

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

6/12/2023 - 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: Mayor Mike Thoms, Alderpersons Moses Robinson, Randy Hurt, Judith Gilbert, Jenni Swanson, Dylan Parker, Mark Poulos, and Bill Healy.

Absent: None.

Staff: City Manager Todd Thompson, Attorney Dave Morrison, CityClerk 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

Lyle Braun, Secretary of the Rock Island Fraternal Order of the Eagles approached the podium to address the Council. He expressed concern about the City's video gaming fee and asked the Council to consider lowering the fee as it is a burden on small businesses.

Regina Tsosie addressed the Council and said she was a member of the Navajo Nation and a resident of Moline. She has also been a resident of the Quad Cities for 40 years and is the President of the Quad Cities Native American Coalition. She encouraged Council members to dismantle the metallic sign that resembles a Native American man and recycle it as it creates hostility and represents racial imagery. She noted recent national activism that has centered around removing Native American imagery associated with various college and professional sports mascots as it created misinformation, stereotypes and hostility.

Naomi Torrence approached the podium to share a letter of support from her tribe in Michigan and a resolution passed by their Tribal Council as it relates to eliminating negative Native American imagery in communities. Ms. Torrence read the letter, which expressed their condemnation of Native American imagery in any way that may be deemed offensive, disrespectful or otherwise harmful to the Native American community.

Rudy Vallejo addressed the City Council and encouraged members to restore the Native American statue. He said if the City didn't want to maintain it, the Inter Tribal League of American Indians would like the opportunity to restore the statue and use it to honor Native American culture. He opined tearing down statues of Native Americans cancels the relevance of their culture.

Vince Thomas addressed Council regarding the signage and identified as a Rock Island resident and member of the Quad Cities Native American Coalition. He opined the Native American sign represents a stereotypical racist point of view. He suggested the City Council appoint a committee to hold discussions about the varying opinions of the different groups on what to do with the sign.

6. Minutes

- a. Minutes from the May 22, 2023 Study Session and City Council Meeting.

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

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

7. Update Rock Island

Do you know a person or organization that deserves recognition?

The City of Rock Island is seeking nominations for the 36th annual Citizen of the Year awards. The awards were founded in 1987 as a way to recognize individuals and organizations that make a positive difference in the Rock Island community.

Each year, people in the community have an opportunity to submit a nomination for those who have made selfless contributions of service to the City of Rock Island. There are eight categories available for nomination:

Individual; Youth; City Employee; Professional; Education; Veteran; Organization, Church or Non-Profit; and Business.

Nomination forms can be accessed on the City’s website at rigov.org or contact Community Engagement Manager Sarah Hayden at hayden.sarah@rigov.org.

Enjoy free music in Lincoln Park

Come dance or relax under the stars at this year’s Starlight Revue free concert series in Lincoln Park at 38th Street and 11th Avenue. Concerts are every Tuesday night for the next seven weeks from 7 to 9 p.m. Tomorrow’s night band will be the Gray Wolf Band.

Food and desserts will be available for purchase starting at 5 p.m. from the Hy-Vee Grill and Dessert Station; and popcorn and drinks will be served by the Parks Department. Enjoy a beautiful night in Lincoln Park with great music, food, dancing and fun.

Calling all third ward residents and anyone with questions about the city

Third Ward Alderwoman Judith Gilbert will hold a ward meeting at City Hall on June 19 from 6 to 8 p.m. The meeting is here in the council chambers on the third floor of City Hall, 1528 Third Ave. Alderwoman Gilbert and several department directors will answer questions from residents. All are invited to attend the meeting. Bring a neighbor and friend and learn more about how the city operates.

8. Ordinances

- a. An Ordinance regarding the consolidation of the six boards of appeal into a single Inspections Commission. (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: Robinson, Hurt, Gilbert, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

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 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 May 12 through May 18, 2023 in the amount of \$616,697.80, May 19 through May 25, 2023 in the amount of \$939,770.74, and May 26 through June 1, 2023 in the amount of \$811,128.15; and payroll for the weeks of May 1 through May 14, 2023 in the amount of \$1,665,053.31, the Employee Retention Bonus of May 24, 2023 in the amount of \$288,396.20, and May 15 through May 28, 2023 in the amount of \$1,699,052.46.
- b. International City/County Management Association (ICMA) claims for the week of May 12 through May 18, 2023 in the amount of \$35,979.60; and the week of May 26 through June 1, 2023 in the amount of \$34,190.85.
- c. Purchase Card Claims for the period of March 28, 2023 through April 26, 2023 in the amount of \$61,201.22.
- d. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$14,531.44 to CDM Smith, Boston, MA for services provided from April 16 through May 13, 2023 for the Mill Street Anaerobic Digester Maintenance Project.
- e. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$29,514.30 Xylem Dewatering Solutions, Inc, Chicago, IL for Flood Pump Rental for the rental of pumps used from April 19 through May 9, 2023 during the flood along the Mississippi River.

Motion: Motion whether or not to approve Consent Agenda items a through e.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Robinson moved to approve Consent Agenda items a through e; Aldersperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

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

10. Claims

- a. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #2 in the amount of \$186,845.35 to Five Cities Construction, Coal Valley, IL for the 37th Avenue & 46th Street Reconstruction Project (Project 2606).
- b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$72,143.95 to Centennial Contractors of the Quad Cities, Moline, IL for emergency water main replacement and emergency sewer main replacement in the alley between 6th and 7th Avenues and 34th and 35th Streets.

