**CITY OF ROCK ISLAND**
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**
City Council Chambers, City Hall, 3rd Floor,
1528 Third Avenue, Rock Island, IL

3/10/2025 - Minutes

## 1. Call to Order

Mayor Thoms called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

## 2. Roll Call

Mayor Thoms asked City Clerk Samantha Gange to call the roll.

Present: Alderperons Moses Robinson, Randy Hurt, Randy Tweet, Jenni Swanson, Dylan Parker, Mark Poulos, Bill Healy, and Mayor Mike Thoms.

Absent: None.

Staff: City Manager Todd Thompson, City Attorney Leslie Day, City Clerk Samantha Gange, and other City Staff.

## 3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Thoms led in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 4. Moment of Silence

Mayor Thoms requested a moment of silence. A moment of silence was observed.

## 5. Awards and Honor Presentations, Officer Swearing in Ceremony, and Proclamations

a. Bible Missionary Institute Proclamation.

Clerk Gange read the proclamation. Mayor Thoms read his declaration. Bible Missionary Institute President Russell Moyer accepted the proclamation. A photo was taken. Mr. Moyer thanked the City.

b. Declaration of Support for Immigrants and Refugees in Rock Island.

Clerk Gange read the proclamation. Mayor Thoms read his declaration. Members from QCAIR spoke. A photo was taken.

## 6. Public Comment

Kelly McKay spoke about the Casino West redevelopment plans and his concerns about the negative impacts on the bald eagle population that could severely limit their population and survival rates.

Laurie McCollum, resident of Rock Island, said she was concerned about the negative economic impact the region would face if the bald eagle population declined. She expressed interest in reviewing the environmental study.

Dave Dehnel said he was in support of the Project NOW shelter in downtown Rock Island. He commended the staff for their efforts.

Dwight Ford, Sr. stated his support for Project NOW and was disappointed that the City does not appear to support the shelter.

Tabitha DeFrieze echoed the concerns of others regarding of the bald eagle population. She spoke on behalf of Project NOW and explained how the shelter helps a vulnerable group of people.

Jon Duyvejonck, Chairperson of the Eagle View Group, said he appreciated the City staff and the Mayor meeting with them last week regarding the redevelopment plans and their concerns. He said the community would like to hear the City issue a statement on their commitment to ensuring the bald eagle population is not negatively impacted. He also said he would like to see a management plan for the wetlands area.

Janice Sholl said she volunteered for Project NOW, and she hoped that the temporary shelter would continue as there is a need.

Emily Cummings said she is a Project NOW board member. She urged the City and community to work together to find compassionate solutions and establish policies that lead to housing stability.

Nina Struss of Prairie Rivers Network discussed her concerns with the Casino West redevelopment plans as it could increase flood risk and flood storage. She encouraged a conservation easement or other alternatives.

Ron Lund of Project NOW said the temporary shelter is the only shelter that accepts men, women and children in the same facility.

Dwight Ford, Executive Director of Project NOW, addressed rumors that the warming shelter was shutting down. He explained that they transferred it to Christian Care. He claimed that Project NOW had not violated its agreement with the City and asked for the community's patience as they are just six weeks from completing the season.

Terry McDowell spoke about the officer-involved shooting that occurred in January. He said the officer should be held accountable as his actions were not justified, and the officer escalated the situation.

## 7. Update Rock Island

### Celebrate Irish Heritage

The St. Patrick Society will hold its 39$^{th}$ annual St. Patrick's Day Parade this Saturday, March 15$^{th}$. The parade begins in downtown Rock Island at the corner of 4$^{th}$ Avenue and 23$^{rd}$ Street at 11:30 a.m. It travels through the downtown to the Centennial Bridge and over to Davenport.

The Grand St. Patrick's Day Parade is the only bi-state St. Patrick's Day parade in the United States.

