

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

9/11/2023 - Minutes

1. Call to Order

Mayor Thoms called the meeting to order at 6:47 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

2. Roll Call

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

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

Absent: None.

Staff: City Manager Todd Thompson, Attorney Allison Wright, 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 in remembrance of all of those that lost their lives during the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. A moment of silence was observed.

5. Public Comment

Virgil Mayberry approached the Council concerning a few items. The first item was regarding the poor condition of the tennis courts at Longview Park, including no netting. He asked what the status is on why this was not being maintained. Mayor Thoms suggested that Mr. Mayberry contact Mr. John Gripp in the Parks

and Recreation Department. The second item was regarding the traffic on 22nd Avenue facing 5th Avenue to 9th Avenue. He said it is one of the only streets in Rock Island that does not have sidewalks on either side of the street and only one side has an alley. There are up to 30 kids that play in the street at once and it is not safe with the amount of people who speed through the area. Mr. Mayberry remarked he brought this to the City's attention a few years ago, and was told the snow plows would not be able to navigate around the speed bumps. He asked City Council to consider placing two speed bumps on this street. Mr. Mayberry encouraged everyone to attend the ribbon cutting and tour the new Rock Island Milan School District Administration building.

Mayor Thoms noted item 14b would be removed from the agenda.

6. Minutes

- a. Minutes of the August 28, 2023 Study Session and regular Council Meeting.

Motion: Motion whether or not to approve the minutes as printed.
VV: Voice vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to approve the minutes as printed; Aldersperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

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

7. Closed Session Minutes

- a. Minutes of the August 14, 2023 and August 28, 2023 Closed Sessions.

Motion: Motion whether or not to approve the Closed Session minutes.
VV: Voice vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Hurt moved to approve the Closed Session minutes; Aldersperson Gilbert seconded.

VOTE:

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

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

- a. Presentation of a Citizen of the Year Award to Rev. Don Johnson.

Community Engagement Manager Sarah Hayden announced that Rev. Don Johnson received the Citizen of the Year Award in the Professional category. Alderperson Healy presented him with the award. A photo was taken with Mayor Thoms. Mr. Johnson thanked the City Council and Mayor.

- b. Proclamation declaring Hispanic Heritage Month in the City of Rock Island from Friday September 15, 2023 to Sunday, October 15, 2023.

Clerk Gange read the proclamation. Mayor Thoms read the declaration. Representatives from the Quad Cities Hispanic Chamber came forward to accept the proclamation. A photo was taken with Mayor Thoms.

- c. Proclamation declaring September 2023 as Sarcodiosis Awareness Month in the City of Rock Island.

Clerk Gange read the proclamation. Mayor Thoms read the declaration. Ms. Carol Miller came forward to accept the proclamation and say a few words about the disease. A photo was taken with Mayor Thoms.

9. Update Rock Island

Come shine a light this Wednesday at Lincoln Park

The Lighted Lantern Festival and Party in the Park is Wednesday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Lincoln Park. A parade of homemade lanterns will march through the park as part of the Library's 150th anniversary.

The vintage lantern parade will wrap up the free Party in the Park. Enjoy free hotdogs, popcorn, Kona Ice, a bounce house, face painting, balloon animals, music and more entertainment for people of all ages.

Enjoy free concerts in Schwiebert Riverfront Park

Thursday Night Groove continues this week with 80's retro band Class of '82. The fun begins at 6 p.m. with concessions from Happy Joe's Pizza and Bent River Brewery. The band starts playing at 7 p.m. Each concert is free and fun for all ages.

Rock Island Parks and Recreation is bringing a new fall shopping experience to the riverfront

Revive Rock Island Fall Market Fest will be held Sunday, September 17 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. More than 20 unique vendors from around Rock Island and beyond will come together for a day full of

shopping for items such as handmade crafts and goods, vintage wares, gifts, candles, soaps, sweets, jewelry and so much more. Concessions will be available from the Parks Department, Cool Beanz and Bent River Brewery.

And finally, the City would like to thank all those who volunteered their time to make the Labor Day Parade such a success including Committee Chairwoman Mary Chappell, the other parade committee members, numerous volunteers and the more than 120 parade floats and entries. We look forward to the 40th annual parade next year!

10. Ordinances

- a. A Special Ordinance regarding a request from Eugene Malcom, 3752 12th Street, to install a handicapped parking space in front of his home. (Second Reading)

Motion:	Motion whether or not to pass the ordinance.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Hurt moved to pass the ordinance; Aldersperson Robinson seconded.

VOTE:

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

- b. A Special Ordinance to ban parking on the west side of 22nd Street 25 feet north and 25 feet south of the center line of the alley between 6th and 7th Avenue. (Second Reading)

Motion:	Motion whether or not to pass the ordinance.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to pass the ordinance; Aldersperson Robinson seconded.

