

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

11/27/2023 - 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: Alderpersons Randy Hurt, Judith Gilbert, Jenni Swanson, Dylan Parker, Mark Poulos, Bill Healy and Mayor Thoms.

Absent: Moses Robinson.

Staff: City Manager Todd Thompson, 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. Public Comment

No one from the public was signed up to speak.

6. Minutes

- a. Minutes of the November 13, 2023 Study Session and regular City Council meeting.

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

MOTION:

Alderpersion Gilbert moved to approve the minutes as printed; Alderpersion Healy seconded.

VOTE:

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

7. Update Rock Island

Free leaf pickup

The City of Rock Island is providing leaf collection for its residential refuse customers through Friday, December 8. Free yard waste bags can be picked up at the Public Works office, located at 1309 Mill Street, South Rock Island Township office and Rock Island Township office.

Winter Nights Winter Lights at the Botanical Center

Come to the Quad City Botanical Center, 2525 4th Avenue, to stroll through gardens illuminated with more than 225,000 glowing lights. The lights will be on through January 1st. For more information on the 7th annual Winter Nights Winter Lights events, go to www.qcggardens.com

Winter in Bloom at the Hauberg Estate

Come to the historic Hauberg Estate at 1300 24th Street in Rock Island on Saturday, December 3rd from 10 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and explore winter in bloom with carriage rides, Santa, hot chocolate and cookies, kids' crafts and games and a cash bar. This is a free community event and everyone is welcome.

Get a home visit from Santa himself!

Would you like Santa to stop by your home for a visit? The Rock Island Parks and Recreation Department has made arrangements with Santa to visit homes from December 9th through Christmas Eve. The cost is \$50. Call 309-732-7275 to reserve your spot today!

Deck the Downtowns

Deck the Downtown is back! Now through January 1, the Rock Island Downtown Alliance has some festive all-

age activities to enjoy while you eat, drink, shop and be merry in downtown Rock Island! New this year is the Holiday display challenge, with over 30 businesses in downtown Rock Island competing in the regional display challenge by decorating their storefronts for the season. Dozens of local artists have been hired to paint many of the festive scenes throughout the downtowns. Pick up a flyer at participating downtown businesses and vote for your favorite holiday display for a chance to win a prize!

8. Public Hearings

- a. Mayor Thoms will close the regular meeting and open a Truth in Taxation Public Hearing for discussion on a proposed property tax increase for the City of Rock Island for 2024.

Mayor Thoms will close the Public Hearing and reconvene the regular meeting.

Mayor Thoms closed the regular meeting and opened the Truth in Taxation Public hearing. He asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak. No residents came forward to speak.

Alderpersion Gilbert asked Interim Finance Director Jessica Sager to explain the difference between the tax levy and tax rate. Ms. Sager said the City is not increasing the property tax rate. What changed was the assessed value of the property set by the Rock Island County Assessor's Office. She noted that property reassessment is done every 4 years by the County and the assessed values will increase for 2024. Mayor Thoms clarified that the increase varies across the City, with an average of 7.6%.

Mayor Thoms closed the public hearing and reopened the regular meeting.

9. 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 Alderpersion 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 October 27 through November 02, 2023 in the amount of \$1,035,019.58; for the week of November 3 through November 09, 2023 in the amount of \$304,398.18; and payroll for the weeks of October 16 through October 29, 2023 in the amount of \$1,737,983.39.
- b. International City/County Management Association (ICMA) claims for the week of October 21 through November 3, 2023, in the amount of \$31,389.03.
- c. ACH Payments for the month of October 2023 in the amount of \$2,547,101.09.
- d. Purchase Card Claims for the period of September 27 through October 26, 2023 in the amount of \$65,223.11.
- e. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$13,037.61 to CDM Smith, Chicago, Illinois, for the Phosphorus Removal Feasibility Study/Optimization Plan

Project.

- f. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$15,050.00 to Hydro-Klean LLC, Des Moines, Iowa, for the Southwest Treatment Plant lift station wet well clean out.

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

MOTION:

Aldersperson Swanson moved to approve Consent Agenda items a through f; Aldersperson Hurt seconded.

VOTE:

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

10. Purchases/Contracts / Agreements

- a. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$610,203.00 to Alexis Fire Equipment, Alexis, Illinois, for an emergency fire truck purchase.

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

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

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

- b. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding a recommendation from USI to renew the self-insurance package with IPMG in the amount of \$826,858.00, as well as brokerage payment to USI in the amount of \$25,000.00.

Motion:	Motion whether or not to approve the self-insurance package as recommended and approve payments to IPMG and USI.
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RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to approve the self-insurance package as recommended and approve payments IPMG and USI; Aldersperson Hurt seconded.

VOTE:

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

- c. Report from the Police Department regarding bids for towing services, recommending the bid be awarded to Quad City Towing.

Motion: Motion whether or not to award the bid as recommended.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Poulos moved to award the bid as recommended; Aldersperson Parker seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 4-3-1 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Parker and Mayor Thoms as the tie-breaking vote. Nay: Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson. Absent: Robinson.

- d. Report from the Public Works Department requesting approval to award a contract to Valley Construction, Rock Island, Illinois, in the amount of \$211,579.33 for the 40th Avenue Court Bridge Rehabilitation Project.

Motion: Motion whether or not to award the bid as recommended.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Hurt moved to award the bid as recommended; Aldersperson Gilbert 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: Poulos, Healy, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson. Nay: None. Absent: Robinson.

- e. Report from the Community & Economic Development Department Regarding a Settlement Agreement with BJL Development et al.

