

ROLLA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2025; 6:30 P.M.
ROLLA CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
901 NORTH ELM STREET

Presiding: Mayor Louis J. Magdits IV

Council Members in Physical Attendance: August Rolufs, Andrew Behrendt, Aaron Pace, Steve Jackson, William Hahn, Tom McNeven, Kevin Greven, David Shelby, Micheal Dickens and Tina Balch.

Council Members Absent: Ward 1 Vacancy and Nathan Chirban

Department Directors and Other City Officials in Physical Attendance: Public Works Director Darin Pryor, Fire Chief Jeff Breen, Community Development Director Dawn Bell, Environmental Service Director Roger Pankey, Parks Director Floyd Jernigan, City Planner Tom Coots, Interim Centre Recreation Director Josh Stephens, Police Major Will Loughridge, Finance Director Steffanie Rogers, City Administrator John Butz and City Counselor Nathan Nickolas.

Mayor Louis J. Magdits IV called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. and asked Councilman Shelby to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. **PUBLIC HEARINGS** - None

II. **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS and SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS** – None

III. **OLD BUSINESS** –

A. **Ordinance** to approve the FY 2026 Budget. (City Administrator John Butz)

A motion was made by Hahn to amend the ordinance to read, “All expenditures represented by this budget that require individual prior City Council resolution or ordinance shall include an executive summary that includes the following information: Department Head: Action Requested: Item/Subject: Budget Appropriation: Fund and Account Title: Fund/Account Budgeted 2025/26: Amount previously allocated.” Motion was approved unanimously by those present.

A motion was made by Hahn regarding a new Finance report, but was later withdrawn to allow Administration time to explore options.

City Counselor Nathan Nickolaus read the ordinance for its final reading, by title: ORDINANCE 4875: AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2025 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS PURSUANT THERETO. A motion was made by Greven, seconded by Behrendt to approve the ordinance as amended. A roll call vote showed: Ayes: Balch, Dickens, Greven, Jackson, Hahn, McNeven, Pace, Shelby, Behrendt, and Rolufs. Nays: none.

B. **Ordinance** to approve the 2025-2026 sewer service availability fee increase. (PW Director Darin Pryor) City Counselor Nathan Nickolaus read the ordinance for its final reading, by title: ORDINANCE 4876: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 35 OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, KNOWN AS THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, RELATING TO SEWERS AND WATER. A motion was made by Jackson, seconded by Hahn to approve the ordinance. A roll call vote showed: Ayes: Behrendt, Jackson, Dickens, Shelby, Greven, Hahn, Rolufs, Pace, Balch, and McNeven. Nays: none.

IV. **NEW BUSINESS** –

- A. **Ordinance** to approve Preliminary Engineering Agreement with BNSF for 18th/Bardsley Roundabout. (Public Works Director) In 2021, Lochmueller Group recommended a single-lane roundabout based on a traffic study. Council approved continued design work in January to determine right-of-way needs. Lochmueller has been coordinating the design with BNSF, who is requiring a Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement for plan review by a third-party consultant. Council requested that the full traffic study from 2021 be emailed for review. City Counselor Nathan Nickolaus read the ordinance for its first reading by title: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI AND BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY.
- B. **Ordinance** to enter into agreement with MoDOT for Transportation Alternatives Funds Agreement to replace 45 non-compliant curb ramps. (PW Director Darin Pryor) City Counselor Nathan Nickolaus read the ordinance for its first reading by title: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI A CERTAIN TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE FUNDS PROGRAM AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI AND MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF APPROXIMATELY 45 ADA CURB RAMPS.
- C. **Ordinance** amending Sec.31-3 of the Rolla City Code pertaining to Loitering and Park Hours. (Parks Director Floyd Jernigan) A motion was made by Hahn, seconded by McNeven, to amend the proposed ordinance to read, “It shall be unlawful for any person to enter or remain in any city outdoor park or playground from one (1) hour after sunset to one (1) hour before sunrise, except in areas illuminated for the purpose of nighttime activities and when Parks Department sanctioned activities are taking place”. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. City Counselor Nathan Nickolaus read the ordinance for its first reading by title: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY CODE REGARDING PARK HOURS.

V. **CLAIMS and/or FISCAL TRANSACTIONS** –

- A. **Motion** to award bank depository services to Phelps County Bank for a 4-year term expiring in 2029. (Finance Director Steffanie Rogers) A motion was made by Greven, seconded by Jackson, to award the bid to Phelps County Bank. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

VI. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Note: Mayor Magdits moved to address Mayor/Council Comments before hearing Citizen Communication.

Several citizens spoke in support of The Centre and asked questions seeking clarification on various aspects of the Mayor’s previous statement. Speakers included:

1. Debbie Castle
2. Cindy Samaritz
3. Carlton Frederickson
4. Shawn Murphy
5. Colin Gentry
6. Anne West
7. Tyler Johnson
8. Thomas Maples shared his concerns regarding the proposed Park’s ordinance and the 18th/Bardsley round about that is still being designed.
9. Charlie Courts (resident of Rolla Towers) shared his issues with the Rolla Housing Authority.
10. Zephyrny Milbandt: Asked for consideration on the placement of more bike racks around town.

VII. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

A. Mayor update on Rec Center/Natatorium.

Mayor Magdits began with a summary on the Centre's business model change from a traditional community recreation center to a medically integrated facility and reminded Council that The Centre is the only Certified Medical (recreational) facility in Missouri.

The Natatorium is operating at a \$50-\$300K annual deficit, while SplashZone was losing a similar amount over just a three-month period. Additionally, approximately \$700K in capital expenditure repairs are needed." There was discussion about the possibility of approaching voters for a small sales tax for the purpose of repairs and modifications on the pool. Specifics on ballot language will have to be finalized by January 2026, for an April election. That timeline would give citizens 60-90 days for citizens to express what they would like to see on the ballot and for citizen interest groups to organize for community education and support. An architect and planning feasibility firm who specializes in recreation centers, will need to be hired for further planning.

- B. Councilman Jackson commented that he attended the last RACC luncheon where a presentation was made regarding the Missouri S&T Protoplex. He was excited about the hundreds of jobs this may create in Rolla.**
- C. Councilman Hahn shared information about the upcoming Ranney Run which has raised significant funds and been a champion for the Animal Shelter for almost a decade.**

VIII. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

- A. Next City Council meeting, Monday, October 6th.**
- B. Public Works Director Darin Pryor shared that the Arts and Crafts event will be October 4th from 9:00 am -3:00 pm with 100+ vendors.**
- C. Park's Director Floyd Jernigan shared that Kid's Night Out would be Saturday, September 27th and details about a Free PE class at Eugene Northern.**
- D. Councilman Jackson asked if there would be a fall clean-up. Env. Ser. Director Roger Pankey shared that this event was only in the spring.**

IX. CLOSED SESSION –

- A. Closed Session per RSMo 610.021 – (12) Contract Negotiations**

At 8:49 p.m. a motion was made by Shelby, seconded by Balch, to go into closed session. A roll call vote showed: Ayes: McNeven, Behrendt, Jackson, Hahn, Pace, Dickens, Rolufs, Greven, Balch, and Shelby.

At 10:01 Council returned from closed session where there were no final actions taken.

X. ADJOURNMENT -

With nothing further to discuss, Mayor Magdits adjourned the meeting at 10:01 p.m.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR