

City of Rockford, Minnesota Council Workshop Minutes 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 27th, 2018

The workshop was called to Order by Mayor Renee Hafften at 5:02 p.m. Council members Debbie Buoy, Ted Hill, Rick Martinson and Scott Seymour were present.

City Engineer Ward, Streets Supervisor Quirk, Lead Parks Desens, Finance Clerk Swendsen and Deputy Clerk Etzel were also in attendance.

Finance Clerk Swendsen stated when reviewing the 2019 contract with Resource Service Cooperative, it was noted the health insurance premiums would be increasing by 14.8% under the current plan. Staff met and discussed the employee health care options for 2019 and compared the current health plan and the Public Employees Insurance Program (PEIP). It is staff recommendation to go with the PEIP option, saving the city \$24,000 in premium costs.

The staff and council reviewed: gambling funds, parks capital improvements and how the park dedication funds can be spent or if there are restrictions, playground replacement for Riverside Park, Stork House funds, streets capital improvements which includes money for the bridge, plow truck replacement, and possible future replacement of water meters.

No formal action was taken as this matter was set on for informational purposes only.

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City Engineer Ward, Streets Supervisor Quirk, Lead Parks Desens and Deputy Clerk Etzel were also in attendance.

Set Agenda and Approve Consent Agenda Items:

A **MOTION** was made by Martinson, and seconded by Buoy, to approve the Consent Agenda Items 3. A. and 3. E. with a correction to the Minutes and Resolution #18-53 whereas Hill voted against the Kwik Trip PUD and set the Agenda for the Council Meeting as follows:

3. A. Approve Minutes from the November 13, 2018 Council Workshop and Regular Council Meeting
3. B. Approve Payment of Claims, Check Number 29330 through Check Number 29394 totaling \$75,335.36
3. C. Resolution #18-54 Designating 2019 Polling Place
3. D. Resolution #18-55 Approve 2020/2021 Wright County Assessment Service Contract
- 3.E. Closing City Hall Christmas Eve and Eve of New Year's Day

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

New Business: Great River Regional Library Rockford Update.

The Rockford Librarian, Julie Eskritt, stated she has been with the Rockford location for about a year and everyone has been so supportive. The Council review the 2017 data presented and discussed: fine forgiveness, donations and several of the programs available at the library. In 2019 they plan to have the first self-check-out available for users. Also, in 2019 the GRRL will be celebrating their 30th year, more details on the event will be available next year.

New Business: Resolution #18-56 Wright County Area Transportation (WCAT).

Administrator Madsen prepared a memo for council discussing the current Wright County Area Transportation (WCAT) Joint Powers Agreement. Over the last several months the Wright County Board has been meeting with Sibley and McLeod Counties regarding partnership in the Trailblazer Transit Agreement. Wright County has agreed to take responsibility for public transportation in Wright County. The Cities forming the WCAT who signed the Joint Powers Agreement are rescinding that agreement so that Wright County may take over operations.

MOTION was made by Martinson, and seconded by Seymour, to approve Resolution #18-56 to formally leave the Wright County Area Transportation and the Joint Powers Agreement and the Wright County Board would be taking over operations and responsibility for public transportation with Trailblazer Transit on January 1, 2019.

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

New Business: Employee Health Insurance 2019

Staff and Council discussed the 2019 employee health care options as part of the budget during the workshop and agreed to go with the Public Employees Insurance Program (PEIP) for 2019. The change will save the City \$24,000 in premiums and the employees with family coverage would see a reduction in their monthly deduction.

MOTION was made by Seymour, and seconded by Buoy, to go with the Public Employee Insurance Program (PEIP) for the employee health insurance plan for 2019.

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

Staff Reports:

Staff and members of the Council then discussed various updates including: Christmas Tree pick-up on January 9th, Park & Recreation on December 3rd, Crow River Christmas, WWTF blower piping repairs, Hurst Woods 4th two year warranty period and retainer, capital improvement planning, Kwik Trip, ice skating rinks, ash tree replacement, decorating downtown, State Highway 55 lighting change out, public works preparing for the winter season, Auxiliary Toy Drive and Crow River Christmas events.

Open Forum:

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

Adjournment:

A **MOTION** was then made by Hill, seconded by Buoy to adjourn the meeting.

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

Mayor Hafften adjourned at approximately 6:28 p.m.

Typed this 6th day of December, 2018.

Audra Etzel, Deputy Clerk
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