

**ROLLA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19TH, 2021; 6:30 P.M.
ROLLA CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
901 NORTH ELM STREET**

Presiding: Mayor Pro-Tem Matthew Crowell.

Council Members in Attendance via Zoom Videoconferencing: Ann Murphey, Deanne Lyons, and David Schott

Council Members in Physical Attendance: Terry Higgins, Matthew Crowell, Lister B. Florence, Jr., Jody Eberly, John Meusch, Carrolyn Bolin, Marie Allen, Christine Ruder, and Rachel Schneider.

Council Members Absent: None.

Other City Officials and Department Directors in Attendance via Zoom Videoconferencing: Community Development Director Steve Flowers

Department Directors and City Officials in Physical Attendance: Rolla City Fire Assistant Chief Jeff Breen, Rolla City Fire Chief Ron Smith, Parks Director Floyd Jernigan, Finance Director Stephanie Rogers, City Engineer Darin Pryor, City Planner Tom Coats, City Administrator John Butz, Rolla City Police Chief Sean Fagan, and Director of Environmental Services Brady Wilson,

A member of the Rolla Ministerial Alliance opened the meeting with prayer.

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

I. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

II. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

(A) Library Board Presentation (Library Board President - Dr. Diana Ahmad and Library Director - Rebecca Buckley)

Dr. Diana Ahmad and Library Director Buckley spoke on the Library's current conditions as affected by COVID and detailed the ample services provided for all ages of

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the community to include curbside services, hot spots, Chromebooks, and tablets, which were made possible by CARES grant awards.

(B) Life Saving Award Presentation (Chief Sean Fagan)

Chief Fagan awarded both Senior Patrol Officer Isaiah Wills and Cpl. Jaron Ratliff, Life Saving Awards, for going above and beyond in their assistance of a community member in crisis. Portions of the thank you letter written by this same citizen were shared stressing that it was the Officers' genuine empathy and kindness that helped her move forward.

III. OLD BUSINESS

(A) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING.
(City Engineer Darin Pryor) **Motion**

City Engineer Darin Pryor reported that the Phelps County Commission, while supportive of the Highway E sidewalk initiative, was unable to commit any additional funding at this time. Staff kept with the original request to apply for a Transportation Alternatives Program Grant (TAP). The estimated cost of this project is \$400,000.00, which \$80,000 (20%) would be required from the City of Rolla for matching funds.

City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost read the following proposed resolution for one reading by title. RESOLUTION NO. 1983: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION TO THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE 2020 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM. A motion was made to authorize the submittal of the grant application by Schott and seconded by Allen. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Florence, Crowell, Murphey, Schott, Schneider, Ruder, Allen, Higgins, Eberly, Lyons, Bolin, and Meusch. Nays; None. Absent; None. Motion carried. The Resolution passed.

(B) ORDINANCE TO EXTEND FACIAL COVERING ORDINANCE (City Administrator John Butz) **First Reading.**

City Administrator John Butz advised that Ordinance 4595 is set to expire on February 2nd, 2021. Council's options are to let it expire; leaving it up to the courtesy of businesses and citizens to encourage mask wearing, or extend the mandate. If passed, Ordinance 4596 would extend the Facial Covering Ordinance to March 17th, 2021.

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City Councilor Carolyn Buschjost read the following proposed ordinance for first reading, by title. ORDINANCE NO 4596: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4595 IN THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI. EXTENDING THE FACIAL COVERING REQUIREMENT IN THE CITY OF ROLLA.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

(A) **Ordinance** adopting Appendix D of the 2018 International Fire Code. (Fire Chief Ron Smith) **First Reading**

Chief Ron Smith explained to Council that Fire Administration was unaware that the ordinance adopting International Fire Code 2018; approved January 1st 2019, didn't include Appendix D. Appendix D is a vital document for planning and fire safety operations and has already been used as a guiding documentation since 2000.

City Councilor Carolyn Buschjost read the following proposed ordinance for its first reading, by title. ORDINANCE NO : AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 14-1 THROUGH 14-3 OF THE ROLLA CITY CODE, AND ADOPTING APPENDIX D OF THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE.

