

## **City of Rockford, Minnesota Workshop Meeting Minutes 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 10, 2023**

The City Council Workshop was called to Order by Mayor Renee Hafften at approximately 5 p.m. Council members Mike Werman, Denise Willenbring and Heather Michalik were in attendance. Wyatt Gutzke was absent.

City Administrator / Attorney, Dan Madsen and City Engineer, Steve Hegland were also in attendance.

Members of the Staff and Council discussed the proposed vehicle purchase by the Fire Department and potential Council Goals for 2023.

No formal action was taken, as these matters were set on for informational purposes only.

## **City of Rockford, Minnesota Council Meeting Minutes 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 10, 2023**

The City Council Workshop was called to Order by Mayor Renee Hafften at approximately 6 p.m. Council members Mike Werman, Denise Willenbring and Heather Michalik were in attendance. Wyatt Gutzke was absent.

City Administrator / Attorney, Dan Madsen; City Engineer, Steve Hegland; Patty Malecek and Gravin Woodland of Wright County Health; and Chase Peyton, Brian Thoennes, Justin Mielke and Tyler Neibert were also in attendance.

Administrator / Attorney Madsen provided the Oath of Office for Heather Michalik, who was properly sworn and formally accepted her seat as a member of the Rockford City Council.

A motion was made by Willenbring, and seconded by Werman, to approve the Consent Agenda Items 3A through 3F as listed and set the Agenda for the Council Meeting:

- 3A. Approve Minutes from the December 27, 2022 Workshop and Regular Council Meeting
- 3B. Approve Payment of Claims, Check Number: 34,758 through 34,789 totaling \$55,927.50.
- 3C. Resolution. 2023 Local Board of Appeal and Equalization Hearing
- 3D. Resolution, Mileage and Commission Compensation
- 3E. 2023 Stantec Letter of Engagement, Engineering Services

Motion Carried: Voting in favor; Hafften, Werman, Willenbring and Michalik.

### **New Business: Wright County Radon Update**

Patty Malecek and Gravin Woodland of Wright County Health Department provided updates on the importance of Radon testing and potential Radon mitigation in homes, noting that soils in this area held higher than normal levels of Radon and resident awareness was important to remain healthy and safe. Members of Staff and the Council asked questions about Radon testing and mitigation, including information on in-home testing and resources for residents. No formal action was taken, as this matter was set on for informational purposes only.

**New Business: F.D. Utility 13 Vehicle Purchase**

Administrator / Attorney Madsen explained that the Fire Department initially received Council approval to purchase a Chevy 3500 for \$54,975. That vehicle was not available at the time the order was placed, so Fire Chief Ben Sanderson approved the ordering of a Ram 2500 from Ryan Ram for \$57,457. Madsen explained that the State Contract Bid Price was higher than the cost of this vehicle, being \$60,585. The vehicle desired was a single source type purchase as it was ordered for a different party and abandoned, resulting in the lower purchase price. Members of the Staff and Council discussed the vehicles and options moving forward. Motion was made by Werman, and seconded by Willenbring, to purchase the vehicle.

Motion Carried: Voting in favor; Hafften, Werman, Willenbring and Michalik.

**New Business: 8000 Highway 55**

Administrator / Attorney Madsen explained that the City's retained criminal prosecutor, Paul Baertchi for Hennepin County, believed that the criminal public nuisance and zoning violation case against Bruce Turner at 8000 Highway 55 would not get to trial based upon the low level nature of the case. Baertchi also recommended dismissal due to the work it would take to continue to answer Defendant's motions for dismissal. It was within Baertchi's sole discretion as to whether or not the case be dismissed. Madsen explained that the remaining route would be civil – whether by Court Ordered Abatement, or through an Administrative Warrant to enter and abate the nuisance. Madsen met with a civil attorney in Baertchi's firm that handles such matters and stated he would bring more information back to the Council for consideration and review. No formal action was taken, as this matter was set on for informational purposes only.

**New Business: Veteran's Memorial Welcome Sign and Donor Board**

Administrator / Attorney Madsen explained that the Rockford Lions Memorial Committee had met and reviewed the nature and status of the proposed boards at the Veteran's Memorial. Members of the Staff and Council reviewed the donor board and language for the welcome sign and generally approved and appreciated the design and layout of both. Members of the Staff and Council discussed the installation and height of these signs, and Madsen stated he would work with Council Member Michalik on fine tuning the language of the Welcome Sign prior to approval and order by the Lions. It was also discussed that the Lions would be ordering and paying for both signs, donating the same to the City and then the City would be installing those signs. No formal action was taken, as this matter was set on for informational purposes only.

Members of the Staff and Council then discussed the conditions of the City's Ice Rinks, reminded people not to park on the streets during snow emergencies, and wished everyone Happy New Year.

Motion was then made by Werman, and seconded by Michalik to adjourn the meeting.

Motion Carried: Voting in favor; Hafften, Werman, Willenbring and Michalik and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:19 p.m.

Typed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023.

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](http://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:

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Renee Hafften  
Mayor

Attest:

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Dan Madsen  
City Administrator, Special Counsel