**Get your green on at the Arts Alley Shamrock Market**

Downtown Rock Island's Arts Alley is your lucky charm for shopping this Saturday, March 15th, for the first ever Shamrock Market. From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. just off the St. Patrick's Day Grand Parade route, pop-up vendors will be serving tasty treats, festive finds and Irish vibes from Blue Collar Bagels, AWAKE Coffee Company and Flaherty's Irish Candy. Music will be provided by Ragged Records & Music.

**Congratulations to the Rock Island Police Department**

Yesterday, the department participated in the annual Polar Plunge at Bally's Casino & Hotel to benefit the Special Olympics. The Rock Island Police Department was named Top Law Enforcement Team after raising nearly $4,000! The total amount raised was $17,317 for this great cause.

**The Martin Luther King Center turns 50!**

The public is invited to attend an open house in celebration of the King Center's 50th anniversary on Friday, March 21st from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. A short program will begin at 4 p.m. All are welcome!

**8. Ordinances (First Readings)**

a. Report from the Community Development Department regarding an ordinance adopting and approving an amended Rock Island Tax Increment Financing Parkway I-280 Redevelopment Plan and related redevelopment projects for the proposed amended redevelopment project area. (First Reading)

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|---|---|
| Motion: | Motion to consider the ordinance. |
| RC | Roll Call vote is needed. |

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to consider the ordinance; Alderperson Tweet seconded.

DISCUSSION: Community Development Director Miles Brainard confirmed that some of the revenue from the proposed TIF district would go towards funding a wetland management plan. Mayor Thoms explained that in order to be a recipient of TIF funding, the property must be within the TIF district, therefore the wetlands are included.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

b. Report from the Community Development Department regarding an ordinance adding additional parcels of property to the Rock Island Tax Increment Financing Parkway I-280 Redevelopment Project Area. (First Reading)

Motion: Motion to consider the ordinance.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to consider the ordinance; Alderperson Tweet seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

c. Report from the Community Development Department regarding an ordinance adopting tax increment financing for the Amended Parkway I-280 Redevelopment Project Area. (First Reading)

Motion: Motion to consider the ordinance.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to consider the ordinance; Alderperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

d. Report from the Community Development Department regarding an ordinance establishing the Parkway I-280 Business District; approving a business district plan; authorizing the imposition and collection of a sales tax within such business district; and approving certain actions in connection with the establishment of such business district. (First Reading)

Motion: Motion to consider the ordinance.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

This item followed item 9a.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to consider the ordinance; Alderperson Tweet seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay:

None. Absent: None.

**9. Passage of Ordinances and Resolutions**

a. An Ordinance regarding the rezoning of Realtor's Park ( PIN 1613200007) from a C-1 (park conservation) district to an R-1 (one unit residential) district. (Second Reading)

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| Motion: | Motion pass the ordinance. |
| RC | Roll Call vote is needed. |

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to pass the ordinance; Alderperson Parker seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

b. A Special Ordinance regarding a right-of-way vacation request between 35th Street and Realtor's Park. (Second Reading)

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| Motion: | Motion to pass the ordinance. |
| RC | Roll Call vote is needed. |

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to pass the ordinance; Alderperson Parker seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

**10. Consent Agenda**

All items under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by a single motion and subsequent roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless an Alderperson so requests, in which case, the item will be moved from the Consent Agenda and considered as the first item after approval of the Consent Agenda.

a. Claims for the week of January 24 through January 30 in the amount of $387,660.61; for the week of January 31 through February 6 in the amount of $1,440,902.45; for the week of February 7 through February 13 in the amount of $1,278,716.42; for the week of February 14 through February 20 in the amount of $669,340.68; for the week of February 21 through February 27 in the amount of $491,259.61; and payroll for the weeks of January 20, 2025 through February 2, 2025 in the amount of $1,886,446.56; payroll for the weeks of February 3, 2025 through February 16, 2025 in the amount of $1,885,381.67.

