

Mayor Hafften called the **June 11, 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 and Public Works Supervisor 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 items on the consent agenda.

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

**\*Approve Regular Council Minutes/May 28, 2013**

**MOTION** was made by Graner seconded by Martinson to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2013, Regular Council Meeting.

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

**\*Approve Special Council Minutes/June 4, 2013**

**MOTION** was made by Graner seconded by Martinson to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2013, Special 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 #21957 to #22000 in the amount of \$69,463.39.

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

**\*Approve Building Permits**

**MOTION** was made by Graner seconded by Martinson to approve the May Building Permits #13-25 to #13-42.

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

**\*Approve Hennepin County Assessor's Agreement**

**MOTION** was made by Graner seconded by Martinson to authorize staff to send a letter to Hennepin County Assessor stating it is the city's intent to extend the existing contract for assessor services for another four years.

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

**\*RES 13-26/Adopt Performance Measurements**

Motion was made by Graner, seconded by Martinson to adopt the State Performance Measurements for 2013 for all city departments which will allow the city to operate without levy limits imposed by the state.  
MOTION CARRIED-VOTING IN FAVOR: GRANER, HAFFTEN, MARTINSON AND WENZ.

**\*RES #13-23/Licenses for July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014**

**MOTION** was made by Graner seconded by Martinson to approve Resolution #13-23 to approve licenses for July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013 for: KCG Hospitality, Inc. d/b/a Billy's Rockford Bar – Intoxicating On Sale, Intoxicating On Sale Sunday, Off Sale, Dance and Game, Red Vest LLC. d/b/a Red Vest Bar & Grill - Intoxicating On Sale, Intoxicating On Sale Sunday, Off Sale, Dance and Game, and Sabrelcik, Inc. d/b/a – Sabourin's Wine and Liquor, Off Sale.

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

**\*Approve Temporary On-Sale Liquor License/Rockford River Days Festival Committee**

**MOTION** was made by Graner seconded by Martinson to approve a temporary intoxicating on-sale license and waive the \$40 fee for the Rockford River Days Committee to be held August 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013; contingent upon receiving the Certificate of Insurance.

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

**RES #13-24/Approve 2013 General Fund Budget Revision #1**

Administrator Carswell reviewed the general fund budget revision and noted now that all of the insurances have been expensed and the budget has been revised to actual costs. The excess from these line items was used to pay off deficits such as: council seminars, dues, miscellaneous and safety equipment. The remaining funds of \$3,684 were transferred into the city hall wages to help fund the vacation payout for the Finance Clerk who is retiring the end of June.

Mayor Hafften noted that her PERA is not included in the budget. Carswell stated that this amount is minor and reminded the council that there is still the \$10,000 contingency available.

**MOTION** was made by Martinson, seconded by Wenz to approve Resolution #13-24 approving the 2013 General Fund Budget Revision #1.

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

**RES #13-25/Approve 2013 Fire Department Budget Revision #1**

Administrator Carswell reviewed the fire department budget revision #1. The insurance budgets and annual dinner has been expensed for the year and there were excess funds that have now been transferred to the following line items: repair and maintenance buildings, gear and travel/meals and lodging. There was discussion about coding the \$900 for dinners into travel/meals/lodge which will be changed.

**MOTION** was made by Martinson seconded by Graner to approve Resolution #13-25 approving the 2013 Fire Department Budget Revision #1.

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

**Fire Station Floor Coating/SwedeBros Contract**

Carswell reported on the quotes for the fire station garage floors were submitted to the fire department. The department selected the SwedeBros floor quote. Administrator Carswell noted the cost of that quote was too high at \$45,740 so after talking with the company found that they had provided two quotes one for the quartz coating which was \$45,740 and one for the Epoxy/Polyurethane floor coatings which is \$26,176. Chad at SwedeBros informed Carswell that the Quartz floor coating is a 20 year floor and the Epoxy floor is the 15 year floor and noted that both coatings will have to be sealed every 5 years.

SwedeBros provided two references: City of Plymouth and City of Mendota Heights. Administrator Carswell contacted those cities fire chiefs regarding the epoxy floor coating on their fire station floors and they both were satisfied with the product and with SwedeBros workers who installed the coatings.

The work will begin in August around the 15<sup>th</sup> and the trucks will be stored outside and at the public works building until the coatings have cured.

**MOTION** was made by Graner, seconded by Wenz to approve the estimate from SwedeBros for the amount not to exceed \$26,157 to resurface the fire station floor and authorizes staff to sign the contract.

