

## 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, Bob Fishel, Bryan Matteson, & Paul Trimble. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Council Member, Mike Ryan was absent.

Others present included: Stacey Briney, City Clerk; Drew Ralston, Superintendent of Operations, Rick Wright, Chief of Police; Moe Billingsley of *The Rushville Times*; and Erica Smith.

### **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. 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 March 16, 2026
- b) Approve the Minutes of the Combined Cemetery Committee Meeting held March 19, 2026; & the Animal Control Committee Meeting held March 25, 2026
- c) Approve "Claims for Council Approval Dated 04/06/26" & Accept Monthly Reports
- d) Approve Reserving Central Park on Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 a.m.- 3:00p.m. for Colonial Days
- e) Approve the Appointment of Kate Canter to the Scripps Park Board
- f) Approve the Appointment of Todd Zeisler to the Schuy-Rush Park Board
- g) Approve Hiring Jean Lane as Pro Shop Manager at a Salary of \$8,500
- h) Approve Hiring Jacob Roberts at the Golf Course at \$15/hr.
- i) Approve Hiring Marlon Magelitz, Evaristo Sotelo, Dave Thomas, Steve Finch, Lucas Ackman, & Dillon Ambrose as Part-Time Employees at the Cemetery at \$15/hr.
- j) Approve Paying the Remaining Cost of \$2,825 for a New Fence at Schuy-Rush Ballfield
- k) Approve Engineering Agreement with Benton Engineering for Future Infrastructure Plans
- l) Approve Removing 9 Trees & Stumps at a Cost of \$9,800
- m) Pass & Adopt Ordinance No. 1409, Ordinance Establishing Salaries, Wages, & Benefits for City Department Superintendents & Employees

**Fishel MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. Farniok SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Acker, Carey, Dodds, Farniok, Fishel, Matteson, & Trimble; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Ryan.**

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

All items were approved on the Consent Agenda.

**7. DISCUSS & CONSIDER APPROVING A VARIANCE FOR ERICA SMITH RE: NUMBER OF DOGS**

Animal Control Committee Chairman, Paul Trimble reported the committee met to discuss the number of dogs Erica Smith had in her residence. Trimble stated Animal Control Officer, Dave Edwards has not had any issues with Ms. Smith's dogs, and all of their shots are up to date.

**Trimble MOVED TO APPROVE A VARIANCE ON THE NUMBER OF DOGS ALLOWED FOR ERICA SMITH AT 303 E. LITTLE STREET, LOT 6. Fishel SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 6 YEAS – Carey, Dodds, Fishel, Matteson, Trimble, & Acker; 1 NAY – Farniok; 1 ABSENT – Ryan.**

*Erica Smith left the meeting at 7:03 p.m.*

**8. PASS & ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1410, ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE**

**Trimble MOVED TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 1410, ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SALARIES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE. Carey SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 6 YEAS – Dodds, Farniok, Fishel, Trimble, Acker, & Carey; 1 NAY – Matteson; 1 ABSENT – Ryan.**

**9. DISCUSS & CONSIDER 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1411, ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE**

**Farniok MOVED TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 1411, ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO THE SECOND (2<sup>ND</sup>) READING. Matteson SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Farniok, Fishel, Matteson, Trimble, Acker, Carey, & Dodds; 0 – NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Ryan.**

**10. COUNCIL MEMBERS & OFFICIALS' REPORTS**

Council Member, Bryan Matteson reported Rushville was featured in the truck simulator game. Matteson showed the video to the council.

Council Member, Terry Dodds reported the Boy Scouts retired over one thousand one hundred (1,100) flags. Dodds noted this number was over a three (3) year period.

Sidewalk & Lighting Committee Chairman, Dodds also reported the committee is going to ask the TIF Committee for One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to help engineer and replace the sidewalk on North Liberty Street in front of Roger's Bakery. Mayor Ervin said the total project is estimated at One Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$140,000). **City Clerk, Stacey Briney was directed to place *Consider Approving One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) from the TIF Fund for the North Liberty Street Sidewalk Project on the next council agenda.***

Ordinance Committee Chairman, Mike Farniok reported the committee met Thursday to look at a variance from Travis Lazzell. Farniok stated Lazzell is wanting to place campers along the back side of his building during hunting season. Farniok said the committee thought it would be best to have a blanket policy during hunting season so Lazzell does not have to come to the committee and council each year. Clerk Briney asked if Farniok had any wording on this since City Attorney, Erin Wilson-Laegeler is out, and Farniok said he did not, but the city did not need it until at least July. **Clerk Briney was directed to place *Discuss & Consider Blanket Variance Policy for Travis Lazzell for Campers to be Placed on his Property Located on Old Macomb Road During Hunting Season on the next council agenda.***

Council Member, Bob Fishel asked if there was any update on the parking lot work behind Kerr Homecenter, and Mayor Ervin stated he does not have anything to report but he knows the rain has put G M Sipes Construction behind. Dodds noted he spoke to Tom Kerr and Kerr thought Sipes' might look at doing this work this week.

Police Committee Chairman, Fishel reported he is having some issues finding a plaque for K-9 Cody. Fishel stated the majority of the people he has talked to do not want to take this on and those that will want at least Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000). Mayor Ervin wondered about a small stone, but Fishel said there really was no place to put something like that and he would like the public to be able to see it. Fishel stressed that he is still working on it.

City Clerk, Stacey Briney reported the Rushville Fitness & Community Center (RFCC) has been going to the local taxing bodies regarding abating their property taxes again and the question has been whether the city has extended the TIF District or not. Clerk Briney stated she spoke with Adam at PGAV

today and the TIF District was extended an additional twelve (12) years and is set to expire December 31, 2039. Clerk Briney said that if any of the taxing bodies say no to the abatement, then the RFCC will not get one. Mayor Ervin reported that he had also spoken to PGAV to see if the TIF committee could vote to abate the taxes and they cannot so each taxing body will have to agree.

Mayor, Jeff Ervin reminded everyone that the City Feed will be Friday night at the Virginia starting at 6:00 p.m. with appetizers.

**11. ADJOURN**

**Dodds MOVED TO ADJOURN. Acker SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Fishel, Matteson, Trimble, Acker, Carey, Dodds, & Farniok; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Ryan. THE MEETING STOOD ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY AT 7:18 P.M.**

Minutes submitted by,

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Stacey L. Briney, City Clerk/CMC

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Date Minutes Approved