

A regular meeting of the Rockford City Council was held Monday, July 11, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 7 South Monroe Street, Rockford MI 49341.

- I. **Meeting called to order.** The meeting of the Rockford City Council was called to order by Mayor Coon at approximately 7:00 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call.** Present: Mayor Jerry Coon, Mayor Pro-tem Tammy Bergstrom, and Council Members Steve Jazwicz, Brien Dews, and Gail Mancewicz.
- III. **City Manager's Report.** Interim City Manager Jones provided the following City Manager Report:

Interim City Manager Jones discussed his conversation with Marcel Burgler regarding the defacing of the two homes on N Monroe Street and explained that Mr. Burgler is very apologetic. The homes have been cleaned up and since the City does not want kids getting into the homes, signs have placed on the homes to assist the City with this effort.

City Treasurer Kim McKay has officially retired after 20 years of service and her duties have currently been spread among staff.

Kent County will be placing a request for a surcharge increase on the November Ballot for 911 operating dispatch fees.

The 12th annual Kids Triathlon was held Saturday with 140 kids participating. The news media was also at the event, which provided great coverage.

As part of a Chamber of Commerce event, a circus may be coming to town August 23rd for two shows.

- IV. **Approval of the Agenda.** On a motion by Council member Jazwicz, with support by Council Member Mancewicz, and carried by all, discussion regarding the agenda on the website and timeline for finding a City Manager was added under Old Business.
- V. **Public Comments and Presentations**

Caleb Sower of 249 N Monroe Street discussed current lawsuits and requested the City not attack him.

Al Pratt of 210 E Main stated he is the Manager of the Museum and explained that this year is the 40th anniversary of the Museum and next year is the 50th anniversary of the Historical Society. Mr. Pratt also requested the City investigate the possibility of putting facilities at Garden Club Park.

Mike McIntosh of 139 N Monroe stated that when discussion takes place regarding the agenda to also discuss having the packet placed on the website.

Wayne Castor of 330 Sigsbee stated he was not happy to see the graffiti when he drove down Monroe Street. He stated that he cares about the integrity and character of the City.

Linda Southwick, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce explained that the Chamber is working out the details with Wolverine World Wide to hold the circus on their greenspace.

- VI. Consent Agenda.** On a motion by Council Member Dews, with support by Council Member Jazwiec, and carried by all, the following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda: A) June 13, 2016 Regular meeting minutes with one correction; B) the bills and transfers for June 2016; C) Special Events Permit Applications for Mitchell's Run, National Night Out, Art in the Park and Harvest Festival.
- VII. Public Hearing.** There was no Public Hearing.
- VIII. Old Business**
- A. Discussion regarding the City's website.** Discussion took place regarding the City's website and the placement of the agenda packet on the website. It was determined that staff will create a policy for placing the agenda packet on the website.
- B. Discussion regarding the timeline for hiring a new City Manager.** Discussion took place regarding hiring a new City Manager. On a motion by Council member Dews, with support by Mayor Pro-tem Bergstrom and carried by all, Council approved beginning the search for a new City Manager after the November Election. On a motion by Council Member Jazwiec, with support by Council Member Mancewicz and carried, Council approved hiring the MML to conduct the City Manager search and to have a representative from the MML attend the August Council meeting. Ayes: 3; Nays: 2 (Bergstrom and Dews).
- IX. New Business**
- A. Consideration of approving Resolution 16-20 approving a streetlight change in the area of Northland and E. Main.** On a motion by Council Member Bergstrom, with support by Council Member Dews, and carried by all, Resolution 16-20 was approved.
- B. Consideration of awarding a contract to pave Bridge Street.** On a motion by Council Member Dews, with support by Mayor Pro-tem

Bergstrom, and carried by all, Council awarded a contract to Michigan Paving and Materials in the amount of \$78,814.09.

- C. Consideration of awarding a contract to pave the Dam parking lot.** On a motion by Council Member Mancewicz, with support by Council Member Jazwiec, and carried by all, Council awarded a contract to Midwest Asphalt in the amount of \$6,840.
- D. Consideration of awarding a contract for paving Byrne Industrial Drive.** On a motion by Council Member Dews, with support by Council Member Jazwiec, and carried by all, Council awarded a contract to Michigan Paving and Materials in the amount of \$30,102.74.
- E. Consideration of awarding a contract for various maintenance items.** On a motion by Mayor Pro-tem Bergstrom, with support by Council Member Mancewicz, and carried by all, Council awarded a contract to Melvin Belk for the following projects: Reside the Welcome Center \$12,045, Reroof the Richardson Sowerby restrooms and pavilion in the amount of \$10,640 and reroof the DPS roof in the amount of \$12,200.
- F. Consideration of moving into Executive Session to discuss matters that are exempt from disclosure.** On a motion by Council Member Dews, with support by Mayor Pro-tem Bergstrom, and carried by all, Council approved going into Executive Session to discuss trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation related lawsuits, Monroe Street Properties v. the City of Rockford and Caleb and Kristine Sower et al v. the City of Rockford. Roll Call Vote: Ayes 5; Nays 0.

X. Board and Commission Activities

- A Planning Commission.** City Clerk Christine Bedford stated the Planning Commission met to discuss the sign ordinance with respect to a recent Supreme Court ruling.
- B. Downtown Development Authority.** City Clerk Christine Bedford stated that the DDA will meet in September to discuss the completion of their current projects and to begin discussion on projects for next summer.
- C. Board of Zoning Appeals.** City Clerk Christine Bedford stated that no applications were received.
- D. Economic Development Corporation.** The EDC has not met.
- E. Rockford Area Community Endowment.** RACE elected to not meet during the month of July.

XI. Council Member Comments

Council Member Jazwicz thanked Caleb for informing him regarding the paint on the Monroe Street homes.

Council Member Dews thanked Chief Jones for getting the Monroe Street home issue taken care of.

XII. Adjournment. On a motion by Council Member Dews, with support by Council Member Jazwicz, and carried by all, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Christine M. Bedford, City Clerk