

City of Rockford, Minnesota Council Workshop Minutes 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 10th, 2019

The meeting was called to Order by Mayor Renee Hafften at 5:00 p.m. Council members Rick Martinson, Scott Seymour, Debbie Buoy and Ted Hill were present.

City Administrator / City Attorney, Dan Madsen; Finance Manager, Jennifer Swendsen; and City Engineer Steve Hegland, of Wenck and Associates were also in attendance.

Members of the Council and Staff discussed and reviewed the 2020 Draft Budgets and Preliminary Property Tax Levy. No formal action was taken as these matters were set on for informational purposes only.

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City Administrator / City Attorney, Dan Madsen; Finance Manager, Jennifer Swendsen; City Engineer Steve Hegland, of Wenck and Associates; Deputy Emanuel from the Wright County Sheriff's Department; and Sue Van Cleaf of the Crow River News were also in attendance.

Public Hearing: Truth in Taxation

Mayor Renee Hafften opened the Public Hearing for the annual Truth in Taxation hearing at 6:03 p.m. Administrator / Attorney Madsen presented a multi-deck PowerPoint presentation highlighting the City's budgeting process, the proposed Preliminary Property Tax Levy, and the Proposed Final Property Tax Levy. Madsen explained in depth the impact of the City's projected expenses and revenues in 2020, and how they affected the Property Tax Levy. Madsen reviewed the Ad Valorem and Debt Service levy, including those levies over the past five years, and what impact they had on the proposed 2020 levy. Madsen then walked through the 2020 Budgets and discussed what percentages of total revenues and expenses each General Fund budget encompassed. Finally, Madsen explained a graph depicting one tax dollar and showed what percentage of that taxed dollar goes to support the City of Rockford, versus the County and School District. Madsen closed the presentation by explaining the impacts of these levies, as well as increases or decreases in market values of properties, and how they impact an individual's property taxes. Mayor Hafften then asked for public

comment on the project. Hearing none, **MOTION** was made to Close the Public Hearing by Hill, which was seconded by Seymour. The Motion carried by a 5-0 vote and the Public Hearing was closed at 6:15 p.m.

Motion Carried: Voting in favor; Hafften, Buoy, Hill, Martinson, and Seymour.

Set Agenda and Approve Consent Agenda Items:

A **MOTION** was made by Martinson, and seconded by Buoy, to approve the Consent Agenda Items 3A through 3E and set the Agenda for the Council Meeting as listed:

3A. Approve Minutes from the November 26th, 2019 Workshop and Regular Council Meeting

3B. Approve Payment of Claims, Check Number: 30667 through check number: 30710, and 502350E through 502361E totaling \$101,940.54

3C. Approve November Building Permits

3D. RES #19-42/Approve 2019 Appointments Revised

3E. Approve Delano Rockford Area Hockey Association Ice Request

Motion Carried: Voting in favor; Hafften, Buoy, Hill, Martinson, and Seymour.

Wright County Sheriff's Update

Deputy Emanuel from the Wright County Sheriff's Department appeared and provided updates regarding parking on roadways during a snow emergency, tickets issued and the importance of not obstructing the path of snowplows. The Sheriff's Office was reaching out to "snow birds" that may have left their cars on the streets, and if they cannot be reached these cars will be towed. No formal action was taken, as this matter was for informational purposes only.

New Business: Resolution #19-43 to Adopt the Final General Fund Budget and 2020 Property Tax Levy

Finance Manager Swendsen presented the Draft 2020 General Fund Budget and reviewed the Proposed 2020 Final Property Tax Levy with the City Council. Members of the Council and Staff reviewed the information discussed various line items and the overall impact of the property tax levy. After additional discussion and review, **MOTION** was made by Buoy, and seconded by Seymour, to approve Resolution #19-43, 2020 Budget and Property Tax Levy.

Motion Carried: Voting in favor; Hafften, Buoy, Hill, Martinson, and Seymour.

Staff Reports:

Members of the Staff and Council provided updates regarding the challenges with building a Splash Pad in Riverside Park, the F.D. Toy Drive, Crow River Christmas, the flooding of the Hockey Rink and other general happenings around the City of Rockford.

Open Forum:

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

Adjournment:

MOTION was then made by Hill, and seconded by Seymour, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion Carried: voting in favor; Hafften, Buoy, Martinson, Seymour and Hill.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Typed this 19th day of December, 2019.

Dan Madsen
City Administrator, Special Counsel
City of Rockford Minnesota

All meetings of the Rockford City Council are video recorded and available for viewing on-line at www.cityofrockford.org. Meeting minutes are intended to be a general synopsis of the meetings of the City Council, and more detail regarding discussions and policy considerations is provided by watching the recording of the meeting.

Approved:

Renee Hafften
Mayor

Attest:

Dan Madsen
City Administrator, Special Counsel