

**ROLLA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 2019; 6:30 P.M.
ROLLA CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
901 NORTH ELM STREET**

Presiding: Mayor Pro-Tempore Matthew Crowell

Council Members in Attendance: Rachel Schneider, Matthew Crowell, Ann Murphey, Jacob Rohter, David Schott, Jody Eberly, John Meusch, Marie Allen, Christine Ruder, and Tiffany Henry

Council Members Absent: Jim Williams

Department Directors in Attendance: Police Chief Sean Fagan, Environmental Services Director Brady Wilson, Community Development Director Steve Flowers, Parks Director Floyd Jernigan, Finance Director Steffanie Rogers, Public Works Director Steve Hargis, Interim Centre Director Marci Fairbanks, and Fire Chief Ron Smith

Other City Officials in Attendance: City Administrator John Butz, City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost, City Engineer Darin Pryor, City Planner Tom Coots, and City Clerk Carol Daniels

Pastor Darren Facen with the New Dimensional Christian Ministries, Rolla, Missouri, opened the meeting with prayer.

Mayor Pro-Tem Crowell called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. and asked Councilwoman Rachel Schneider to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Henry and seconded by Eberly to approve the consent agenda as submitted. A voice vote on the motion showed ten 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 – August 5, 2019
- 2) City Council Closed Session Meeting – August 5, 2019
- 3) City Council Meeting – August 19, 2019

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II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

(A) Ordinance Considering the City of Rolla's FY 2019/2020 Budget: City Administrator John Butz stated the proposed FY 2020 budget continues to be a tight, difficult prospect. As mentioned during the budget workshop, it is somewhat deceiving in that it appears on the surface as if the City is ending the year with a nice, healthy surplus. Mr. Butz noted the reality is the City will be receiving sewer revenue bonds and only spending a small portion of those bonds, because the sewer treatment plant projects are going to be built up over the next two years. He continued by explaining the City is looking at projected revenues growing somewhere between 1.5% to 2%, which is a very small margin, in particular in the General Fund, which is so dependent on the sales tax and the property tax. Mr. Butz said the City is not able to pay public safety officers more money despite falling back in the competitiveness of the wages.

Since the Council budget workshop, Mr. Butz reported Mayor Magdits, City staff and, Rolla Municipal Utilities (RMU) have had conversations about street lighting. He explained that about ten years ago, the City inherited the costs of street lighting of about \$165,000. Mr. Butz reported that in conversations with RMU, they have agreed to pick up the costs of street lighting, which will be a savings to the street/capital improvement fund. In exchange, the street/capital improvement fund will assume operational and capital costs of the Airport (\$150,000/year), providing some relief to the General Fund.

Mayor Pro-Tem Crowell opened the public hearing to anyone wishing to address the Council concerning the proposed FY 2020 budget.

Mr. Ray Schweikardt, 1342 South Rolla Street, Rolla, Missouri, asked if someone would speak in depth to the Centre's losses over the last couple of years and what, if anything, is going to be done in the next two to three years.

Mr. Butz said there is a misconception that the General Fund subsidizes the Recreation Center. For the record, Mr. Butz clarified the General Fund has never subsidized the Recreation Center. The Recreation Center subsidy, which ranges between \$350,000 and \$400,000 a year, comes from the original fifteen year, one-half cent sales tax for parks. He noted the tax was geared toward SplashZone and the Recreation Center and a reserve fund was built up every year. Those dollars are earmarked entirely for SplashZone and the Recreation Center. The proposed budget shows that at the end of next year the reserve fund balance will drop to \$1 Million.

No one else present addressed the Council. Mayor Pro-Tem Crowell closed the public hearing.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS (continued)

(A) Ordinance Considering the City of Rolla's FY 2019/2020 Budget (continued):

City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost read the following proposed ordinance for its first reading, by title. ORDINANCE: AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2019 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS PURSUANT THERETO.

III. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

(A) Proclamation for National Recovery Month: Pastor Darren Facen with the New Dimensional Christian Ministry in Rolla, Missouri, shared his thoughts regarding the National Recovery Month. He said National Recovery Month promotes awareness for substance abuse disorder, mental health disorder, and recovery support. Pastor Facen said it is about bringing awareness to the community as well as celebrating those who are in recovery. He invited the community to a celebration on September 14, 2019, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., at his church. Guest speakers will be sharing their journey of recovery and words of encouragement.