- c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #5 in the amount of \$78,967.35 to General Constructors, Inc., Davenport, IA for construction on the Schwiebert Park Marina Dock Renovations (Project 2828).
- d. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #2 in the amount of \$333,604.85 to Langman Construction, Rock Island, IL for services performed as part of the 11th Street Water Main Replacement (Project 2736).
- e. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #5 in the amount of \$434,608.18 to Langman Construction, Inc., Rock Island, IL for services provided during the period of April 1 to April 30, 2023 as part of the Downtown Parking Garage and Parking Lot Project (Project 2847).
- f. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment in the amount of \$88,185.03 to McClintock Trucking and Excavating, Inc., Silvis, IL for repairs performed at multiple locations as part of the Water Service Repair Program (WSRP) and Sewer Lateral Repair Program (SLRP).

Motion: Motion whether or not to allow claims items a through f.
 RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Hurt moved to allow claim items a through f; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

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

VOTE:

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

11. Contracts / Agreements

- a. Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the Water Treatment Plant Roof Replacement Project (Project 2844), recommending the bid be awarded to Top Roofing, Wheaton, IL in the amount of \$39,880.00.

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

This item was removed from the agenda.

- b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding contracts for engineering and design services at Sunset Marina with IMEG Corporation, Rock Island, IL in the amount of \$19,700.00, and Edgewater Resources LLC, Madison, WI in the amount of \$230,100.00.

Motion: Motion whether or not to award the contracts to IMEG Corporation and Edgewater Resources; and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Hurt moved to award the contracts to IMEG Corporation and Edgewater Resources and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract documents; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

- c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding an extension of the lease agreement with USCOC of Greater Iowa, LLC for the water tower located at 1405 36th Street.

Motion: Motion whether or not to direct the City Manager to sign the attached amendment to extend the lease agreement with USCOC of Greater Iowa.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Healy moved to direct the City Manager to sign the attached amendment to extend the lease agreement with USCOC of Greater Iowa; Aldersperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

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

12. Ordinances with Reports from Departments

- a. Report from the Community & Economic Development Department regarding the sale of City-owned property located at 1423 6th Street (PIN 1603232007) to Christina & Giovanni Crouch for

\$421.25 plus closing costs. (First Reading)

Motion:	Motion whether or not to approve the sale of 1423 6 th Street to Christina & Giovanni Crouch for \$421.25 plus closing costs; authorize the City Manager to execute the sale agreement; and consider the ordinance.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Robinson moved to approve the sale of 1423 6th Street for \$421.25 plus closing costs; authorize the City Manager to execute the sale agreement; and consider the ordinance; Aldersperson Hurt seconded.

VOTE:

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

13. Budget/Finance Items

- a. Report from the Finance Department regarding an adjustment to the CY 2023 budget, increasing the Parks and Recreation Fund (555) revenue and expense budgets by \$70,200.00.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Robinson moved to approve the budget adjustment; Aldersperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

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

- b. Report from the Finance Department regarding an adjustment to the CY 2023 budget, increasing revenues for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center (Fund 901) by \$25,000.00 and expenditures by \$65,000.00 to cover personnel and supply costs.

Motion:	Motion whether or not to approve budget adjustments a and b.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

This item was removed from the agenda.

14. Department Reports

- a. Report from the Community & Economic Development Department regarding approval of the 2023 CDBG Annual Action Plan.

Motion: Motion whether or not to approve the 2023 Annual Action Plan and direct staff to submit it to HUD.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Swanson moved to approve the 2023 Annual Action Plan and direct staff to submit it to HUD; Aldersperson Parker seconded.

VOTE:

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

15. Appointments to Boards/Commissions/Committees

- a. Report from the Mayor's Office regarding the appointment of Anamaria Rocha to the Illinois Quad Cities Civic Center Authority for a 3-year term expiring June 2026.

Motion: Motion whether or not to approve the appointment as recommended.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Parker moved to approve the appointment as recommended; Aldersperson Healy seconded.

VOTE:

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

16. Events/Misc Requests

- a. Report from the City Clerk's office regarding a request from Bally's Quad Cities to use sound amplification on Friday, July 7, 2023 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the Bally's campus for an outdoor concert.

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

MOTION:

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

VOTE:

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

17. Other Business/New Business

Aldersperson Parker said now that the public health emergency declaration has ended, the Council has the ability to implement a voice vote on certain items such as a motion to adjourn. Aldersperson Gilbert said it would be helpful to itemize what is required to be a roll call vote and what could be a voice vote. It was the consensus of Council members to reimplement the voice vote.

Aldersperson Swanson commented on several wonderful events that took place over the past week in Rock Island including the Pride Fest held in Schwiebert Park, the Common Chords concerts in downtown, as well as the Flowers on the River celebration for domestic violence survivors.

Aldersperson Healy asked Community Engagement Manager Sarah Hayden to push out the Red, White and Boom event as early as possible.

Mayor Thoms said he had the opportunity to be part of the grand opening for a new driving school in Rock Island that focuses on providing driving classes to refugees and immigrants who may face a language barrier. He noted the event was well attended and it was great to see so many people eager to learn. Mayor Thoms said he also attended the Quad Cities American Heart Association Heart Walk held at Schwiebert Park and the Denkmann Park event and celebration, which were also great events and well attended.

Aldersperson Gilbert remarked on the Poverty Roundtable held by Project Now and said there were some great ideas and information that came out of the discussion. She said she has been asked to serve on the NAACP Housing Committee and noted this group has many great ideas on affordable housing and housing for the homeless.

18. Adjourn

- a. Motion to Adjourn.

Motion:	Motion to adjourn to June 26, 2023.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Aldersperson Hurt moved to adjourn; Aldersperson Gilbert seconded.

VOTE:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Samantha Gange, City Clerk