

Mayor Beyer called the October 25, 2011 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 6031 Main Street, Rockford, MN.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and the following council members were present: Beyer, Graner, Hafften, Martinson and Wenz. Absent: none. Also in attendance were: Administrator Carswell and Public Works Supervisor Dennis Peterson.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given.

Manufacture's Week Proclamation

Mayor Beyer proclaimed the week of October 23, 2011 to October 29, 2011 as Manufacturer's Week. The City will celebrate Manufacturer's Week on Thursday, October 27, 2010 from 7:30am-8:30am at Design Ready Control (DRC), located at 6704 Bleck Drive, in Millennium Industrial Park.

***SET AGENDA/APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION was made by Martinson, seconded by Wenz to approve all items on the consent agenda.

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

***Approve Special Council Minutes/October 6, 2011**

MOTION was made by Martinson, seconded by Wenz to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2011, Special Council Meeting.

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

***Approve Regular Council Minutes/October 11, 2011**

MOTION was made by Martinson, seconded by Wenz to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2011, Regular Council Meeting.

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

***Approve Payment of Claims**

MOTION was made by Martinson, seconded by Wenz to approve the payment of claims #19666 to #19713 in the amount of \$58,709.95.

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

***Resolution #11-42/MnDOT Agreement**

MOTION was made by Martinson, seconded by Wenz to approve Resolution #11-42 authorizing the city to enter into an agreement #94849 with MnDOT regarding State Project #2722-81 on Trunk Highway 55 and authorizes Michael Beyer, Mayor or Nancy Carswell, Administrator to make amendments to the agreement if needed.

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

***Resolution #11-43/MN Historical Society Grant 2011**

MOTION was made by Martinson, seconded by Wenz to approve Resolution #11-43 authorizes the city to apply for a grant to fund the preparation of plans and specifications for the HVAC system.

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

***Contract Winfield Ponds Storm Sewer Repair**

MOTION was made by Martinson, seconded by Wenz to approve a contract with Squirrel's Landscaping, Inc. to install the over flow pipe at the south end of Winfield Circle South at a cost not to exceed \$2,675 and authorized the Administrator to sign the contract.

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

OPEN FORUM/

Mayor Beyer called for open forum, no one from the public spoke.

Hennepin County Commissioner Jeff Johnson

Hennepin County Commissioner Jeff Johnson in the process of setting the 2012 budget less by 3% is being proposed. Maximum general fund levy \$600,000. Property taxes should not increase in 2012 with the proposed levy. Small cuts are being made in many departments. One issue currently has been somewhat controversial which requires a new transportation vision for the Metropolitan Council. The transportation plan puts all of our energy on roads. Council member Martinson noted that the express trains from the mall of America to Big Lake don't alleviate the traffic from the suburbs that have greater populations and travel to downtown Minneapolis each day. Commissioner Johnson noted that the next train planned will travel through Eden Prairie to downtown Minneapolis. The other train will travel from Brooklyn Park to downtown Minneapolis. Commissioner Johnson stated that this mode of transportation has only decreased the amount of traffic on the road by 3% and is heavily subsidized by the Hennepin County which is very expensive.

Historical Society Update/Rebecca Mavencamp

Rebecca Mavencamp, Director of the Rockford Area Historical Society met with Ms. Woodward and received many diaries and letters from the members of the Ames-Florida family dating back to the civil war period. Mavencamp noted that the Rockford Area Historical Society is moving towards being more of a research center with the many collections donated. The study of Mills of steam and power will be part of the programs planned for this coming year. RAHS conducted a teen night every Thursday evening during the summer and it was very popular with the local teens.

