CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Council Chambers, City Hall, 3rd Floor,
1528 Third Avenue, Rock Island, IL

6/9/2025 - Minutes

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

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

Present: Alderpersons Glen Evans, Randy Hurt, Linda Barnes, Jenni Swanson, Dylan Parker, Mark Poulos, Bill Healy and Mayor Ashley Harris.

Absent: None.

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

3. Pledge of Allegiance

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

4. Moment of Silence

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

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

a. Proclamation declaring June 2025 Pride Month.

Clerk Gange read the proclamation and Mayor Harris read his declaration. Adam Peters with Clock, Inc. said a few words. A photo was taken.

b. Proclamation proclaiming Saturday, June 28, 2025 Rock Island County NAACP Day.

Mayor Harris read the proclamation and his declaration. Bonnie Ballard with the NAACP was present to accept the proclamation and say a few words. A photo was taken.

6. Public Comment

Toni Bare spoke during public comment.

Kelly McKay spoke about the Casino West project.

7. Update Rock Island

Downtown Rock Island is coming alive!
We had a great weekend with Chalk Arts Fest, Pride Fest and the opening of the Quad Cities Farmers' Market on the newly-constructed Festival Street on 2nd Avenue. The new red and blue ROCK ISLAND block letters are in place at the roundabout and look great. Construction is on schedule to be completed by the end of next month. We are looking forward to all the great things to come into our new downtown.

Second Saturdays on Second

We are excited to announce a new monthly summer event! Second Saturdays on Second Ave. will take place during Quad Cities Farmers' Market hours (8 a.m. to noon) on the second Saturday of each month, June through October. The free, all-ages program will feature live music on 2nd Avenue, exercise classes, outdoor games and more family-friendly activities on the new green lawn. In addition, patrons may enjoy food and beverages at nearby restaurants.

Starlight Revue

The 69th Annual Starlight Revue continues in Lincoln Park every Tuesday with live music and dancing. This Tuesday, June 10th, come see Troy Rangel and Friends. Next week on Tuesday, June 17th, enjoy the music of Gray Wolf. Concessions open at 5 p.m. with delicious food from the Hy-Vee Grill and the concert starts at 6:30 p.m.

8. Passage of Ordinances and Resolutions

a. An ordinance regarding a partial street vacation of 20th Avenue east of 46th Street. (Second Reading)

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

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

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

b. An ordinance regarding changes to the Street Fee Ordinance. (Second Reading)

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

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

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

c. An ordinance regarding amendments to Article XVIII Sale/Possession of Tobacco Products. (Second Reading)

Motion:	Motion to pass the ordinance.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to pass the ordinance; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

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

d. Report from the Clerk's Office regarding an amendment to the resolution for the closure of the Master Sergeant Stanley Talbot Memorial Bridge and 15th Street (U.S. Highway 67) on Saturday, June 14, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the Unity Pride Parade.

Motion:	Motion to approve the amendment and adopt the resolution.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Swanson moved to approve the amendment and adopt the resolution; Alderperson Parker seconded.

VOTE:

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

e. Report from the Community Development Department regarding a resolution for a moratorium on the sale of residentially-zoned, City-owned vacant lots.

Motion:	Motion to adopt the resolution.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Evans moved to adopt the resolution; Alderperson Hurt seconded.

VOTE:

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

DISCUSSION:

Alderperson Parker said his ward hasn't had any issues, and he would like to exclude it from the moratorium.

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to amend the motion to exclude properties in the Fifth Ward; Alderperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

9. Ordinances (First Readings)

a. Report from the Community Development Department regarding the sale of City-Owned Property at 1214 2nd Avenue for $570 plus closing costs. (First Reading)

b. Report from the Community Development Department regarding the sale of City-Owned Property at 1011 11th Avenue for $600 plus closing costs. (First Reading)

c. Report from the Community Development Department regarding the sale of City-Owned Property at 814 12th Street for $480 plus closing costs. (First Reading)

d. Report from the Community Development Department regarding the sale of City-Owned Property at 423 6th Street for $736 plus closing costs. (First Reading)

e. Report from the Community Development Department regarding the sale of City-Owned Property at 3909 5th Street for $591 plus closing costs. (First Reading)

f. Report from the Community Development Department regarding the sale of City-Owned Property at 1626 8th Street for $448 plus closing costs. (First Reading)

g. Report from the Community Development Department regarding the sale of City-Owned Property at 1625 7th Street for $447 plus closing costs. (First Reading)

Motion:	Motion to approve the sales; authorize the City Manager to execute the agreements; and consider, suspend the rules, and pass ordinances a through g.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Evans moved to table items a through g indefinitely; Alderperson Parker seconded.

