Presiding: Mayor Pro-Tempore Don Morris

Council Members in Attendance: Jonathan Hines, Matthew Miller, Matthew Crowell, Kelly Long, David Schott, Don Morris, John Meusch, Jim Williams, Brian Woolley, Steven Jung, and Walt Bowe

Council Members Absent: Monty Jordan

Department Directors in Attendance: Community Development Director John Petersen, Finance Director Steffanie Rogers, Public Works Director Steve Hargis, Police Chief Sean Fagan, Environmental Services Director Brady Wilson, Parks and Recreation Director Floyd Jernigan, and Fire Chief Ron Smith

Other City Officials in Attendance: City Administrator John Butz, City Counselor Lance Thurman, and City Clerk Carol Daniels

Mayor Pro-Tempore Don Morris called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. and asked a member of the Rolla Ministerial Alliance to give the invocation.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Morris then asked that a moment of silence be observed in memory of City employee Roger Ratliff, who recently lost his battle with cancer.

Councilman Brian Woolley led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Williams and seconded by Long to approve the consent agenda as submitted. A voice vote on the motion showed eleven ayes, zero nays, and one absent. Motion carried. The consent agenda consisted of the following:

(A) Approval of the Rolla City Council Minutes for the following:
1) City Council Meeting – April 3, 2017
2) City Council Closed Session Meeting – April 3, 2017
3) City Council Meeting – April 17, 2017
4) City Council Closed Session Meeting – April 17, 2017
II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

III. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

(A) 2016 Tourism Audit Report: Ms. Amanda Wiggins, CPA with Kean & Company, LLC, Rolla, Missouri, provided an overview of the Rolla Area Chamber of Commerce’s Motel Tax Fund audit for fiscal year 2016. She reported no adverse findings were noted during the course of the audit.

(B) Missouri Rock Island Trail Update: Mr. Greg Harris, Executive Director, Missouri Rock Island Trail, updated the Council on the trail project. He also requested the Rolla City Council consider sending a letter to the State expressing the City’s interest in connecting to the trail. Additionally, on behalf of Mr. Terry Brewer and Brewer Science, Mr. Kevin Edwards of Brewer Science, accepted a plaque from Mr. Harris in recognition of Brewer Science’s support to the Missouri Rock Island Trail.

A motion was made by Crowell and seconded by Long for the City to send a letter of support to the State expressing interest in connecting to the Missouri Rock Island Trail. A voice vote on the motion showed eleven ayes, zero nays, and one absent. Motion carried.

(C) Audubon Trail Project and Great Missouri Birding Trail: Mr. Mike Doyen, Rolla, Missouri, recalled some years ago, he and some friends built a nature center in Rolla and the community has been a partner in that venture. The nature center is an amazing place and it helps set the benchmark for what was done with the Great Missouri Birding Trail. Mr. Doyen said what they are trying to do with the trail is the same thing they are trying to do with the nature center. The nature center had one goal and that was to teach people about native Missouri. Mr. Doyen invited Mayor Magdits, City Administrator John Butz, and the City Council to the grand opening event for the Great Missouri Birding Trail in Rolla on May 12, 2017, from 9 a.m. to noon. He concluded by encouraging the Council to consider planting some native flowers in the City’s parks, construct butterfly berms, etc., and start showing our citizens the City is leading the charge as is the government and other organizations across the state.
IV. REPORT OF MAYOR and COUNCIL/REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS/CITY DEPARTMENTS

Mayor Pro-Tempore Morris referred the Council to (A) the March 2017, Environmental Services Department Monthly Report; (B) the March 2017, Police Department Monthly Report; (C) the March 2017, Animal Control Division Monthly Report; (D) the March 2017, Centre Financial Analysis; (E) the March 2017 Park Financial Analysis; (F) the March 15, 2017, Health and Recreation Center Board Meeting Minutes; (G) the January 26, March 22 and April 12, 2017, Park Advisory Commission Meeting/Workshop Minutes; (H) the February 2017 Rolla Municipal Utilities Monthly Report; (I) the February 28, 2017, Rolla Board of Public Works Meeting Minutes; (J) the March 2017 Building Codes Monthly Report; (K) the March 2017 Municipal Court Monthly Report; and, (L) the April 25, 2017, Development Review Committee Meeting Minutes.

V. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

(A) Ordinance Amending Section 42-788(c) of the Rolla City Code – Outdoor Storage Forum Plaza: City Administrator John Butz recalled this issue surfaced during the Council’s last meeting and representatives from Dickey Bub Farm and Home shared with the Council their challenge with the new store, which opened about a month ago. He pointed out Dickey Bub Farm and Home was not aware of the limitation of outdoor storage on the primary parking lot and initially during the store’s opening, the materials stored were extensive. Dickey Bub Farm and Home representatives asked the Council to consider an amendment to the rezoning ordinance to give them a bit more flexibility. The proposed ordinance would amend Section 42-788(c) of the Code, which would permit limited outdoor storage, both annual and seasonal, with a six foot height limitation. Mr. Butz pointed out Dickey Bub Farm and Home would be required to retain the 160 parking spaces that were included with the original conditions.

City Counselor Lance Thurman read the following proposed ordinance for its first reading, by title. ORDINANCE: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 42-788(c), OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, REGARDING THE STORAGE, DISPLAY, OR SALE OF MERCHANDISE OUTDOORS ON A 4.56-ACRE TRACT DESCRIBED AS A FRACTIONAL PART OF THE FORUM SHOPPING CENTER, TRACTS 2 & 3.

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VI. NEW BUSINESS (continued)

(B) Motion Authorizing the Closing of Certain Streets and Parking Lots During 2017 Route 66 Summerfest: Public Works Director Steve Hargis referred the Council to the listing of the requested street and parking lot closings during the Rolla 2017 Route 66 Summerfest on June 2 and 3, 2017.

Councilman Woolley pointed out the tire burnout contest is listed as one of the events this year. He recalled someone was injured during a burnout contest a few years ago and questioned why it is being allowed.

City Administrator John Butz provided some history on the burnout contest and mentioned a woman was injured in 2014. He said the contest was not conducted in 2015 and the Summerfest Committee saw a drop in the participation level of the Summerfest. Mr. Butz recalled the City Council was approached last year by the Summerfest Committee to allow the burnout contest. He said the Council granted the request but said they wanted to be sure the insurance was solid and in place and, although precautionary issues were in place in 2014, there must be a better policing.

Mr. Dan Cavender, insurance agent, told the Council the Summerfest’s insurance policy covers spectator liability, which would protect spectators during Summerfest. He pointed out the City is listed as an additional insured on the Summerfest policy.

A motion was made by Williams and seconded by Hines to close the requested streets during Summerfest. A voice vote on the motion showed eleven ayes, zero nays, and one absent. Motion carried.

VII. CLAIMS and/or FISCAL TRANSACTIONS

None.

VIII. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

(A) Open Citizen Communication: Mayor Pro-Tempore Morris opened the floor to any citizen wishing to address the Council.

Mr. Tom Sager, 8 Laird Avenue, told the Council a story about a robin nesting in a planter on his front porch.
VIII. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION (continued)

(A) Open Citizen Communication (continued): Mr. Sager asked the Council to go by Tenth and Forum Streets and look at the Dickey Bub Farm and Home Store. He said he does not believe we are getting our money’s worth with all their stuff piled everywhere in the parking lot. Mr. Sager asked the Council to make some restrictions where they can place the items. He said this should not be in a shopping center so close to town.

Regarding the burnout contest at Summerfest, Mr. Sager stated it is more than a liability issue and we are exposing many people to a smoke health hazard. He encouraged the Council to say “no” to the contest.

No one else present addressed the Council.

IX. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

(A) Storm Problems: In response to a question from Mayor Pro-Tempore Morris, Public Works Director Steve Hargis reported the City did not experience any problems because of the recent storms.

(B) Traffic Flow Concerns: Due to the flooding in nearby communities, Police Chief Sean Fagan reported a lot of traffic was diverted through Rolla. He indicated the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) was asked to adjust the lights on Highway 63 so they would stay green longer to keep traffic flowing.

(C) Local Government Week: Mayor Pro-Tempore Morris noted a few years ago the Missouri Legislature designated the first week in May as “Local Government Week.”

City Administrator John Butz stated this designation is to recognize local government employees. He noted that this Wednesday, May 3, the City would be providing lunch for City employees at the Eugene E. Northern Community Hall from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

X. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

None.

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XI. CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Williams and seconded by Meusch to adjourn into Closed Session pursuant to RSMo. 610.021 to discuss real estate and contract negotiations. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Williams, Jung, Schott, Woolley, Miller, Bowe, Crowell, Meusch, Long, Morris, and Hines. Nays; None. Absent; Jordan. Motion carried.

The Council adjourned into Closed Session at approximately 7:33 p.m.

XII. CLOSED SESSION ACTION

The Council reconvened into Open Session at approximately 9:40 p.m.

City Counselor Lance Thurman announced that during Closed Session, the Council discussed real estate matters and contract negotiations; however, no final action was taken.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by City Clerk Carol Daniels.

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CITY CLERK                              MAYOR