

## **City of Rockford, Minnesota Workshop Meeting Minutes 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 28, 2023**

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

City Administrator / Attorney, Dan Madsen and City Engineer, Steve Hegland; Chuck and Annette Tryon; Jeff and Nikki Nute; Bonnie Maue; and, Kevin Koehler of the Rockford Area Historical Society were also in attendance.

Members of the Staff and Council reviewed the Rockford Area Historical Society proposed project of constructing a building behind the Ames Florida Stork House to accommodate small groups and provide ADA bathrooms and a form of accessibility to the property.

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, February 28, 2023**

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

City Administrator / Attorney, Dan Madsen; City Engineer, Steve Hegland; Wright County Deputy Cassidy; Jack Nellis, Robert Nellis of Masons Star Lodge 62; Michelle Bartlett; Zach, Penny, Jean, Doyle Koskovich of Fish Dreams Brewing; and Cory Nygaard, Lisa Dougherty, Noah Dougherty, Kylie Werner and Amber Robek of the Rockford Girl Scouts were also in attendance.

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

- 3A. Approve Minutes from the February 14, 2023 Workshop and Regular Council Meeting
- 3B. Approve Payment of Claims, Check Number: 34790 through 34831 totaling \$278,715.82
- 3C. Approve Clays Pro Rata Liquor License Refund
- 3D. Approve Grasshopper Pick-up Truck Sale
- 3E. Approve Lions Gun Raffle
- 3F. Approve Abdo 2022 Annual Audit Services Agreement

Motion Carried: Voting in favor; Seymour, Buoy, Willenbring and Werman. Abstentions, Hafften as married to a Public Works employee.

### **Wright County Update: Deputy Cassidy**

Deputy Cassidy of the Wright County Sheriff's Department provided a general update that there were 97 traffic stops and calls for service over the past two weeks, but else was going well and there were no real other issues to report.

**New Business: Jack Nellis, Masons Star Lodge 62 Hog Roast**

Mason Jack Nellis presented information on the Masons Star Lodge 62 Annual Hog Roast, to be held April 1, 2023 at the Township Hall. The Hog Roast is designed to be a fundraiser, through which the Masons provide matching grants up to \$10,000 to local nonprofits including the Rockford Food Shelf.

No formal action was taken, as this matter was for informational purposes only,

**New Business: Fish Dreams Brewing**

Zach and Penny Koskovich provided a presentation to the Council regarding their plans and desire to build a brewery on the City-owned Lumberyard Property. It was shared with the Council that the project would cost approximately \$2,000,000 and would take about 18 months to complete. Members of the Staff and Council discussed the experience of the Koskovichs and reviewed the proposed plans and architectural sketch. It was stated that the Council would enter into Closed Session at the next Council Meeting to discuss the sale price of the lot to Fish Dreams Brewing.

No formal action was taken, as this matter was for educational and training purposes only.

**New Business: DNR Matching Grant Application**

Administrator / Attorney Madsen reviewed the potential grant opportunity for a welcome sign and irrigation to be installed at the Veteran's Memorial. Madsen explained that the City had been awarded a grant originally intended and applied for by the Rockford Lions. As these grants can only be awarded to cities, Madsen asked if the Council would like to take on the irrigation and welcome sign components of the Veteran's Memorial and use the matching grant to help with those costs. The cost of the welcome sign was quoted at being \$7,950, and the irrigation project was quoted at costing \$4,800. The matching grant would cover half of that cost, so \$6,375 would be provided by the City with an equal amount being reimbursed from the State. Members of the Staff and Council discussed the cost of the grant and benefit of the award versus the estimated 10 to 15 hours of staffing time and engineering expense in finalizing the grant process, reporting and closing out the grant. Members of the Council expressed their desire to move forward with the grant, which will be placed for approval once the final contract is drafted by the State.

No formal action was taken, as this matter was for educational and training purposes only.

Members of the Staff and Council then discussed other general updates related to the City.

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

Motion Carried: Voting in favor; Hafften, Werman, Willenbring, Gutzke and Michalik, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:55 p.m.

Typed this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 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