VOTE:

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

h. Report from the Community Development Department regarding requests from Skip-A-Long Community Services to consider a rezoning from B-1 (neighborhood business) and R-2 (one- and two-unit residential) districts to B-3 (community business) district with an accompanying subdivision plat and zoning variances for multiple properties at the southeast corner of 21st Avenue and 11th Street. (First Reading)

Motion:	Motion to approve the rezoning request, subdivision plat, and variance requests; and consider the ordinance.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Barnes moved to approve the rezoning request, subdivision plat, and variance requests, and consider the ordinance; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

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

i. Report from the Community Development Department regarding an alleyway vacation request from Skip-A-Long Community Services south of 21st Avenue between 11th and 12th Street. (First Reading)

Motion:	Motion to approve the request and consider the ordinance.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Barnes moved to approve the request and consider the ordinance; Alderperson Evans seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Skip-A-Long President Marcy Mendenhall discussed the project and the partnership with Friendship Manor. She thanked the Council and City staff.

VOTE:

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

j. Report from the Community Development Department regarding an ordinance amending the requirements for the registration and management of rental housing. (First Reading)

Motion:	Motion to approve the amendments and consider the ordinance.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

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

k. Report from the Community Development Department regarding the establishment of an urban agriculture ordinance. (First Reading)

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

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to consider the ordinance; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Council members discussed clarifying language as it relates to community gardens.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to postpone the item until the second Council meeting in July; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

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

l. Report from the Legal Department and Public Works creating Chapter 13, Article VII, "Public Rights-of-Way". (First Reading)

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

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinance; Alderperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

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

m. Report from the Legal Department regarding the creation of a Cannabis Dispensary License and limiting the number of dispensaries within the City of Rock Island. (First Reading)

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

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

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

n. Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request from Tracy Smith to install residential parking (Type B) on the east and west side of 21st Street from 16th to 18th Avenue and to install residential parking (Type B) on the west side of 22nd Street from 16th to 18th Avenue and to ban parking on the east side. (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 the ordinance; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Resident Tracy Smith explained the issue with the congestion around the school with parking. He discussed amending the request due. Attorney Day clarified that any changes that Mr. Smith would like to make would need to go back through the process.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0-0 roll call vote. Aye: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes. 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 May 2 through May 8 in the amount of $706,706.39; for the week of May 9 through May 15 in the amount of $1,049,395.84; for the week of May 16 through May 22 in the amount of $474,237.13; and payroll for the weeks of April 28, 2025 through May 11, 2025 in the amount of $1,895,501.56.

b. ACH Report for the month of April 2025 in the amount of $1,039,944.12.

c. Purchase Card Claims for the period of March 27, 2025 through April 28, 2025 in the amount of $94,269.26.

d. International City/County Management Assocation (ICMA) claims for the weeks of May 3 through May 16 in the amount of $30,240.80.

e. Report from the Clerk's Office regarding requests from Todd Sorrell for sound amplification and to close the alley between 29th & 29th 1/2 Streets and 21st & 22nd Avenues on Saturday, June 28, 2025 from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. for a block party.

f. Report from the Clerk's Office regarding requests from Wake Brewing to use sound amplification on Saturday, July 5, 2025 from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday, September 13, 2025 from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. for live music.

g. Report from the Clerk's Office regarding requests from the QC Farmers' Market to close 18th Street between 1st & 2nd Avenues on Saturday, June 14, 2025 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and restrict parking beginning Friday, June 13, 2025 for the farmers' market.

h. Report from the Clerk's Office regarding a request from Bally's Casino & Hotel to use sound amplification on Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19, 2025 from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. for a concert.

i. Report from the Clerk's Office regarding a request from Heart of Hope Ministries to close 9th Avenue between 17th & 19th Streets on Saturday, July 19, 2025 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for the 3rd Annual Community Love Fest.

j. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget carryover from CY 2024 in the General Fund (101) in the amount of $185,599.30.

k. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget adjustment to the COMMDEVBLOCKGRANT CFDA 14.218 Fund (242) in the amount of $37,034.