VOTE:

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

- c. A Special Ordinance to ban parking on the south side of 22nd Avenue 25 feet east and 25 feet west

of the center line of the alley between 39th and 40th Street. (Second Reading)

Motion: Motion whether or not to pass the ordinance.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

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

- d. A Special Ordinance regarding a request from Kathleen Denison to place two residential parking spaces on the south side of 6th Avenue across the street from her home. (Second Reading)

Motion: Motion whether or not to pass the ordinance.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Swanson moved to pass the ordinance; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

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

- e. A new Ordinance regarding Mobile Food Units. (Second Reading)

Motion: Motion whether or not to pass the ordinance.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Healy moved to pass the ordinance; Aldersperson Gilbert seconded.

VOTE:

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

Nay: None. Absent: None.

- f. An Ordinance regarding demolition standards in the City of Rock Island. (Second Reading)

Motion: Motion whether or not to pass the ordinance.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to pass the ordinance; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

Nay: None. Absent: None.

11. 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 Aldersperson 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 weeks of August 11, through August 17, 2023, in the amount of \$1,490,739.60; for the weeks of August 18 through August 24, 2023, in the amount of \$411,234.49; for the weeks of August 25 through August 31, 2023, in the amount of \$450,727.88; for an additional AP check on August 31, 2023, in the amount of \$1,658.42; and payroll for the weeks of August 07 through August 20, 2023 in the amount of \$1,727,330.83
- b. International City/County Management Association (ICMA) claims for the week of August 12 through August 25, 2023, in the amount of \$34,015.60.
- c. ACH Payments for the month of July 2023 in the amount of \$2,100,589.10.
- d. Purchase Card Claims for the period of June 27 through July 26, 2023 in the amount of \$62,383.94.
- e. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding payment in the amount of \$28,623.99 to David Morrison, City Attorney, for services rendered during the month of August 2023.
- f. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$10,398.00 to Franklin-Miller, Livingston, NJ, for the Mill Street Wastewater Treatment Plant shredder replacement parts.
- g. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$79,379.67 to Advantage Tree Services, Davenport, Iowa, for the tornado cleanup.
- h. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$137,846.90 to

Rain for Rent, Joliet, Illinois, for the Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant by-pass pump rental.

- i. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$17,087.00 to CDM Smith, Chicago, Illinois, for the Phosphorus Removal Feasibility Study/Optimization Plan Project.

Motion:	Motion whether or not to approve Consent Agenda items a through i.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Swanson moved to approve consent agenda items a through i; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

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

12. Claims

- a. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$11,990.61 to McClintock Trucking and Excavating, Silvis, Illinois, for an emergency sewer main repair at 3011 25th Avenue.

Motion:	Motion whether or not to approve the claim.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Swanson moved to allow the claim; Aldersperson Gilbert seconded.

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

VOTE:

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

13. Purchases

- a. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$16,574.28 to Bonnell Industries, Inc., Dixon, Illinois, for the purchase of a replacement single axle dump truck

body.

Motion:	Motion whether or not to approve the purchase as recommended.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Hurt moved to approve the purchase as recommended; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

14. Contracts / Agreements

- a. Report from the Police Department regarding an amendment to the existing Intergovernmental Support Agreement (IGSA) with the United States Government and Rock Island Arsenal.

Motion:	Motion whether or not to approve the amendment as recommended and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement, subject to any minor attorney modifications.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Poulos moved to approve the amendment as recommended and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement, subject to minor attorney modifications; Aldersperson Gilbert seconded.

VOTE:

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

- b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding a request to extend the scope of the Water Tower Maintenance Agreement with Utility Service Group (USG) to encompass the City's five additional water towers.

Motion:	Motion whether or not to extend the agreement and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

This item was removed from the agenda.

- c. Report from the Martin Luther King Jr Center (MLK Center) regarding bids for the MLK Center STEAM Lab, recommending the bid be awarded to Daxon Construction of Eldridge, IA in the amount of \$26,425.00.

Motion: Motion whether or not to approve the bid award as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Robinson moved to approve the bid award as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents; Aldersperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

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

15. Budget/Finance Items

- a. Report from the Finance Department regarding an adjustment to the CY 2023 budget, increasing the Library Fund (251) revenue and expenditures by \$3,635.00.
- b. Report from the Finance Department regarding an adjustment to the CY 2023 budget, increasing the General Fund (101) expenditure budget by \$79,379.67.
- c. Report from the Finance Department regarding an adjustment to the CY 2023 budget, increasing MLK Activity Fund (901) expenditures by \$100,000.

Motion: Motion whether or not to approve budget adjustments a through c.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Swanson moved to approve budget adjustments a through c; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Aldersperson Gilbert thanked Heidi Huiskamp Collins for her generous donation that will enable the City to have a STEAM Lab at the MLK, Center.

VOTE:

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

16. Department Reports

- a. Request from the Public Works Department recommending certain items be declared as surplus and that permission be given to dispose of these surplus items in a manner that will be advantageous to the City.

