

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, & Mike Ryan. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Council Member, Paul Trimble 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*; Cody Ingles, Kala Peacock, & Tanya Tomlinson, representing the Schuy-Rush Park Board; Jude Eveland, Boy Scout; and Eric Thurman.

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

Jude Eveland introduced himself to the council and reported that he held a pancake breakfast to help raise money for his Eagle scout project at the cemetery. Eveland noted he raised Three Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$3,700) at the breakfast, so he now has enough money to put up the street signs at the cemetery. Eveland stated he raised more money than he needed for the street sign project so he would like to put up a sign at the cemetery entrance along with a map. Mayor Ervin suggested getting with Superintendent of Operations, Drew Ralston to get the signs ordered and then meet with Cemetery Sexton, George Vincent to finalize it. **Consensus agreed to allow Eveland to place a sign at the cemetery entrance.**

Eveland also reported if he gets this Eagle scout project done by July 4th, he will get a plaque to put on the sign marking the 250th anniversary of the United States.

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 April 6, 2026
- b) Approve the Minutes of the Sidewalk & Lighting Committee Meeting held April 1, 2026; the Union Negotiating Committee Meeting held April 2, 2026; & the Ordinance Review Committee Meeting held April 2, 2026
- c) Approve "Claims for Council Approval Dated 04/20/26" & Accept Monthly Reports
- d) Approve Reserving Central Park & Closing the South Side of the Square on Friday, May 1st, for Ag Day
- e) Approve Part-Time Employees for Scripps Park (*see attached memo*)
- f) Approve Benton Engineering to Engineer the Sidewalk on North Liberty Street in Front of Roger's Bakery
- g) Approve Bid from Hood Construction for the Walking Path at Scripps Park in the Amount of \$566,153 with Project to be Paid by the Anonymous Donor
- h) Approve Blanket Variance for Campers at Lazzell Insulating on Old Macomb Road
- i) Consider Suspending the Rules RE: Ordinance No. 1412, Sale of Surplus Property
- j) Pass & Adopt Ordinance No. 1412, Sale of Surplus Property

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

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

All items were approved on the Consent Agenda.

7. DISCUSS & CONSIDER 2ND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1411, ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

Fishel MOVED TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 1411, ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO THE THIRD (3RD) READING. Farniok SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Carey, Dodds, Farniok, Fishel, Matteson, Ryan, & Acker; 0 – NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Trimble.

8. DISCUSS & CONSIDER RENEWING THE WASTEWATER CONTRACT WITH ERIC THURMAN (E.T. OPERATIONS)

Sewer Committee Chairman, Bryan Matteson reported the committee had met with Eric Thurman and recommended renewing the wastewater contract at One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) per month for thirty-six (36) months.

Matteson MOVED TO APPROVE RENEWING THE WASTEWATER CONTRACT WITH ERIC THURMAN AT A RATE OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000) PER MONTH FOR THIRTY-SIX (36) MONTHS. Farniok SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Dodds, Farniok, Fishel, Matteson, Ryan, Acker, & Carey; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Trimble.

9. DISCUSS & CONSIDER ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH ERIC THURMAN (E.T. OPERATIONS) AS LICENSED WATER OPERATOR

Water Committee Chairman, Matteson reported the committee met to also look at entering into a contract with Thurman as the licensed water operator instead of the current operator, Randy Dabney. Matteson stated Thurman and committee agreed to recommend One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500) for thirty-six (36) months. Mayor Ervin added that Thurman is local and is very familiar with the city’s operations.

Matteson MOVED TO APPROVE ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH ERIC THURMAN AS THE LICENSED WATER OPERATOR IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,500) FOR THIRTY-SIX (36) MONTHS. Carey SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Farniok, Fishel, Matteson, Ryan, Acker, Carey, & Dodds; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Trimble.

10. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION TO REVIEW CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD JULY 7, 2025; & COMBINED CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD MARCH 16, 2026 – 5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(21) & DISCUSS PERSONNEL – 5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(1)

Matteson MOVED TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION TO REVIEW CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD JULY 7, 2025 – 5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(21) & DISCUSS PERSONNEL – 5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(1). Acker SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS – 7 YEAS – Fishel, Matteson, Ryan, Acker, Carey, Dodds, & Farniok; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Trimble. OPEN SESSION STOOD ADJOURNED AT 7:10 P.M.

11. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Open Session reconvened at 7:47 p.m. with the following present: Mayor Ervin; Council Members, Acker, Carey, Dodds, Farniok, Fishel, Matteson, & Ryan; City Clerk, Stacey Briney; Superintendent Ralston; & Thurman.

12. APPROVE CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD JULY 7, 2025; & COMBINED CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD MARCH 16, 2026 – 5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(21)

Dodds MOVED TO APPROVE THE CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD JULY 7, 2025; & COMBINED CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD MARCH 16, 2026 – 5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(21). Ryan SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Ryan, Acker, Carey, Dodds, Farniok, Fishel, & Matteson; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Trimble.

13. DISCUSS & CONSIDER APPROVING SALARY FOR SCHUY-RUSH CARETAKER

Acker MOVED TO APPROVE RAISING THE SCHUY-RUSH PARK CARETAKER SALARY TO FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,000) PER YEAR. Matteson SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Acker, Carey, Dodds, Farniok, Fishel, Matteson, & Ryan; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Trimble.

14. COUNCIL MEMBERS & OFFICIALS’ REPORTS

Water Committee Chairman, Bryan Matteson reported water had been getting into the new water salesman, so he instructed Bryan Cannon of Benton Engineering and Ralston to put up an awning and they city crew went above and beyond doing the work.

Council Member, Terry Dodds reported Eveland is a great Boy Scout and will turn into a very great young man.

Parks & Recreation Committee Co-Chairman, Mike Farniok reported the Scripps Park Board opened the bids for the walking path and they are hoping to get started soon. Farniok stated the deadline is July 31st, but there is no penalty if it is not done then.

City Clerk, Stacey Briney reported she received a check from Benton Engineering for Three Hundred Dollars for the city’s 200th birthday.

Clerk Briney also reported that she would like to see if the Ordinance Committee would look at the fence ordinance again. Clerk Briney said her office received a call about a resident wanting to extend their fence to the street, which would make it almost impossible for the neighbor to be able to see to back out of their driveway. Clerk Briney presented a copy of the fence ordinance for the Village of Creve Coeur. A discussion followed.

Mayor, Jeff Ervin reminded everyone that the 200th birthday celebration is Friday at 6:00 p.m. on the square and if it rains, the celebration will be moved to the Phoenix. Mayor Ervin said that Erin Eveland asked if anyone would like to help serve ice cream because they are in need of volunteers.

15. ADJOURN

Matteson MOVED TO ADJOURN. Acker SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Carey, Dodds, Farniok, Fishel, Matteson, Ryan, & Acker; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Trimble. THE MEETING STOOD ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY AT 7:56 P.M.

Minutes submitted by,

Stacey L. Briney, City Clerk/CMC

Date Minutes Approved