

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

5/11/2026 - Minutes

1. Call to Order

Mayor Harris called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

2. Roll Call

Mayor Ashley Harris asked City Clerk Amanda Torres to call the roll.

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

Absent: Alderperson Mark Poulos.

Staff: City Manager Todd Thompson, Attorney Leslie Day, City Clerk Amanda Torres, 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. Vote to Approve Agenda

- a. Motion: Motion whether or not to approve the agenda.
RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to approve the agenda; Alderperson Evans seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: None. Absent: Poulos.

6. Presentations

- a. Presentation of the CY 2026 1st quarter Financial Management Report and update on outstanding ARPA Fund projects.

Jessica Sager, City of Rock Island Finance Director, presented the Financial Management Report for the period ending March 31st, 2026, providing an overview of revenues, expenditures, net positions across all funds, state and local tax revenue, and a monthly investment report. Overall, City finances were below the 25% benchmark, with revenues being under expenditures for most funds.

Ms. Sager stated that first quarter financials are difficult to predict because they typically accrue the majority of funds back to the prior year as well as expenditures. City funds were below the 25% benchmark for 2026. Most funds were under the expected benchmarks as well.

In the general fund, revenues were at 9% and expenditures were 20% of the budget, slightly under the benchmark, with state and local tax funds contributing a majority of revenue. She discussed special revenue funds. The Public Library Fund was at 2% for revenue while expenditures were at 16%. TIF revenue was at 1%, with expenditures at 26%. She noted that these funds rely on property tax revenue, which the County should be distributing next month. The Riverboat Gaming Fund was below the benchmark at 17%, while expenditures were 0%. For capital and infrastructure funds, street improvement fund revenue activity was reported at 22% with expenditures at 3%. The Housing and Community Development Fund reported revenues at 3% of the budget, with expenditures at 15%. The MLK Community Center Operations Fund reported revenue at 24% with expenditures at 26%. Foreign Fire Insurance Fund Revenue was at 0%, and expenditures were also below the benchmark at 8%. The Community and Economic Development Fund reported revenues at 13% and expenditures at 6%.

The Utility Enterprise funds were all below revenue benchmarks, with Water at 17%, Wastewater at 20%, Solid Waste at 21%, and Storm Water at 18%. Expenditures for these funds were also under the 25% benchmark, with Water at 24%, Waste at 11%, Solid Waste at 22%, and Storm Water at 7%. Sunset Marina Fund revenues were at negative percentages due to recording entries that Finance must do related to grant revenue. Expenditures for both funds were below the benchmark at 13% and 15% respectively. Internal Service Fund revenues were mixed. Equipment Maintenance revenue was above the benchmark at 26%. The Self Insurance Fund was at 24%. The Employee Health Benefit Fund was at 21%, followed by Engineering at 3%. Expenditures for the Equipment Maintenance Fund was 23%, the Self Insurance fund was 26%, the Employee Health Benefit Fund was 17%, followed by Engineering at 20%. The combined MLK Funds revenues were at 24% and expenditures were below the benchmark at 16%.

Income tax has received 25% of the budget, and projections indicate that it may fall approximately \$6,000 short of the budgeted amount. Replacement tax revenue has received 29% of the budgeted revenue for 2026. Sales tax distributions indicate initial projections that receipts will be \$6,000 over budget. Local auction sales tax indicates initial projections will be \$13,000 over budget. Use tax revenue projections indicate that it will fall \$10,000 short of the amount budgeted. Municipal utility tax revenues are at 34% of the budget through March, and projections indicate that revenue will exceed the budgeted amount. Telecommunications tax initial projections indicate that revenues will be \$6,000 short of the amount budgeted. Food and Beverage taxes will fall slightly short. Gaming tax revenue will exceed the amount budgeted.

In her ARPA Fund report, Ms. Sager explained that the City executed Inter-Agency Agreements (IAAs) on December 9th and December 16th, 2024, obligating restricted SLFRF funds. The restricted funds that are still outstanding left to be spent are \$845,227.62. Staff recommends moving the remaining funds for the SW Treatment Plant Pump Station, Highland Springs Golf Course and Federal building streetlight projects to the Advanced water meter infrastructure project, because the former three projects are completed. Ms. Sager will propose an IAA to this effect in a future Council meeting. The remaining amount of unrestricted funds is just over \$1.5 million, with most of this being allocated to existing projects. The total unallocated amount is approximately \$60,000. The funding has received just over \$1.7 million in interest, with \$192,977.92 being unallocated.