On behalf of Mayor Magdits, Mayor Pro-Tem Crowell then read the "National Recovery Month" proclamation.

(B) Celebration of Nations 2019: Mr. Richie Myers Program Coordinator for International and Cultural Affairs at Missouri S&T, expressed appreciation to the City of Rolla for its continued support in the annual Celebration of Nations event. Mr. Myers said this is the event's tenth year. He estimated about 4,000 guests are expected at the event. Mr. Myers told the Council 80 countries would be represented in the parade. He said it is a pleasure working with the City employees and police and encouraged everyone to attend the festivities on September 28, 2019.

IV. REPORT OF MAYOR and COUNCIL/REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS/CITY DEPARTMENTS

Mayor Magdits referred the Council to **(A)** the July 2019, Environmental Services Department Monthly Report; **(B)** the July 2019 Parks Department Financial Analysis; **(C)** the July 2019, Building Codes Division Monthly Report; **(D)** the July 2019 Rolla

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IV. REPORT OF MAYOR and COUNCIL/REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS/CITY DEPARTMENTS (continued) Municipal Court Monthly Report; **(E)** the July 2019 Rolla Municipal Utilities Monthly Report; **(F)** the July 23, 2019 Rolla Board of Public Works Meeting Minutes; and **(G)** the July 30, 2019, Development Review Committee Meeting Minutes.

V. OLD BUSINESS

(A) Ordinance Amending Section 27-67 of the Code Relating to Speed in School Zones: Public Works Director Steve Hargis reported his office received a request from Mr. Richard Hockersmith with Discovery Schools of Rolla to post a school zone on Bridge School Road. He said staff recommends approval of the request.

City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost read the following proposed ordinance for its final reading, by title. ORDINANCE NO 4510: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 27-67 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, KNOWN AS THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, RELATING TO MAXIMUM LIMITS ESTABLISHED ON CERTAIN STREETS DURING SCHOOL PERIODS. A motion was made by Eberly and seconded by Henry to approve the proposed ordinance. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Rohter, Crowell, Murphey, Schott, Schneider, Ruder, Allen, Eberly, Henry, and Meusch. Nays; None. Absent; Williams. Motion carried. The ordinance passed.

(B) Ordinance Amending Section 27-92 of the Code Relating to Parking: Public Works Director Steve Hargis recalled a few meetings ago staff presented a petition from Ms. Debra Hutchings at the Rolla Senior Apartments to restrict parking along McCutchen Drive to cars only. Council instructed staff to increase the “no parking” area by forty feet on the west side of McCutchen Drive near the exit to provide better sight distance, which has worked well for the last few weeks. Staff recommends the final reading of the subject ordinance.

City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost read the following proposed ordinance for its final reading, by title. ORDINANCE NO. 4511: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 27-92 OF THE GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI KNOWN AS THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, RELATING TO PARKING. A motion was made by Henry and seconded by Murphey to approve the proposed ordinance. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Ruder, Schneider, Allen, Murphey, Henry, Crowell, Meusch, Rohter, Eberly, and Schott. Nays; None. Absent; Williams. Motion carried. The ordinance passed.

V. OLD BUSINESS (continued)

(C) Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into State Block Grant Agreement, Amendment #1 with the Missouri Highways & Transportation Commission: Public Works Director Steve Hargis recalled the subject project would improve Runway 4/22 at the Rolla National Airport. A block grant of Federal funds would pay for 90% of the improvements. A grant agreement with the State would provide 5% of the costs, and a STAR loan, a statewide transportation assistance loan program, would cover the remaining 5% of the project.

City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost read the following proposed ordinance for its final reading, by title. ORDINANCE NO. 4512: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI A CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI AND MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FOR AMENDMENT TO STATE BLOCK GRANT AGREEMENT, AMENDMENT #1. A motion was made by Schneider and seconded by Henry to approve the proposed ordinance. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Allen, Henry, Murphey, Schneider, Ruder, Meusch, Rohter, Eberly, Crowell, and Schott. Nays; None. Absent; Williams. Motion carried. The ordinance passed.