Rebecca Mavencamp, updated council on items completed since the 2008 structural survey for the Ames-Florida House including: some of the loose & missing foundation outside, missing curb by summer kitchen, regarding of back grass by dining room to divert water from entering basement, cleaning of gutters (ongoing), replaced glazing – repainting window on outside, stripped paint from decorative cornices – replacements in progress, weather stripping windows and doors (ongoing), fixed mouse holes – general wear and tear (ongoing), roof/soffit and Davis, patching of concrete in basement. Items remaining on the list including: finish patching foundation, repainting chimneys & repair missing mortar, install new porch post (ordered) & replace rotten decking boards, fill & replace cracked & broken siding pieces (in progress), refinish exterior doors (in progress), replace cracked and missing glazing on interior windows, replace rotten or cracked sashes on windows, strip & repaint the house – treat wood with a fungicide and water repellent, reattach loose plaster/wallpaper/flooring, installing floor runners for tours to reduce wear, clean interior trim & applying wax paste to seal wood & resealing sills with a transparent finish or stripping & repainting, reinforce music room floor (in progress), add grab bars to existing bathroom for accessibility, installation of micro mist fire suppression system and moving smoke detectors on the first floor for better efficiency and tie in with security system, insulate supply air ducts and floor boars in 1912 attic – add blown in insulation in attic over original house, install new wood access panel at attic access on original house and HVAC.

The above listed items are limited to the structural survey items. A different list of smaller maintenance jobs was compiled and sent to Administrator Carswell. Darcy Desens has been working with Director Mavencamp over the last year to identify needs and address them on a regular basis. Weather stripping and filing holes in the home to save energy this year. New posts will be put on the porch, and cornices made by Mayor Beyer. Mayor Beyer suggested the diary get sent to the city mailing list that Audra has and it may increase the membership. Historical Society will be starting a blog. Ornament making is planned for November 12th 10-2 and the Christmas Tea will be held on December 10th from 1 - 4 p.m. Tickets for the tea are on sale now.

RESOLUTION #11-44/2012 Fire Department Budget

Discussed few lines items such as the lease for building and the cost of auto insurance. There was a discussion about financing the new grass rig/tanker. Carswell noted that this will be a lease purchase and the payments will not start until 2013 at which time a lease payment that is higher will be paid in full. So there should not be an increase in the cost to the service area.

MOTION was made by Hafften, seconded by Graner to approve Resolution #11-44 approving the 2012 Fire Department Budget of \$257,171.00.

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

Sheriff's Department Deputy Report

Deputy Ben Schaap of the Wright County Sheriff's Department was present to report to the city council on what has been happening in town the past few weeks. Schaap noted that they have received many driving complaints about drivers traveling on Highway 55 that are distracted. The deputy noted that they are watching for this but it is difficult to catch people that are probably text messaging while driving. Deputy Schaap noted that the Sheriff Department has had reminder cards made that they will be leaving on vehicles to remind them after November 1st about the seasonal parking restrictions. Schaap asked the city council how they want the deputies to handle this in Rockford. Mayor Beyer requested that no tickets be issued unless it has snowed. Deputy Schaap also noted around the outskirts of the city there has been a suspicious male breaking into vehicles and stealing items. Deputy Schaap also noted that the sheriff's dept. caught the vandals that burned down the portable toilet in Riverside Park. The case has been sent on to the county attorney's office and he will decide on charges. The deputy noted that since the signs have been posted "private property" on Lookout Point there have been no problems. The city council suggested that speed limit signs be posted coming into Rockford and Deputy Schaap suggested that staff contact Brian Johnson from the Sheriffs Office.

Administrator's Report

Council reviewed the administrator's report including the following items: food co-op meeting was held on October 15th and the next meeting is scheduled for November 7th, Park Commission held a special meeting on October 18th to preview playground equipment, RiverWorks proposed thrift store, Fire Board meeting on October 18th to discuss: a new tanker/grass rig – pending financial information and discussed members being paid \$10 per call starting 2013, and the Shell Station at 5820 Tower Street is planning on opening at the end of this year with a restaurant opening in the spring of 2012.

Council Report

Martinson said he stopped by the Parkwood Park "field of dreams" and noted the ground is going to be tough to work on. Sunset Circle hazardous excavation site has not been abated. Hafften asked that the Public Works Supervisor and Administrator schedule a meeting with her to go over the pay equity points for the Job

descriptions for public works that were recently changed so they can be approved by council and added to the wage scale.

Public Works Report

Dennis Peterson informed the city council that Trevor Brummer passed his Class D wastewater license test. There was some discussion about the construction of the chemical feed building which is not yet completed. Flood levee tree cutting should be done soon and the levee inspected by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Graner, seconded by Hafften to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor Beyer adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Michael Beyer, Mayor

Nancy Carswell, Administrator