Motion:	Motion whether or not to approve the request as recommended.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to approve the request as recommended; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

17. Traffic Engineering Requests

- a. Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request from the Rock Island Academy, 930 14th Street, to change traffic flow and parking. (First Reading)

Motion:	Motion whether or not to consider the ordinance.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Robinson moved to table this item until the September 25, 2023 meeting; Aldersperson Hurt seconded.

VOTE:

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

- b. Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request from the First Financial Group to remove the handicapped parking space at 2024 33rd Street. (First Reading)

Motion:	Motion whether or not to consider the ordinance.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Swanson moved to consider the ordinance; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

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

18. Appointments to Boards/Commissions/Committees

- a. Report from the Mayor's Office regarding an appointment to the Human Rights Commission and appointments to the Inspections Commission.

Motion:	Motion whether or not to approve the appointments as recommended.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Hurt moved to approve the appointments as recommended; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

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

19. Events/Misc Requests

- a. Report from the City Clerk's office regarding a request from Deb Kuntzi with Friends of Hauberg Civic Center to close the north entrance of 24th Street on Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. to ensure pedestrian safety, and to allow for the permission of the outdoor sale and consumption of alcohol as part of their Oktoberfest event.

Motion: Motion whether or not to approve the street closing request as recommended; and allow for the outdoor sale of alcohol, subject to being closed down early if complaints are received.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to approve the street closing request as recommended, and allow for the outdoor sale of alcohol, subject to being closed down early if complaints are received; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

- b. Report from the City Clerk's office regarding a request from Penni Steen, owner of Skellington Manor, to close the southern half of 18th Street, 4th to 5th Avenues, on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 5:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. spanning the dates of September 29 through October 29, 2023 (14 days total) as part of their haunted house attraction.

Motion: Motion whether or not to approve the street closing request as recommended.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to approve the street closing request as recommended; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

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

20. Other Business/New Business

Aldersperson Swanson thanked Public Works for their hard work on addressing all of the complaints regarding the storm cleanup surrounding the tornado that occurred in April 2023.

Mayor Thoms noted the events that were held in Rock Island over the past weekend. Skeleton Key Art and Antiques 10th Anniversary market and celebration, the farmer's market celebrated their second year in Schwiebert Park, and the Knights of Columbus held a reception honoring a Rock Island police officer and

firefighter.

Aldersperson Poulos asked Police Chief Landi and Fire Chief Graff to announce the award winners. Chief Landi announced the 2023 Officer of the Year was Detective Brett Buchanan and Chief Graff announced the 2023 Firefighter of the year was Brennan Kennedy.

Mayor Thoms announced a ribbon cutting was being held tomorrow for the new Rock Island - Milan School District administration building.

Aldersperson Hurt announced the Greek Festival is being held on Friday, September 15 and Saturday, September 16.

Aldersperson Swanson said she was excited to learn that the new riverboat that docked in Davenport reported the top visited attractions were the Hauberg Estate and QC Botanical Center.

Aldersperson Parker asked Mr. Bartels to report on a potential update regarding the speed hump policy that is being drafted. Mr. Bartels remarked on the difference between a bump and a hump, noting that bumps are higher and much harder for snow plows to navigate. He said the Traffic Engineering Committee discussed the speed hump policy at the committee meeting that was held earlier in the day. The committee approved the application policy and process and it will be on the next Council agenda for review and approval. Mr. Bartels said that as the policy currently stands, residents will be able to apply to have a speed hump installed as long as they meet the criteria that are put in place. The priority at first will be secondary streets that are cut through streets to major streets. The committee is recommending a \$100 application fee to eliminate being inundated with these requests as funding is limited. He noted they used the City of Davenport's policy and process as a template.

Aldersperson Gilbert asked if a speed hump would eliminate cars from blowing through stop signs like the one on 20 1/2 Avenue. Mr. Bartels indicated he was unsure if it would, but he hoped it would.

Aldersperson Poulos remarked that Iowa City has done a great job with adding speed humps as it has worked to reduce speeding.

Mr. Bartels said he anticipated a large volume of applications at first, and there is an annual budget for how many the department can process each year. The application process will require an aldersperson's approval and they will be notified if an application has been completed in their respective ward.

In response to a question from Aldersperson Healy on whether the fee would be nonrefundable, Mr. Bartels responded it would be nonrefundable.

Aldersperson Hurt asked Mr. Bartels to provide additional details on how they will prioritize the applications. Mr. Bartels responded that staff have 3 locations they would like to roll out first and then branch out to other areas of the City. He said the threshold includes having a minimum number of 300 cars drive by the location each day, which will eliminate several of the applications if they do not meet this.

Aldersperson Robinson said the stop sign at the intersection of 18th Avenue and 9th Street going West is hard to see and asked if the blinking solar lights could be installed on that sign. Mr. Bartels said that is possible.

21. Adjourn

- a. Motion to Adjourn.

Motion: Motion whether or not to adjourn.

VV: Voice Vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to adjourn the meeting; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

VOTE:

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

Samantha Gange, City Clerk