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

**Replace catch basin/Walnut Street**

Public Works Supervisor Dennis Peterson stated that he was not able to obtain a second quote for the catch basin work. He had contacted Kothrade to get a second quote but never received this information. Peterson noted that the last storm sewer bids from Kothrade were much higher than Burschville Construction.

Peterson went on to explain there is a blocked manhole which has created a sink hole in the street that is a safety hazard. It is an old concrete catch basin about 8' deep and will be replaced with a precast structure.

Graner wondered if we should wait for one more quote or if we should move ahead. Peterson reported that it will take three days to get the structure and the project is geared to start by next Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Council asked about the curb and asphalt that needs to be replaced and Peterson did not have the price of those repairs.

Motion was made by Martinson, seconded by Wenz to approve the contract with Burschville Construction to complete the storm water catch basin work on Walnut Street at a cost not to exceed \$6,600.

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

**Administrator's Report**

Administrator Carswell provided an update on the following: appraiser for potential property, on June 6<sup>th</sup> staff meeting with the new engineering firm - Wenck & Associates, levy limits – Performance Standards Measurements, meeting with Fire Chief Sanderson to discuss upcoming budget expenses and reviewed existing expenses and revenues, resident complaining about the new animal ordinance regarding chickens, annexation of Rockford Township property on Hamlin Avenue.

Carswell also informed the city council that the HRA regularly scheduled June 25<sup>th</sup> meeting will be cancelled and re-scheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Carswell requested that city hall be closed on July 5<sup>th</sup> as many companies are closed that day after the Independence Day Holiday. Carswell noted that staff will use comp time or vacation time for that day. The council approved closing city hall and asked staff to advertise this on the web, face book, etc. so the public is aware of the closing.

### **Engineer's Report**

Jared Ward of Wenck & Associates were present and noted that they met with the public works staff on Thursday to start the engineering transition. Ward noted that he will be working in house all day at the public works facility on Wednesdays.

### **Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan**

Peterson suggested that the city use Wenck & Associates for the wastewater facility plan. Ward noted that Wenck will take a harder look at the plan and submit any recommendations if that is what the council wants. Graner stated that the city should use Wenck to move forward with this wastewater plan. Martinson and Wenz also agreed that Wenck is the city engineer and should take over this project. Graner asked about matching grants for the wastewater treatment facility plan and bio-solids. Peterson and Ward responded that the plan designed by Stantec has already been submitted to the PFA for funding. A letter requesting that funding was sent out last Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> which was the deadline for submittal to PFA.

### **Fire Report**

Jeannette Graner said she was at the fire department training last night.

### **Council Reports**

Graner – reminded everyone that the city wide garage sales start on Thursday this week

### **OPEN FORUM**

Mayor Hafften called for open forum.

Perry Begin who resides at 6470 Harf Road outside the city limits expressed his concerns about the animal ordinance that was adopted at the last council meeting. Mr. Begin stated that the new ordinance does not allow chickens in Rockford. Begin showed the eggs he buys locally compared to the store. Martinson said the city council received complaints about chickens and turkeys in residential areas. Begin stated he feels the city council should have allowed more people to discuss this before they adopted the ordinance. Begin asked the council to repeal the new ordinance.

Charlie Rogich who resides at 8630 Park St in Rockford spoke. Mr. Rogich invested \$3,000 in chickens and a chicken coop after calling city hall to find out if they were allowed. Rogich said that the staff told him there were no restrictions on housing chickens. Rogich feels that this should have been grandfathered-in as this is a zoning land use issue. Rogich asked the city council to please re-consider this action. Rogich stated that the neighbors have no problem with his chickens. Rogich agrees that chickens are different than turkeys.

Rogich has 12 chickens and they are very close to the neighbors. He talked with the neighbors before he installed the coop and feels the city made the decision too fast.

Mr. Rogich said he has information from the City of Golden Valley who did a lot of research recently about chickens before passing an animal ordinance. Mr. Rogich stated that he feels this ordinance takes away his rights. Staff will review this information and the city council will discuss it again at a future council meeting. Rogich would prefer the council discuss this at their July 9<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

The city council noted that after many complaints about odors and noise they took action. All agendas are posted on the city's website and the public is always invited to attend the meetings.

Meda Rogich 8630 Park Street addressed the council about information she received from the City of Golden Valley regarding urban farming and they found that chickens are considered to be domesticated fowl. Ms. Rogich would request that the city code be amended to allow chickens. We really don't want to get rid of the chickens as they have not been a problem in the neighborhood and we have a lot invested into the chickens.

**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 8:01 p.m.

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Renee Hafften, Mayor

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Nancy Carswell, Administrator