

**City of Rockford, Minnesota Council Workshop Minutes**  
**5:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 13, 2018**

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

City Administrator / Special Counsel, Dan Madsen; Public Works Director, Trevor Brummer; City Engineer, Jared Ward and Justin Mielke, Domanik Lark, Chase Payton, Brian Thoennes, Jacob Anuss and Nathan Buoy as Officers of the Rockford Fire Department were also in attendance.

Members of the Fire Department reviewed the compensation provided to officers and their members of twelve area Fire Departments including Hamel, Maple Plain, Hanover, Montrose, Loretto, Delano, Long Lake, Albertville, Monticello, St. Michael, Rogers and Buffalo. Chief Ben Sanderson compared the compensation levels discussed with the compensation provided to Rockford Fire Department Officer and personnel and began a discussion of potential compensation increases for the city's department.

Members of the Council, Staff and the Fire Department reviewed and discussed the information presented, including questions and discussions regarding the policy implications of increasing compensation, the impact on the city's budgets, the impact on longevity and fire fighter retention, along with numerous other concerns and challenges. No formal action was taken, as this matter was set on for discussion purposes only. It was agreed by the Council and Fire Department that the matter be set on again at the February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting for continued discussion and review.

**City of Rockford, Minnesota Council Meeting Minutes**  
**6:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 13, 2018**

The meeting was called to Order by Mayor Renee Hafften at 6:00 p.m. Council members Debbie Buoy, Rick Martinson, Ted Hill and Scott Seymour were present.

City Administrator / Special Counsel, Dan Madsen; Public Works Director, Trevor Brummer; City Engineer, Jared Ward and Resident, Tom Ditsch were also in attendance.

A **MOTION** was made by Hill, and seconded by Seymour, to approve the Consent Agenda Items 3A through 3G, with Item 3F being pulled and set on as New Business, and set the Agenda for the Council Meeting as listed:

- 3A. Approve Minutes from the January 23, 2018 Council Workshop and Meeting
- 3B. Approve Payment of Claims, Check Number: 28306 through Check Number 28372 totaling \$131,855.21
- 3C. Approve January Building Permits
- 3D. Resolution #18-11 Prepayment of Mn PFA 1997 Wastewater Loan / Bond
- 3E. Resolution #18-12 / Ordinance #18-04 Existing Single Family Dwellings with C-3 District Interim Uses
- 3F: Removed to Item 4A New Business
- 3G: Resolution #18-14/ Fire Pension Increase

Motion Carried: voting in favor; Hafften, Hill. Seymour, and Martinson. Buoy abstained as married to an Officer in the Fire Department.

**New Business: Resolution #18-13 / Ordinance #18-05 Personnel: Vacation and Life Insurance**

Madsen explained that the Council had discussed and approved changes to the vacation time accrued by new employees in their first year of employment in late 2012 or early 2013. The Ordinance related to this shift, however, was never updated or amended. The current Ordinance read that employees earned no vacation for the first six months of employment, and forty hours in their second six months of employment. The Council had previously voted to allow new employees to earn 80 hours of vacation in their first year, with incremental increases in vacation structured thereafter.

Additionally, during this same period of time, the Council had approved the increase in life insurance paid by the City from \$10,000 to \$25,000. The Ordinance, however, was not updated. Staff explained that the Ordinances presented updated both existing Ordinances to the direction and vote of the Council back in 2012 – 2013.

After discussion and review, including consideration of the reasons for the increases and the understanding of members of the Council serving in 2012 – 2013, **MOTION** was made by Martinson, and seconded by Hill, to approve the Resolution #18-13 and Ordinance Amendment. Motion Carried: voting in favor; Hafften, Hill. Seymour, Buoy and Martinson.

**Staff Reports**

Staff and members of the Council then discussed various updates including the use of the hockey rink by the High School Varsity Team, the F.D. Spaghetti Dinner and updates on development in the Hurst Woods, The Meadows, Boulder Ridge and Parkwood developments.

A **MOTION** was then made by Martinson to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Hill.

Motion Carried: voting in favor; Hafften, Martinson, Seymour and Buoy and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:38 p.m.

Typed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2018.

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