

Mayor Hafften called the **March 12, 2013** Regular Meeting of the Rockford City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers of City Hall at 6031 Main Street, Rockford, MN.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken. The following council members were present: Hafften, Graner, Martinson and Wenz. Absent: Kesanen. Also in attendance were: Administrator Carswell, Engineer Mark Statz from Stantec, and Public Works Supervisor D. Peterson.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

***Approve Consent Agenda/Set Agenda**

Motion was made by Graner, seconded by Martinson to approve all the items listed on the consent agenda.

MOTION CARRIED-VOTING IN FAVOR: HAFFTEN, GRANER, MARTINSON and WENZ.

***Approve Regular Council Minutes/February 26, 2013**

Motion was made by Graner, seconded by Martinson to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2013, Regular Council Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED-VOTING IN FAVOR: HAFFTEN, GRANER, MARTINSON and WENZ.

***Approve Payment of Claims**

Motion was made by Graner, seconded by Martinson to approve the payment of claims #21632 to #21688 in the amount of \$145,310.42.

MOTION CARRIED-VOTING IN FAVOR: HAFFTEN, GRANER, MARTINSON and WENZ.

***Approve Building Permits**

Motion was made by Graner, seconded by Martinson to approve the February 2013 Building Permits #13-04 to #13-07.

MOTION CARRIED-VOTING IN FAVOR: HAFFTEN, GRANER, MARTINSON and WENZ.

***RESOLUTION #13-14/Approve Investments**

Motion was made by Graner, seconded by Martinson to approve Resolution #13-14 Approve Investments.

MOTION CARRIED-VOTING IN FAVOR: HAFFTEN, GRANER, MARTINSON and WENZ.

***Approve Hiring Part-Time Seasonal Parks Employee**

Motion was made by Graner, seconded by Martinson to approve hiring Aaron Krause as a seasonal part-time parks employee for 2013 at the hourly rate of \$11.58 per hour.

MOTION CARRIED-VOTING IN FAVOR: HAFFTEN, GRANER, MARTINSON and WENZ.

Community Garden

Darcy Desens presented information regarding GROERS (Greenfield-Rockford Organization of Environmentally Responsible Stewards), formerly the Garden Club. They are a group looking to provide gardening opportunities of local residents. There was discussion about the city allowing garden plots on city land at the water tower site on West Road in the Millennium Park. There were a few questions about the security of the water tower and Darcy stated that gardeners would receive a key to the gates at the water tower and noted that the water tower is very secured. Council

asked who will prep the grounds and how many people will be allowed to garden at this site. Darcy noted that since this is the first year that they did not expect large numbers and noted that he will be preparing the plots. Darcy is working with Rebecca Mavencamp the Director of the Rockford Area Historical Society and noted that she is administering the program and will take care of the registrations. There was also discussion about the city insurance and city staff will check on this. Council stated that this was a good idea and thanked Darcy for his work.

Motion was made by Graner, seconded by Wenz to approve the public community garden plots at Water Tower #3 on West Road.

MOTION CARRIED-VOTING IN FAVOR: GRANER, HAFFTEN, MARTINSON AND WENZ.

Jim Thome Park Update

Steve Yakesh and Chris Hudlow of the Rockford Area Athletic Association (RAAA) presented an update on the Grand Opening of the Bank West/Lamperts baseball field made possible in part by Bank West, Lamperts Lumber and a Twins Grant. The park where the field is located has been named after a famous Twins ball player, Jim Thome who is expected to attend the grand opening. Twins owners, and other players will also be present for the grand opening, as well as news stations, newspapers, etc. The grand opening is scheduled for May 11th from 9 – 10 a.m. with baseball scrimmage games to follow the ceremony. Mr. Yakesh asked a representative from the city to be present to speak about the park at the ceremony, Chris Hudlow from the Park Commission will represent the city at the event. Mr. Yakesh also asked for permission to install a sign at the field. Staff will send the sign regulations to Mr. Yakesh and RAAA will present their concept design to the park commission. Mr. Yakesh also requested permission to install flag poles and lighting at the park and noted that the lights on these would only shine up and not into the surrounding homes.

Administrator's Report

Carswell presented the administrators report including: HVAC report received for the Ames/Florida/Stork house, staff taking first aid/CPR classes, personnel committee update, Community Expo March 16th, R/G Chamber meeting March 14th, ABC Lettering BRE visit, 1,000 Hearts to Serve update, and High 5 during March at the library donate \$5, and MN Food Share month is March where 100% of the money donated in March goes to food shelves.

Engineer's Report

The engineer's report including: 2030 Capital Improvement Plan issues were discussed with Shannon Sweeney on February 28th, WWTF Phosphorus Removal and Bio-solids Handling Facility Plan has been sent to the MPCA and an application to the PFA – the next step is to have plans and specifications prepared, and responding to the Request for Proposals for Engineering Services.

Council Reports

Hafften – Community Expo is March 16th 9-1 p.m. at the Rockford Community Center in the High School

Graner – Diving training – Fire Dept., reminder of cleanup day May 4th, and the FD pancake breakfast May 5th – reported that Deb Milow is working with elementary students to paint the fire hydrants as a 1,000 hearts to serve project

Martinson – Lions are working with 1,000 Hearts to Serve, and April 13th is the Lions Greenback Dinner and this year's theme is red, white and blue

Open Forum

There was no one present for open forum.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made by Graner, seconded by Wenz to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED-VOTING IN FAVOR: HAFFTEN, GRANER, MARTINSON and WENZ.

Mayor Hafften adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Renee Hafften, Mayor

Nancy Carswell, Administrator