b. International City/County Management Association (ICMA) claims for the weeks of January 25 through February 7, 2025 in the amount of $29,877.98; claims for the weeks of February 8 through February 21 in the amount of $29,909.10.

c. ACH Report for the month of January 2025 in the amount of $2,331,744.13.

d. Purchase Card Claims for the period of December 27, 2024 through January 27, 2025 in the amount of $94,840.78.

e. Report from the Fire Department regarding the renewal of the annual software subscription with Lexipol in the amount of $12,852.55.

f. Report from the Information Technology Department regarding the quarterly software maintenance renewal agreement with Harris Govern from April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025 in the amount of $10,401.50 for the current permitting, business licensing, and land management system.

g. Report from the Mayor's Office regarding appointments to the Arts and Beautification Commission and MLK Board.

h. Report from the Police Department regarding payment to PowerDMS, Orlando, FL in the amount of $21,239.50 for a two-year subscription to Power DMS-PowerPolicy Professional.

i. Report from the Police Department regarding a Terminal Maintenance Agreement with RACOM Corporation from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 for radio equipment in the amount of 38,581.60.

j. Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for updating the access control system at City Hall, recommending the bid be awarded to Midwest Alarm Services, Bettendorf, Iowa in the amount of $29,600.

k. Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for engineering services for the design and construction of the standby generators at the Water Treatment Plant facilities, recommending the bid be awarded to HR Green, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, not to exceed $125,100.

l. Report from the Public Works Department regarding the installation of commemorative pole banners by Royal Neighbors of America during Women's History Month.

m. Minutes from the February 10, 2025 Study Session and City Council meeting.

Motion: Motion to approve Consent Agenda items a through m.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to approve Consent Agenda items a though m; Alderperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

**11. Claims/Purchases**

a. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment to McClintock Trucking and Excavating, Silvis, Illinois, for an emergency stormwater repair at 2539 21st Avenue in the amount of $15,246.26.

b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment to Miller Trucking and Excavating, Silvis, Illinois, for an emergency water main repair at 2216 4th Avenue in the amount of $10,740.64.

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| Motion: | Motion to approve claims a through b. |
| RC | Roll Call vote is needed. |

MOTION:

Alderperson Robinson moved to approve claims a through b; Alderperson Healy seconded.

Alderperson Parker recused himself from the vote due to the nature of his employment.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

**12. Contracts/Agreements**

a. Report from the Community Development Department regarding the 2025 Art Services Agreement with Quad City Arts.

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| Motion: | Motion to approve the agreement and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents. |
| RC | Roll Call vote is needed. |

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to approve the agreement and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents; Alderperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the SWTP/Casino Manhole Relocation Project, recommending the bid be awarded to McClintock Trucking and Excavating, Inc. in the amount of $192,240 (ARPA restricted funds).

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| Motion: | Motion to award the bid as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the document. |
| RC | Roll Call vote is needed. |

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to award the bid as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the document; Alderperson Tweet seconded.

Alderperson Parker recused himself from the vote due to the nature of his employment.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding a second amendment to the lease agreement with T-Mobile to include the installation of a backup generator at the 24th Street 31st Avenue water tower site.

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| Motion: | Motion to approve the amendment to the agreement and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents. |
| RC | Roll Call vote is needed |

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to approve the amendment to the agreement and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents; Alderperson Tweet seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

d. Report from the Public Works Department regarding a second amendment to the lease agreement with T-Mobile to include the installation of a backup generator at the 9010 Ridgewood Road water tower site.

Motion: Motion to approve the amendment to the agreement and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to approve the amendment to the agreement and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents; Alderperson Tweet seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

e. Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the 2025 Seal Coat Asphalt Street Patching Program recommending the bid be awarded to Langman Construction, Rock Island, IL in the amount of $761,004.40.

Motion: Motion to approve the contract as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Tweet moved to approve the contract as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

Alderperson Parker recused himself from the vote due to the nature of his employment.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

f. Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the 2025 Sidewalk and Pavement Patching Program recommending the bid be awarded to Langman Construction, Rock Island, in the amount of $465,097.