(B) Timber Project at Rolla National Airport (City Administrator John Butz) **Information Only**

City Administrator John Butz informed Council of 80+ timber acres located on remote airport property. Russell Schmidt with Schmidt Forestry Consulting inventoried and identified 2,649 Oak trees between 12"-20" for potential harvest with an estimated timber value of \$40-\$50K. Bids will be solicited and submitted for Council's approval in the next couple months.

(C) **Ordinance** to approve a minor subdivision at 1600 Old Wire Outer Road. (City Planner Tom Coots) **First Reading**

City Planner Tom Coots described for Council, a plot of Land at 1600 Old Wire Outer Road that is zoned for commercial and could be subdivided into 2 lots.

City Councilor Carolyn Buschjost read the following proposed ordinance for its first reading, by title. ORDINANCE NO : AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE A MINOR SUBDIVISION FINAL PLAT OF OUTER ROAD PARK. (SUB 20-04)

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(D) **Ordinance** to approve a minor subdivision at 809 and 811 Black Street. (City Planner Tom Coots) **First Reading**

City Planner Tom Coots described for Council the need for the reorganization of two plotted lots located at 809 and 811 Black Street.

City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost read the following proposed ordinance for first reading, by title. ORDINANCE NO : AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE MINOR SUBDIVISION FINAL PLAT OF DALTON'S DIVISION. (SUB 20-03)

(E) **Motion** to award bid for All Inclusive Playground and **Ordinance** to approve contract. (Parks & Recreation Director, Floyd Jernigan) **Motion, First Reading**

Parks & Recreation Director, Floyd Jernigan reported to Council that 22 proposals from 8 companies were received with a project range of \$150,000 - \$200,000 for an inclusive playground in Ber Juan Park; location to be above Splash Zone and below the pavilion. An inclusive playground will welcome all ages and abilities as well as provide quiet spaces for children on the autism spectrum. He proposed that \$150,000 of this project would come from the Park Funds budget with the other \$50,000 coming from Park Land Reserve.

A motion was made by Schott and seconded by Eberly to award the bid to Hutchinson Recreation out of Lake St. Louis, MO. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes: Schneider, Florence, Ruder, Bolin, Higgins, Murphey, Schott, Crowell, Meusch, Allen, Eberly, and Lyons. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Schott and seconded by Schneider to authorize an expenditure of \$50,000 from the Park Land Reserve. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes: Schott, Meusch, Higgins, Bolin, Schneider, Ruder, Allen, Murphey, Lyons, Crowell, Eberly, and Florence. Nays: none. Absent: none.

City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost read the following proposed ordinance for first reading by title. ORDINANCE NO : AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI A CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, AND HUTCHINSON RECREATION AND DESIGN, LAKE ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

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V. CLAIMS and/or FISCAL TRANSACTIONS

A) **Motion** Awarding Bid for (1) half ton pickup truck. (Brady Wilson – Director of Environmental Services) **Motion**

Director of Environmental Services Brady Wilson advised Council that three bids were received for a half-ton pickup truck, the lowest being from Joe Machen’s Ford Columbia, MO; 2021 Ford F-150 for \$25,107. The second lowest was from Hutcheson Ford, St. James, MO; 2021 Ford F-150 for \$25,695. A motion was made to accept the second lowest bid from Hutcheson Ford by Florence and seconded by Meusch. A roll call vote showed the following result: Ayes: Bolin, Meusch, and Florence. Nays: Murphey, Lyons, Allen, Schneider, Ruder, Higgins, Eberly, Schott, and Crowell. Absent: none. Motion failed.

A motion was made to accept the lowest bid from Joe Machen’s Ford in Columbia by Schott and seconded by Allen. A roll call vote showed the following results: Ayes: Higgins, Ruder, Schott, Allen, Murphey, Lyons, Crowell, Meusch, Florence, Eberly, and Schneider. Nays: Bolin. Absent: None. Motion passed.

