

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, Mike Carey, Terry Dodds, Mike Farniok, Bryan Matteson, & Paul Trimble. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Council Members, Bob Fishel and Mike Ryan were absent.

Others present included: Stacey Briney, City Clerk; Erin Wilson-Laegeler, City Attorney; Drew Ralston, Superintendent of Operations; Rick Wright, Chief of Police; and Moe Billingsley of *The Rushville Times*.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The Opening Prayer was led by Mayor Jeff Ervin and included a special prayer for Council Member, Bob Fishel and his family.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Ervin.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments at this time.

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 January 20, 2026
- b) Approve the Minutes of the Cemetery Committee Meeting held January 21, 2026
- c) Approve "Claims for Council Approval Dated 02/02/26" & Accept Monthly Reports
- d) Approve Loan Reimbursements

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

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

All items were approved on the Consent Agenda.

7. PASS & ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1407, ORDINANCE REGULATING INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PANELS

City Attorney, Erin Wilson-Laegeler reported she included the decommissioning requirements for the two (2) larger solar panel projects adding that if it is covered under the county's ordinance, which will suffice. Attorney Wilson-Laegeler noted there were no other changes from the last reading. Attorney Wilson-Laegeler said the council will have to set permit prices but that is a different ordinance in a separate code. Ordinance Review Committee Member, Bryan Matteson asked if the ordinance still left not allowing panels in the side yard because he thinks that's too much, and Ordinance Review Committee Chairman, Mike Farniok said that is still included in the ordinance.

Farniok MOVED TO PASS & ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1407, ORDINANCE REGULATING INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PANELS. Carey SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 4 YEAS – Carey, Dodds, Farniok, & Acker; 2 NAYS – Matteson & Trimble; 2 ABSENT – Fishel & Ryan.

8. DISCUSS & CONSIDER CEMETERY STREET NAMES

Cemetery Committee Chairman, Matteson reported the committee met on January 21st with Jude Eveland to discuss his Eagle Scout project, which is naming the streets in the cemetery.

Matteson MOVED TO APPROVE THE STREET NAMES IN THE CEMETERY AS PRESENTED BY JUDE EVELAND. Farniok SECONDED.

Council Member, Terry Dodds stated Eveland is going to put a new map on the sign.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 6 YEAS – Dodds, Farniok, Matteson, Trimble, Acker, & Carey; 0 NAYS; 2 ABSENT – Fishel & Matteson.

9. DISCUSS & CONSIDER ROLL-UP DOOR AT WATER PLANT

Mayor Ervin reported the existing roll-up door at the water plant is all rusted out and needs to be replaced. Mayor Ervin noted Superintendent of Operations, Drew Ralston has an estimate from Overhead Door to purchase a new door and install at a cost of Four Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$4,890). Mayor Ervin said if the council would like to put stainless steel hinges, cables, and brackets on the door, it will be an additional One Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$1,200). Mayor Ervin noted the current door has been there for about twenty (20) years and if the council decides to go with the stainless-steel option, the city might just be left with the hinges, cables, and brackets in the next twenty (20) years.

Matteson MOVED TO APPROVE PURCHASING A ROLL-UP DOOR FOR THE WATER PLANT FROM OVERHEAD DOOR AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED FOUR THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED NINETY DOLLARS (\$4,890) TO INCLUDE INSTALLATION. Dodds SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 6 YEAS – Farniok, Matteson, Trimble, Acker, Carey, & Dodds; 0 NAYS; 2 ABSENT – Fishel & Matteson.

10. COUNCIL MEMBER & OFFICIALS’ REPORTS

Industrial Park Committee Chair, Susan Acker asked Attorney, Wilson-Laegeler if she had any updates on the south one-third (1/3) of Lot 10, and Attorney Wilson-Laegeler stated they have reached an agreement with the buyers after the reverter clause was taken out. Attorney Wilson-Laegeler said the end date of construction was taken out because that would fall under the covenants if construction is not completed. Attorney Wilson-Laegeler stated she is waiting for the title insurance and then the deal will be finalized.

Water & Sewer Committee Chairman, Bryan Matteson called for a **Combined Water & Sewer Committee Meeting at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, February 17th, to Discuss Plans on Future Projects.**

Matteson reported the city had a major water main break on January 24th and Ralston had all hands-on deck. Matteson stressed that Ralston and the city crew did a great job fixing the leak all while trying to plow the streets. Matteson thanked the city workers.

Parks & Recreation Committee Co-Chairman, Mike Farniok reported the Scripps Park Finance Committee met last week to review the appropriations for the next fiscal year. Farniok stated the council should see a reduced budget.

Mayor, Jeff Ervin reminded everyone that the next meeting would be on Tuesday, February 17th due to the Presidents’ Day holiday.

Mayor Ervin reported Eveland is taking donations for his Eagle Scout project, and they can be dropped off at The HUB. Mayor Ervin asked Dodds if Eveland has to hit his goal himself or if the city could match the donations, and Dodds said that can be done. Dodds noted that Eveland has to have his project complete by the time he turns eighteen (18), and he is sixteen (16) now. Dodds stated Eveland is pretty much on his own with this project.

11. ADJOURN

Dodds MOVED TO ADJOURN. Acker SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 6 YEAS – Matteson, Trimble, Acker, Carey, Dodds, & Farniok; 0 NAYS; 2 ABSENT – Fishel & Ryan. THE MEETING STOOD ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY AT 7:15 P.M.

Minutes submitted by,

Stacey L. Briney, City Clerk/CMC

Date Minutes Approved