Motion: Motion to award the contract as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to award the contract as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents; Alderperson Tweet seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

**13. Budget/Finance Items**

a. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget adjustment to the IL CJIA Fund (904) in the amount of $35,876.

b. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget adjustment to the MLK Activity Fund (901) in the amount of $20,000.

c. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget adjustment to the CIRLF Fund (584) in the amount of $125,000.

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| Motion: | Motion to approve budget adjustments a through c as recommended. |
| RC | Roll Call vote is needed. |

MOTION:

Alderperson Poulos moved to approve budget adjustments a through c as recommended; Alderperson Parker seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Alderperson Healy praised the CIRLF program and expressed his excitement to help a local business.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

d. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget carryover from CY 2024 in the TIF #1 Downtown Fund (201) in the amount of $16,867.49.

e. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget carryover from CY 2024 in the General Fund (101) in the amount of $227,417.19.

f. Report from the Finance Department regarding budget carryovers from CY 2024 in the Community/Economic Development Fund (207) in the amount of $268,000, the CommDevBlockGrant CFDA Fund (242) in the amount of $262,791.67 and the CIRLF Fund (584) in the amount of $29,262.

Motion: Motion to approve budget carryovers d through f.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Tweet moved to approve budget carryovers d through f; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

**14. Department Reports**

a. Report from the Public Works Department regarding a monthly increase in the Sewer Lateral Repair Program (SLRP) and Water Service Repair Program (WSRP) with an increase in the City's maximum obligation for each repair under this Program to $20,000.

Motion: Motion to approve the rate increases and the City's maximum obligation as recommended.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Tweet moved to approve the rate increases ad the City's maximum obligation as recommended; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Alderperson Tweet commented that the sewer program's maximum obligation should be higher than the water.

Public Works Director Mike Bartels said that the department has floated the idea of an additional fee for the lead service program, but it's too early in the process.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

**15. Traffic Engineering Requests**

a. Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request from Brian Hollenback, The Locks at Rock Island, LLC, 100 19th Street, to place their parking lot under city ordinance control. (First Reading)

Motion: Motion to approve the request and consider the ordinance.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to approve the request and consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinance; Alderperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

**16. Rock Island Port Authority**

a. Motion: Motion to close the regular City Council meeting and convene the Rock Island Regional Port District meeting.

VV Voice vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Poulos moved to close the regular City Council meeting and convene the Rock Island Regional Port District meeting; Alderperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 voice vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

b. Other Business/New Business

Director Brainard reported that the Request for Proposals had closed. Staff are reviewing the three responses they received and will have a recommendation for Council soon.

c. Motion: Motion to exit the Rock Island Regional Port Authority and reconvene the regular City Council meeting.

VV Voice vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to exit the Rock Island Regional Port Authority and reconvene the regular City Council meeting; Alderperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 voice vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay:

None. Absent: None.

**17. Other Business/New Business**

There was no new business to discuss.

**18. Closed Session**

a. **5 ILCS120/2(c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding must be recorded and entered in the minutes of the closed meeting.**

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| Motion: | Motion to enter into Closed Session for the exception cited. |
| VV | Voice Vote is needed. |

MOTION:

Alderperson Poulos moved to enter into Closed Session for the exception cited; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 voice vote. Aye: Healy, Robinson, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: None.

The City Council entered Closed Session at 7:45 p.m.

**19. Adjourn**

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| a. | Motion: | Motion to Adjourn to March 24, 2025. |
| | VV | Voice vote is needed. |

After reconvening the regular meeting, Clerk Gange called the roll. All Council members and Mayor Thoms were present except Alderperson Robinson.

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to adjourn; Alderperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-1 voice vote. Aye: Healy, Hurt, Tweet, Swanson, Parker, Poulos. Nay: None. Absent: Robinson.

The meeting concluded at 8:31 p.m.