

Mayor Hafften called the **September 10, 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, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz. Absent: none. Also in attendance were: Wenck Engineers Libby and Ward, Public Works Supervisor Peterson and Deputy Clerk Etzel.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

**\*Approve Consent Agenda/Set Agenda**

**MOTION** was made by Martinson, seconded by Graner to approve all items on the consent agenda and set agenda.

MOTION CARRIED - Voting in favor: Hafften, Graner, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz.

**\*Approve Regular Council Minutes/August 27, 2013**

**MOTION** was made by Martinson, seconded by Graner to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2013, Regular Council Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED - Voting in favor: Hafften, Graner, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz.

**\*Approve Payment of Claims**

**MOTION** was made by Martinson, seconded by Graner to approve the payment of claims #22306 to #22349 in the amount of \$68,717.79.

MOTION CARRIED - Voting in favor: Hafften, Graner, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz.

**\*Approve Building Permits**

**MOTION** was made by Martinson, seconded by Graner to approve the August Building Permits #13-78 to #13-86.

MOTION CARRIED - Voting in favor: Hafften, Graner, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz.

**\*Resolution 13-35/Revised 2013 Appointments – Park Commission**

**MOTION** was made by Martinson, seconded by Graner to approve Resolution #13-35 appointing Bobbie Dahlke to the Park Commission for the term 2013-2015.

MOTION CARRIED - Voting in favor: Hafften, Graner, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz.

**\*Resolution 13-36/Authorizing Certifying Fire Services Unpaid**

**MOTION** was made by Martinson, seconded by Graner to approve Resolution #13-36 authorizing certifying fire service unpaid to 6030 Main Street.

MOTION CARRIED - Voting in favor: Hafften, Graner, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz.

**\*Approve Grant Contract/Minnesota Historical Society**

**MOTION** was made by Martinson, seconded by Graner to approve the grant acceptance for off-site archival storage of the Ames-Florida-Stork House Collections with the Minnesota Historical Society

MOTION CARRIED - Voting in favor: Hafften, Graner, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz.

**Resolution #13-37/Approve 2014 Preliminary Tax Levy**

Staff informed the city council that the general fund budget had been revised since the budget workshop and also included some increases in the employee benefits, but the bottom line remains the same.

**MOTION** was made by Wenz, seconded by Martinson to approve Resolution #13-37 approving the 2014 Preliminary Tax Levy of \$1,468,938.

MOTION CARRIED - Voting in favor: Hafften, Graner, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz.

**Resolution #13-38/Order Feasibility Study - 2014 Street & Utility Project**

Jared Ward, Engineer from Wenck & Associates reviewed the 2014 Street and Utility improvements project proposed. Ward noted that this project will be partly assessed as a 429 Public Improvement project. Therefore, is requesting that the city council authorize the engineers prepare the feasibility report as is required as part of the MN Statute 429 public improvement. The report will be submitted to the city on September 24, 2013 at which time the costs for the projects will be included as well as the proposed amounts to be assessed.

The map showing the project area was included in the packet, as well as the type of street improvements and sewer and water upgrades.

There was some discussion about the assessment policy which specifies the amount to be assessed for certain street improvements. The replacement of the water and sewer mains will be financed by the water and sewer funds. There are some private connections that will be replaced and assessed to the property owner.

The area to be completed first includes the Maplewood Manor Additions which was last done in 1999 per Dennis Peterson. There are other areas that include only sewer main replacements on Highway 55 between County Road 50 east to the city limits or 8000 Highway 55 and water main replacement on County Road 33 between Maple Street to Iris Lane.

Ward noted that he wants to start the process early in 2014 so that the city will be able to get competitive bids prices before the contractors have already scheduled the work for the year.

The cost to prepare the feasibility study is estimated to be .5 – 1.5% of the project costs or about \$18,000.

**MOTION** was made by Martinson, seconded by Kesanen to approve Resolution #13-38 ordering the 2014 Street & Utility Project feasibility study.