B) **Motion** to transfer funds from the Park and Recreation Sales Tax Account to cover the Recreation Operating Deficit. (Finance Director Steffanie Rogers) **Motion**

Finance Director Steffanie Rogers requested the annual transfer of funds from the Depreciation Reserve and Equipment Replacement account to cover the projected operating deficit and capital expenditures at the Centre. The General Fund administrative transfer and capital expenditures transfer (\$155,426) has already taken place since it was approved during the budget process. Staff is again requesting a motion to authorize the transfer of \$593,300 from the Depreciation Reserve & Equipment Replacement account to cover the estimated operating deficit and capital expenditures for fiscal year 2019-2020. A motion was made by Eberly and seconded by Allen to allow the transfer of funds. A roll call vote yielded the following results: Ayes: Lyons, Allen, Murphey, Bolin, Schneider, Florence, Higgins, Eberly, Crowell, Schott, and Ruder. Nays: none. Absent Meusch. Motion passed.

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C) **Resolution** authorizing budget adjustments for fiscal year 2020. (Finance Director, Steffanie Rogers) **Motion**

Finance Director Steffanie Rogers reported that the City follows State Statute Chapter 67 for the year-end process where actual expenditures cannot exceed budgeted expenditures. She referred the Council to a list of proposed budget adjustments included in the agenda packets. Once these adjustments are made, Ms. Rogers noted there will be an increase in budgeted revenues of \$1,009,325 and an increase of expenditures of \$1,974,600 (depreciation expense to the Sewer Fund and Environmental Services Fund of \$500,000 and \$346,250 respectively). Once the revenues and expenditures are adjusted, there will be a net change of \$180,975 (not including depreciation).

City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost read the following proposed resolution for one reading by title. RESOLUTION NO 1984: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2019, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS PURSUANT THERETO. A motion was made by Eberly and seconded by Allen to make the revisions to the FY 2020 budget. A roll call vote yielded the following results: Ayes: Schott, Ruder, Schneider, Allen, Murphey, Lyons, Crowell, Florence, Higgins, Eberly, and Bolin. Nays: none. Absent: Meusch. Motion passed.

VI. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

A) Mayor Pro-Tem Matthew Crowell briefly addressed threats that were made towards a candidate for City Council which ultimately led to the withdrawal of his candidacy. An appeal for civility in local elections was expressed.

VII. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

(A) Open Citizen Communication: Mayor Pro-Tem Matthew Crowell opened the floor to anyone wishing to address the Council.

Presentation of Business Survey Results. (Carmin Hribar, Rolla Chamber Board President and Stevie Kears, Executive Director): Mrs. Hribar informed Council that a 5 question survey was sent out via email to 443 businesses. Feedback from the 126 members who responded, yielded fairly equal positive/negative results on the City's facial covering ordinance and COVID impacts on businesses.

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Brock Johnson – Ward 3: Stressed that he believes Council should have accepted the second lowest bid on the Pick-up Truck from Hutchinson Ford, because it was only about \$500 higher and would have helped support local economy (actual difference of \$588).

Josh Vroman – Ward 1: Expressed his hopes that Council would allow the Mask mandate to expire and explained how COVID has directly affected the restaurants in the area which eventually trickled down where his wife worked leading to layoffs.

Moriah Renaud – Ward 1: Asked that Council consider that the statistics they are receiving are from inconsistent sources, stating that the raising or dropping figures depend on whether or not long-term care facilities are being included as well as the active range being dropped from 14 days down to 10 days.

Dane Crutcher – Ward 4: Asked that Council look at locations that have had mask mandates for long periods of time and how he believes it has not improved their situations. Feels that a healthy body is the best defense against the virus.

Mike Kaelin – Ward 3: Stated that he believed the Community would be more receptive of the COVID statistics being provided by Phelps Health if they would differentiate between residents and those outside of the Rolla City and Phelps County areas.

VIII. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

IX. CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Allen and seconded by Meusch to adjourn into Closed Session pursuant to RSMO. 610.021 (3) to discuss Personnel. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes: Florence, Crowell, Murphey, Schott, Schneider, Ruder, Allen, Higgins, Eberly, Lyons, Bolin, and Meusch. Nays; None. Absent; None. Motion carried.

The Council adjourned into Closed Session at approximately 8:34 p.m.

The Council reconvened into open session at approximately 9:19 p.m.

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X. Closed Session Action: City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost reported the Council discussed Personnel and no final action was taken.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:19 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Rolla City Clerk Lorri Thurman.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

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