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

Clerk Gange noted this was also the first reading of an ordinance.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to approve the settlement agreement and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents, consider, suspend the rules, and pass the ordinance; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

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

- f. Report from the Police Department regarding approval of a 5-year service agreement for the Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) System with Flock Group, Inc.

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

MOTION:

Aldersperson Hurt moved to approve the agreement and authorize the City Manager and Police Chief to execute the documents; Aldersperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

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

- g. Report from the Police Department regarding approval of a 5-year service agreement with AXON Enterprise, Inc. for the AXON Fleet III Squad Car Camera System.

Motion:	Motion whether or not to approve the agreement with AXON Enterprise, Inc.
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and authorize the City Manager and Police Chief to execute the documents.
RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderpersion Gilbert moved to approve the agreement with AXON Enterprise, Inc. and authorize the City Manager and Police Chief to execute the documents; Alderpersion Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

- h. Report from the Police Department regarding the acceptance of a purchase proposal for the replacement of the Police and Fire Departments' mobile and portable radios.

Motion: Motion whether or not to approve the replacement of the Police and Fire Departments' radios and authorize the Chief of Police to accept the purchase proposal from RACOM.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderpersion Poulos moved to approve the replacement of the Police and Fire Departments' radios and authorize the Chief of Police to accept the purchase proposal from RACOM; Alderpersion Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

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

- i. Report from the Mayor and City Manager's Offices recommending City staff negotiate a contract with Valley Construction of Rock Island, IL for construction manager services for the City Hall Improvement project using ARPA unrestricted funds (City lost revenue category).

Motion: Motion whether or not to authorize City staff to negotiate a contract with Valley Construction for construction management services and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents, subject to minor attorney modifications.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderson Hurt moved to authorize City staff to negotiate a contract with Valley Construction for construction management services and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents, subject to minor attorney modifications; Alderson Healy seconded.

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

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 4-1-1 roll call vote. Aye: Poulos, Healy, Hurt, Swanson. Nay: Gilbert. Absent: Robinson.

11. Ordinances with Reports from Departments

- a. Report from the Community & Economic Development Department regarding the sale of City-owned property located at 518 14th Avenue (PIN 1603227006) to William Nunn for \$951.00 plus closing costs.
Motion: Motion whether or not to consider, suspend the rules, and pass the ordinance.
RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderson Gilbert moved to consider, suspend the rules, and pass the ordinance; Alderson Parker seconded.

VOTE:

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

12. Budget/Finance Items

- a. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget adjustment increasing the Parks and Recreation Fund (555) budget by \$3,400.00.
Motion: Motion whether or not to approve the budget adjustment as recommended.
RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

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

DISCUSSION:

Aldersperson Gilbert asked for clarification regarding the donation. Parks and Recreation Department Director John Gripp said the donation was from GameTime for sports equipment to be used for sports programming.

VOTE:

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

- b. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget adjustment increasing the Parks and Recreation Fund (555) budget by \$347,500.00.

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

MOTION:

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

DISCUSSION:

Aldersperson Gilbert asked what the total of the Mel McKay Pickleball Court project was. Director Gripp explained all the final invoices have not come in yet as the project is still in progress, but the total project cost is estimated at \$600,000. It is anticipated there will be cost savings with this project. He explained the project is in part funded by an OSLAD grant through the state and as well as partly funded with ARPA funds. The funding portion Council members are approving tonight is for the OSLAD grant.

VOTE:

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

13. Department Reports

- a. Report from the Public Works Department regarding a request to implement a full slip rental discount program at Sunset Marina for CY 2024.

Motion:	Motion whether or not to authorize staff to implement a full slip rental discount program at Sunset Marina for CY 2024.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

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

DISCUSSION:

Aldersperson Parker asked if this item is required to come before City Council or if it is just a formality. Mayor Thoms noted that when the Boaters Advisory Committee was active, they would recommend whether to increase or decrease rates and the City Council would approve those recommendations. City Manager Todd Thompson said it is often the case that the City Manager has the authority to increase rates and set fees through an ordinance and he wasn't sure if it was the case with Rock Island.

Public Works Director Mike Bartels said he would be working with Community Engagement Manager Sarah Hayden on getting the word about the discounted rates.

VOTE:

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

- b. Report the City Clerk's Office regarding the schedule of regular meeting dates for the Rock Island City Council Calendar Year 2024 pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

Motion:	Motion whether or not to approve the 2024 annual schedule of Council meetings as recommended.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Gilbert moved to approve the 2024 annual schedule of Council meetings as recommended; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

14. Other Business/New Business

Aldersperson Parker announced a meeting was scheduled for tomorrow for Highland Park neighborhood residents starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Hauberg Estate. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and get feedback on the proposed water treatment plant finished water storage and pumping project.

Mayor Thoms remarked on the great job the Public Works Department did on plowing the first snow of the season.

15. Closed Session

- a. **5 ILCS 120/2 (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 into the minutes of the closed meeting.**
- b. **5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives.**

Motion:	Motion whether or not to enter Closed Session for the exceptions cited.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Poulos moved to enter into the Closed Session for the exceptions cited; Aldersperson Gilbert seconded.

VOTE:

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

16. Adjourn

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| a. | Motion: | Motion whether or not to adjourn to December 11, 2023. |
| | VV | Voice vote is needed. |

Upon entering back into the regular Council meeting, roll call was taken. Alderspersons Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, Parker, Poulos and Healy were present. Mayor Thoms was also present. Aldersperson Moses Robinson was absent.

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

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

The meeting concluded at 7:45: p.m.