MOTION CARRIED - Voting in favor: Hafften, Graner, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz.

**Approve Safety Training Group Agreement**

The staff Chris King has been assigned Safety and is recommending that the city contract with the League of Minnesota Cities for safety training. The costs is affordable and includes collaborating with five other cities. The cost of the program is divided between the cities participating and our annual cost is \$1,200. The classes are great and they provide more training for less money. These training sessions will lower our insurance rates and keep our staff updated on the safest methods of completing tasks.

**MOTION** was made by Graner, seconded by Wenz to approve the safety training group agreement contingent upon review of the contract by Attorney Couri.

MOTION CARRIED - Voting in favor: Hafften, Graner, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz.

**Approve Street Repair Bid**

The city council authorized the street department to install drain tile on Walnut Street in front of the Rockford Mall at 8900 Walnut Street. This repair has seemed to work and removed the ponding of water. Now the pavement needs to be repaired and costs for that improvement plus a few other large street repairs have been submitted for council review. The repairs will include areas where the road is no longer draining and needs repair as follows: Ash and Cedar Street, Autumn Oaks Drive between Woodlawn and Kettenacker and Walnut Street.

Two bids were received for these projects:

Omamn Brothers Paving	\$21,700
Country Roads Paving	\$15,780

**MOTION** was made by Graner, seconded by Hafften to approve the bid and to authorize the Administrator to sign a contract with Country Roads Paving for the amount not to exceed \$15,780 to be financed by the CIP Fund 401 for the following street repairs:

- Walnut Street and curb replacement as per the bid
- Ash and Century Link repairs
- Autumn Oaks Drive between Woodlawn and Kettenacker

MOTION CARRIED - Voting in favor: Hafften, Graner, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz.

**Planning Commission Chicken Recommendation**

Council reviewed the information from the Planning and Zoning Commission in regards to the animal ordinance and chickens. The Planning Commission did their homework, looked at what other cities in the area are doing and went out to look at the Rogich property at 8360 Park Street which houses eleven chickens. After careful consideration, the Planning Commission is recommending the Council leave the ordinance as written.

Meda Rogich of 8630 Park Street asked to speak on behalf of herself and Charlie Rogich. Mrs. Rogich is disappointed with the process and final decision.

Karen Gift of 8621 Elmwood Street a backyard neighbor of the Rogich family was present to show her support of their chickens. She has no complaints, feels the coop is always clean and supports the Rogich's green efforts.

After reviewing the Planning Commission's recommendation the City Council made no changes to the animal ordinance.

The ordinance allows anyone owning chickens 30 days to remove from the City.

**MOTION** was made by Martinson, seconded by Graner to accept the Planning and Zoning Commissions recommendation and leave the ordinance as written.

MOTION CARRIED - Voting in favor: Hafften, Graner, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz.

**Administrator's Report**

The Administrator's report included: assessment for fire services at 6030 Main Street, preliminary tax levy 2013 pay 2014, Wright Hennepin Electric Solar ceremony and information on the Linnert property south of Maple Street.

**Engineer's Report**

The Engineer's report included: Wastewater treatment facility, Hurst Woods channel project, Elm and Ash Street sanitary sewer and some miscellaneous items.

**Council Reports**

*Graner* – nothing to report

*Kesanen* – reported that there is a benefit for Sandy Herman on 9/13 at the Delano Legion 5-8

*Martinson* – reported that the Lions had a successful golf tournament

*Wenz* – nothing to report

*Hafften* – GRRL meeting 10/17 and Wright County Mayors meeting 10/18

**OPEN FORUM**

Mayor Hafften called for open forum. No one from the public spoke.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

MOTION CARRIED - Voting in favor: Hafften, Graner, Kesanen, Martinson and Wenz.

Mayor Hafften adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

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Renee Hafften, Mayor

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Nancy Carswell, Administrator