because all of the other items were purchased with a City of Rushville grant. Mayor Ervin said he is not sure how early they would be ready to move, but the current lease is good through April 30, 2026. Council Member, Mike Ryan asked if the city would charge them anything to get out of the lease and Mayor Ervin said that was up to the council.

**Dodds MOVED TO ALLOW RELEASING TWO RIVERS FROM THEIR CURRENT LEASE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026. Ryan SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 6 YEAS – Dodds, Farniok, Matteson, Ryan, Acker, & Carey; 0 NAYS; 2 ABSENT – Fishel & Trimble.**

**9. COUNCIL MEMBER & OFFICIALS REPORTS**

Water & Sewer Committee Chairman, Bryan Matteson reported Logan Street water tank had overflowed on Friday due to a communication failure. Matteson noted he is not sure how big of an issue this is right now, but it could be pretty serious. Matteson stated Second Sight said the cable is on the low side regarding size and should be at least 7/8”. Matteson said he and Superintendent of Operations, Drew Ralston talked with Bryan Cannon of Benton Engineering and Cannon felt the city should probably change the cable. Matteson reported the cost to replace the cable would be Thirteen Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Nine Dollars and Fifty-Three Cents (\$13,429.53), of which about Two Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$2,800) is for the cable and the rest is for insurance, travel, lodging, etc. Matteson noted he would like to have a consensus on this tonight. Ryan questioned whose mistake this was, and Matteson said he thinks it is between Andy Eustice and Matt Westlake. Farniok questioned if there were any other options, and Matteson stated this company was the only ones that were very thorough when they came to bid on it. A discussion followed.

Mayor Ervin suggested having a committee meeting to discuss this further.

Parks & Recreation Committee Co-Chairman, Mike Farniok reported it sounds like the water service to the houses and buildings at Scripps Park is inadequate. Farniok said the Scripps Park Board wants to know if there are any plans to figure this out and he suggested looking in to see if there might be some grants available for this type of project.

Farniok stated the line is black pipe that is very brittle. Dodds stressed this has to be done. Mayor Ervin recommended talking about this at the water committee meeting as well.

City Clerk, Stacey Briney reported she has been getting phone calls from a gentleman that wants to cut out the curb in front of his house to put in a parking space. Clerk Briney said she has told the gentleman several times that he cannot do that, but he throws out the house on South Liberty that has done this. Clerk Briney stated she informed the gentleman that the homeowner was supposed to have been told to put the curb back a few years ago.

City Attorney, Erin Wilson-Laegeler reported the Land & Building Committee needs to call a meeting to meet with a representative from a company that is looking to purchase or lease the city's ground south of town for solar panels. Attorney Wilson-Laegeler stated this representative is very eager and very flexible and she feels they will make any time work.

Mayor, Jeff Ervin reported part-time Police Officer, Ted Eifert has agreed to work thirty-two (32) hours a week to help out since Officer Bill Thompson has resigned. Mayor Ervin noted there is a position for this in the salary ordinance where an officer has to work a minimum of thirty (30) hours a week and they would get Twenty-One Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$21.50) per hour. Mayor Ervin said Eifert has agreed to do this through March. **Consensus was to move Eifert to the thirty (30) hour position effective December 1, 2025.** Clerk Briney was directed to place this item on the next council's consent agenda.

Mayor Ervin also reported that June Conner had called him asking if the city would be willing to donate One Hundred Dollars (\$100) for Christmas ads again this year. Mayor Ervin noted WRMS & WKXQ would match our donation. **Consensus was to donate One Hundred Dollars (\$100) for Christmas ads.** Clerk Briney was directed to place this item on the next council's consent agenda.

Mayor Ervin stated there will be a Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m., before the next council meeting, to vacate the easement that runs through Washington School.

#### **10. ADJOURN**

**Dodds MOVED TO ADJOURN. Farniok SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 6 YEAS – Farniok, Matteson, Ryan, Acker, Carey, & Dodds; 0 NAYS; 2 ABSENT – Fishel & Trimble. THE MEETING STOOD ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY AT 7:34 P.M.**

Minutes submitted by,

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Stacey L. Briney, City Clerk/CMC

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Date Minutes Approved