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

m. Report from the Information Technology Department regarding a payment in the amount of $12,240 to Tyler Technologies of Plano, TX for the ERP System implementation services using ARPA funds (unrestricted).

n. Report from the Information Technology Department regarding payment in the amount of $39,470.85 to Civic Plus LLC of Dallas, TX to renew the SeeClickFix annual maintenance contract from July 25, 2025 through July 24, 2026.

o. Report from the Information Technology Department regarding the quarterly software maintenance renewal agreement with Harris GEMS from August 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 in the amount of $27,112.34.

p. Minutes from the May 19, 2025, Closed Session.

q. Minutes from the May 19, 2025 Study Session and City Council meeting.

Motion:	Motion to approve Consent Agenda items a through q.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to approve Consent Agenda items a through q; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Alderperson Barnes said she would like all budget adjustments to be removed from the consent agenda and considered seperately.

VOTE:

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

11. Claims/Purchases

a. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment to McClintock Trucking and Excavating, Silvis, Illinois, for Water Service and Sewer Lateral Repairs in the amount of $15,861.62.

b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment to J.C. Dillon, Inc., Peoria, Illinois, for Water Service and Sewer Lateral Repairs in the amount of $155,652.77.

Motion:	Motion to allow claims a and b.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to allow claims a and b; 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: Swanson, Poulos, Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes. Nay: None. Absent: None.

12. Contracts/Agreements

a. Report from the Public Works Department regarding a water tower lease amendment for AT&T to upgrade their cellular equipment at the 3805 31st Avenue water tower.

Motion:	Motion to approve the amendment to the agreement.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to approve the amendment to the agreement; Alderperson Evans seconded.

VOTE:

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

b. Report from the Community Development Department regarding a professional services agreement with CPCS Transcom Inc. for the Rock Island Port District Master Plan and Implementation Strategy.

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

MOTION:

Alderperson Evans moved to approve the agreement and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents; Alderperson Barnes seconded.

VOTE:

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

13. Appointments to Boards/Commissions/Committees

a. Report from the Mayor's office regarding an appointment to the Community Development Commission.

Motion:	Motion to approve the appointment as recommended.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to approve the appointment as recommended; Alderperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

14. Budget and Finance Items

a. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget adjustment to the Park and Recreation Fund (555) in the amount of $77,500.

Motion:	Motion to approve the budget adjustment as recommended.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to approve the budget adjustment as recommended; Alderperson Poulos seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Parks and Recreation Director John Gripp explained that the budget adjustment includes $57,500 from the Woodward Trust and ILA Impact, two partners who have assisted with the project. The remaining $20,000 budget adjustment request is from the American Rescue Plan Act interest funds. He discussed the project and the year-round programming with First Tee, who works with Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Martin Luther King Center camps and other organizations.

VOTE:

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

15. 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 Parker 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: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy, Evans, Hurt and Barnes. Nay: None. Absent: None.

b. Other Business/New Business

Economic Development Director Tom Flaherty said other than hiring the consultant, there was no new business to report.

Community Development Director Brainard discussed the estimated 16-month timeline and noted they would be meeting with the consultant next week. He said the biggest component is engagement with businesses and other stakeholders in the community to ensure all needs are met.

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: Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes. Nay: None. Absent: None.

16. Other Business/New Business

Alderpersons Parker and Swanson thanked the Rock Island Downtown Alliance for their great work and success with the downtown.

Alderperson Swanson remarked on the Quad City Arts mural program and the positive momentum in Rock Island.

Alderperson Evans announced that the Flowers on the River ceremony remembering domestic violence victims is being held this Thursday evening at Schwiebert Park.

17. Adjourn

a.	Motion:	Motion to Adjourn to June 23, 2025.
	VV	Voice vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to adjourn the meeting; Alderperson Hurt seconded.

VOTE:

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

The meeting concluded at 7:48 p.m.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]