Aldersperson Barnes asked whether DARI funds would be returned to the General Funds. City Manager Thompson answered that remaining funds will be part of the general fund balance. Mayor Harris asked whether the process for remediating the negative balance on the Sunset Marina Fund is guaranteed. Ms. Sager answered that all indications point to the grant being received from FEMA. Aldersperson Barnes asked when she could expect the Audit Report for 2025. Ms. Sager said that she will present the report at either the first or second Council meeting in June. Mayor Harris asked for the dollar amount of ARPA project funds that need to be spent before the end of the year. Ms. Sager answered that the amount was \$845,227.62. Mayor Harris asked if this is why funds will be pulled from other projects. Ms. Sager answered that funds will be transferred because

they can only be moved from one pre-existing IAA to another. Alderperson Hurt asked whether this would speed up the process of completing the water meter project. Mr. Bartels answered that it wouldn't necessarily speed up the project, but it would keep costs down. Mayor Harris asked if the ARPA funding could be used to offset any water price increases. Mr. Bartels said that ARPA funds are very restricted, but that he would look into it.

7. Special Awards and Recognitions, Oath of Office Ceremony, and Proclamations

- a. Proclamation declaring May 17-23, 2026 as National Public Works Week.

Mayor Harris read the proclamation and his declaration. Public Works Director Mike Bartels was present to accept the proclamation. Mr. Bartels said a few words. A photo was taken.

- b. Proclamation declaring May 2026 as Bike Month.

Mayor Harris read the proclamation and his declaration. Present to accept the proclamation were: Jack Cullen from the Downtown Alliance, Morgan Milner from Modern Woodmen, and Alex North from Blue Collar Bagels. Mr. Milner said a few words. A photo was taken.

- c. Proclamation declaring June 2026 as Affordable Housing Month.

Mayor Harris read the proclamation and his declaration. Leslie Kilgannon and Melanie Jordan from the QC Housing Council were present to accept the proclamation. Ms. Kilgannon said a few words. A photo was taken.

8. Public Comment

Mayor Harris asked if anyone in the public wished to speak.

Alex North spoke about Bike to Work Week.

Hannah Farrell spoke about issues with the DCFS system.

9. Update Rock Island

Yard of the Month

Do you have a neighbor with a beautiful yard? The public is invited to help the Arts & Beautification Commission by nominating a property for the 2026 Yard of the Month awards. This award is voted on each month from April to September. Submit an address with a photo to Kathy Douglass at douglass.kathryn@rigov.org.

During the Commission's monthly meeting, a slideshow of the submitted properties will be reviewed, and a winner will be chosen. A certificate will then be presented in person to the winning homeowner. A decorative wooden sign will also be placed in the yard until the next month's winner is selected. Join us in celebrating our beautiful Rock Island neighborhoods, and the care and hard work done by our neighbors!

Deadlines for the monthly submission of a property are May 12, June 9, July 7, August 11 and September 9.

Shop, Sip and Stroll: Spring Market Fest on Rock Island Riverfront

Revive Rock Island: Spring Market Fest is returning to Schwiebert Riverfront Park on Sunday, May 17, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public.

More than 60 diverse vendors will be on hand, offering handmade crafts and goods, vintage items, one-of-a-kind gifts, jewelry, candles, soaps, sweets, apparel, accessories and more. Attendees can enjoy various food and drink concessions available for purchase.

10. Passage of Ordinances & Resolutions

- a. An ordinance establishing a TIF-funded housing rehabilitation pilot program. (Second Reading)

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

MOTION:

Aldersperson Healy moved to adopt the resolution; Aldersperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: None. Absent: Poulos.

- b. Report from the City Clerk's Office regarding a request from QC Pride, Inc. to hold their annual Unity Pride Parade and a resolution for the closure of the Master Sergeant Stanley Talbot Memorial Bridge and 15th Street (U.S. Highway 67) on Saturday, June 6, 2026 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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

MOTION:

Aldersperson Swanson moved to adopt the resolution; Aldersperson Hurt seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 5-1-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: Evans. Absent: Poulos.

11. Ordinances (First Readings)

- a. Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request to remove the handicapped parking space at 2022 43rd Street. (First Reading)

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

MOTION:

Aldersperson Healy moved to consider, suspend the rules, and pass the ordinance; Aldersperson Evans seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: None. Absent: Poulos.

- b. Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request to install a handicapped parking space at 3225 9th Avenue. (First Reading)

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

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to consider the ordinance; Aldersperson Barnes seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: None. Absent: Poulos.

12. 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 week of April 17 through April 23 in the amount of \$511,911.11; claims for the week of April 24 through April 30 in the amount of \$763,614.51; and Payroll for the weeks of April 13, 2026 through April 26, 2026 in the amount of \$1,945,289.70.
- b. Purchase Card Claims for the period of February 27, 2026 through March 26, 2026 in the amount of \$73,740.72
- c. Minutes from the April 13, 2026 Closed Session.
- d. Minutes from the April 22, 2026 Strategic Planning Workshop.
- e. Minutes from the April 27, 2026 City Council meeting.