(D) Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Missouri Highway & Transportation Airport Aid Agreement: Public Works Director Steve Hargis stated the subject ordinance would authorize the Mayor to enter into a Missouri Highway and Transportation Commission Airport Aid Agreement for the rehabilitation of Runway 4/22 at the Rolla National Airport.

City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost read the following proposed ordinance for its final reading, by title. ORDINANCE NO. 4513: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI A CERTAIN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI AND MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION TO DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT RUNWAY 4/22 REHABILITATION AND EXHIBIT "A" UPDATE. A motion was made by Murphey and seconded by Henry to approve the proposed ordinance. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Crowell, Schott, Ruder, Schneider, Murphey, Henry, Meusch, Rohter, Eberly, and Allen. Nays; None. Absent; Williams. Motion carried. The ordinance passed.

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VI. NEW BUSINESS

(A) Ordinance Setting Sewer User Rates: City Engineer Darin Pryor informed the Council that staff has been reviewing the costs of treating extra strength sewer. He said the subject ordinance would adjust the surcharge rates for discharges of extra strength sewer. Mr. Pryor pointed out the subject ordinance would currently only affect one user in Rolla.

City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost read the following proposed ordinance for its first reading, by title. **ORDINANCE: 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.**

VII. CLAIMS and/or FISCAL TRANSACTIONS

None.

VIII. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

(A) Open Citizen Communication: Mayor Magdits opened the floor to anyone wishing to address the Council.

No one else present addressed the Council.

IX. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

(A) Recognition of Former Ward I Councilman Daniel Jones: Councilwoman Rachel Schneider stated former Ward I Councilman Daniel Jones was an active member of the Council and addressed many citizen concerns and complaints no matter where they came from. She said she has heard from citizens who Councilman Jones helped. Ms. Schneider said he was an advocate for a number of issues including police and safety support, addressing the opioid crisis, poverty, and was tireless. While some disagreed with his advocacy on behalf of medical marijuana, Ms. Schneider said she believed no one could doubt his intelligence, honesty, and sincerity.

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IX. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS (continued)

(A) Recognition of Former Ward I Councilman Daniel Jones (continued): Ms. Schneider then asked if someone would explain the process for Mr. Jones' replacement.

Mayor Pro-Tem Crowell said the Mayor would make a recommendation to the Council to complete the unexpired term. .

Councilwoman Jody Eberly stated she was very disappointed that Mr. Jones resigned his position. She indicated she does not know the details of his past and does not know if he actually met the requirements for elected office at the time he ran and at the time he was elected. But what she does know is he was a passionate advocate, not only for the citizens of his ward, but for making Rolla a better place to live for us all. Ms. Eberly said she did not always agree with him on his positions on the issues or in some of his methods arguing his position. However, he always made her think about what her position was and why she was holding it, which is a good thing and something we all need more of – to think about other points of view and consider how we can help each other achieve common goals and work out our differences. Ms. Eberly stated it is good to have competing views on the Council and it is vital to have all of our voices and community represented on the Council to make decisions for our collective future. Ms. Eberly said she sincerely hopes that whoever replaces Mr. Jones on the Council for the remainder of his term to be equally as committed to working together proactively on actions that will make our city and all of us better.

(B) Councilman Jim Williams: Councilwoman Christine Ruder sent her best wishes to Councilman Jim Williams and to let him know we are thinking about him.

X. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

(A) Use Tax Informational Meeting: City Administrator John Butz encouraged everyone to attend the Use Tax Information Meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 5, 2019, 5:30 p.m., in the Phelps County Courthouse Multi-Purpose Room. Representatives from the City of Rolla, City of St. James, Phelps County, and Mr. Stuart Haynes with the Missouri Municipal League would be speaking.

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XI. CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Meusch and seconded by Eberly to adjourn into Closed Session pursuant to RSMo. 610.021 to discuss real estate. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Eberly, Allen, Murphey, Schneider, Ruder, Meusch, Henry, Crowell, Schott, and Rohter. Nays; None. Absent; Williams. Motion carried.

The Council adjourned into Closed Session at approximately 7:28 p.m.

XII. CLOSED SESSION ACTION

The Council reconvened into open session at approximately 7:47 p.m.

City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost reported that during Closed Session the Council discussed two real estate matters. Discussion was had with no final action taken.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:48 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by City Clerk Carol Daniels.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

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