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

MOTION:

Aldersperson Healy moved to approve Consent Agenda items a through e; Aldersperson Evans seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: None. Absent: Poulos.

13. Claims/Purchases

- a. Report from the Finance Department regarding a payment in the amount \$195,815 to Tyler Technologies of Plano, TX for the renewal of the annual maintenance contract.
- b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #3 to CDM Smith, Chicago, Illinois, for the Water Treatment Plant Domes Project in the amount of \$86,831.30.

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

MOTION:

Aldersperson Healy moved to allow claims a through b; Aldersperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: None. Absent: Poulos.

- c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment to Langman Construction for an emergency lead service replacement at 905 and 906 15th Street in the amount of \$13,551.89.
- d. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment to Langman Construction for an emergency sewer main and manhole repair at 905 15th Street in the amount of \$82,092.36.

Motion: Motion to allow claims c and d.
RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Healy moved to allow claims c and d; Aldersperson Swanson seconded.

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

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 5-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson. Nay: None. Absent: Poulos.

- e. Report from the Public Works Department requesting authorization to purchase paper yard waste bags from Dano Enterprise, Stamford, CT, in the amount of \$34,784.61.
- f. Report from the Public Works Department requesting authorization to purchase sanitary sewer lift station equipment to serve the Bally's West Development from Electric Pump, Des Moines, Iowa, in the amount of \$104,988.
- g. Report from the Public Works Department requesting authorization to purchase seven new vehicles from Sexton Ford, Moline, Illinois, in the amount of \$466,044.
- h. Report from the Police Department requesting authorization to purchase the renewal of an investigative tool from Cellebrite Inc. in the amount of \$10,740.00
- i. Report from the Police Department requesting authorization to purchase a one-year subscription of the Lexipol Policy Management software in the amount of \$25,913.60.

Motion: Moition to approve purchases e through i.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Healy moved to approve purchases e through i. Aldersperson Evans seconded.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Hurt moved to vote on purchase h separately. Aldersperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: None. Absent: Poulos.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Healy moved to approve purchases e through g, and i. Aldersperson Evans seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Aldersperson Barnes asked whether it was much more expensive to put logos on the bags described in purchase e. Mr. Bartels said it does cost more, but without the logos, the bags have been found in other

municipalities. Alderperson Parker suggested that residents should purchase bags instead, and Alderperson Barnes agreed.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: None. Absent: Poulos.

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to approve purchase h. Alderperson Parker seconded.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to postpone purchase h until the June 22, 2026 City Council meeting. Alderperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 4-2-1 roll call vote. Aye: Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: Healy, Evans. Absent: Poulos.

14. Contracts/Agreements

- a. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding a settlement agreement and release with the Catholic Diocese of Peoria.

Motion: Motion to approve the agreement and authorize the City Manager to execute the document, subject to minor attorney modifications.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to approve the agreement and authorize the City Manager to execute the document, subject to minor attorney modifications; Alderperson Evans seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: None. Absent: Poulos.

- b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding a second lease amendment with AT&T for cellular upgrades on the 2215 16th Avenue water tower.

Motion: Motion to approve the amendment; and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement, subject to minor attorney modifications.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Swanson moved to approve the amendment and authorize the City Manager to execute the document, subject to minor attorney modifications; Aldersperson Barnes seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: None. Absent: Poulos.

- c. Report from the Parks & Recreation Department regarding bids for meal catering service for RIFAC's preschool program, recommending the bid be awarded to Main Event Catering.

Motion:	Motion to award the bid as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract, subject to minor attorney modifications.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to award the bid as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the document, subject to minor attorney modifications; Aldersperson Evans seconded.

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

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 4-1-1 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Parker. Nay: Swanson. Absent: Poulos.

15. Budget/Finance Items

- a. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget adjustment to the TIF 4 Parkway/I-280 Bally's Casino Fund (402) in the amount of \$104,988.

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

MOTION:

Aldersperson Hurt moved to approve the budget adjustment as recommended; Aldersperson Evans seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: None. Absent: Poulos.

16. Department Reports

- a. Report from the Community Development Department on the proposed Waitlist Policy and Procedure.

Motion: Motion to approve the proposed Waitlist Policy and Procedure to update Appendix A program.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to approve the proposed Waitlist Policy and Procedure to update Appendix A program; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0-1 roll call vote. Aye: Healy, Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker. Nay: None. Absent: Poulos.

17. 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:

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

VOTE:

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

- b. Other Business/New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

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

VV Voice vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to reconvene the regular City Council meeting and exit the Rock Island Regional Port District meeting; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

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

18. Other Business/New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

19. Adjourn

- a. Motion to adjourn to May 18, 2026.

Motion:	Motion to adjourn.
VV	Voice vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Hurt moved to adjourn; Aldersperson Evans seconded.

VOTE:

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

The meeting concluded at 6:41 p.m.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]