

1 **Rockford Town Council Regular Meeting**
2 **September 6, 2023, 7pm**
3

4 NOTE TO PERSONS REVIEWING THIS DOCUMENT: THIS IS NOT A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT. WHILE AN
5 ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO DOCUMENT PERTINENT POINTS, THESE MINUTES CONTAIN ONLY A
6 SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION AND VOTING.
7

8 Ms. Roecks called the regular meeting to order at 7pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.
9

10 Roll call took place. Those present were Mayor Carrie Roecks, Councilmembers Clint Stevenson, Tim
11 Fricke, Micki Harnois, Walt Whitman and Kevin Willms. Clerk/Treasurer Heidi Johnson and Public Works'
12 Dave Thompson were also in attendance.
13

14 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Fricke seconded the motion.**
15 **Motion was carried.**
16

17 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the minutes from the 08/16/2023 regular meeting. Mr.**
18 **Fricke seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**
19

20 Deputy Hansmann with the Spokane County Sheriff's Department was in attendance. The Sheriff asked that
21 the deputies on patrol come to Council Meetings in the smaller towns when able. Ms. Harnois asked if the
22 speed limit could be changed in front of the park. Dep. Hansmann said that would be something that the
23 town would have to contact the WSDOT for. Mrs. Johnson mentioned that Deputy Nogle had suggested
24 getting a key to town hall so the deputies can use the office when writing reports. Dep. Hansmann agreed
25 that this is a good idea. Council also agreed and it was suggested to get a key box and assigning a code to
26 the Sheriff's Department.
27

28 Southeast Spokane County Fair representative, Wayne Shull, presented a grant that the fair association
29 would like to apply for. The grant includes upgrading the electrical in the Exhibit Building, cleaning and
30 resealing the asphalt floor of the Exhibit building, widening the asphalt paths to be ADA complaint and
31 adding another path from the food booths to the pavilion.
32

33 ANNOUNCEMENTS

34 - SE Spokane County Fair September 22-24
35

36 COUNCIL REPORTS

37 Ms. Harnois said she will not be at the next meeting; she will be attending an AWC board retreat in Chelan.
38

39 COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

40 Planning Commission – Planning Commissioner, Gregg Tenner, reported that the commission met on
41 09/05/23 and discussed new state laws regarding accessory dwelling units and middle housing laws. They
42 will look more into these new laws at their next meeting on 10/03/2023.

43 Ballfield Committee – there is a plan in place to install the infield dirt before the fair. After that, the dugouts
44 will be installed.

45 Asset Committee – no updates

46 Tree City – Ms. Harnois has left a message with Garth Davis at the Conservation Office in regard to planting
47 a tree for Rockford's Arbor Day.
48

49 PUBLIC COMMENT – None
50

51 ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

52 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to adopt Resolution 23-06, authorizing Heidi Johnson as a signatory to**
53 **apply for a grant through the Recreation and Conservation office. Mr. Stevenson seconded the**
54 **motion/ Motion was carried.**
55

56 OLD BUSINESS

57 Mr. Whitman said that the person committed to fixing some of the storm damage at the well house in the
58 ballpark is having a difficult time getting materials, specifically metal siding/roofing.

59
60 Mr. Fricke asked if there have been any updates on the Messersmith lawsuit. Mrs. Johnson said it with the
61 Supreme Court, who will decide if they want to review it or not. It could take months.

62
63 **Mr. Whitman made a motion to allow the improvements to the park that the fair association would**
64 **like to apply for. Mr. Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

65
66 NEW BUSINESS

67 Mrs. Johnson explained that it has become increasingly difficult for staff to try and enforce the code and a
68 professional Code Enforcement Officer is needed. The Sheriff's Department can enforce criminal code, but
69 not civil. Ms. Roecks suggested placing an ad for an officer and contacting the Association of Washington
70 Cities for advice. Mrs. Johnson said she needed some help and Mr. Fricke said he would help.

71
72 Mrs. Johnson said that the owner at 416 E Spring Street, Bill Peterson, would like to give his vacated portion
73 of Lake Street back to the town. Currently, there is a water and sewer mainline in this portion and the town
74 has an easement recorded. The property owner can never build on it and would like the town to retake
75 possession of it. It would be 30 feet, not the full 60 feet. Council was open to this discussion and asked that
76 staff contact the owner of the property to the east that also has a 30-foot portion of the vacated street to see
77 if he was open to un-vacating, as well. Mr. Thompson said he would reach out to the owner.

78
79 STAFF REPORTS

80 Public Works

- 81 Mr. Thompson reported various projects Public Works has been working on.
- 82 - The footings for the new shed at the Center Ave reservoir have been poured and is ready for the
 - 83 shed to be installed.
 - 84 - The cul-de-sac/fire lane turnaround is currently being worked on. Gravel needs to be placed and fire
 - 85 lane/no parking signs installed.
 - 86 - A paint sprayer is being rented next week and the curbs that need to be painted yellow will be
 - 87 completed, preferably before the fair.

88
89 Clerk/Treasurer

- 90 - Mrs. Johnson provided the past due list.
- 91 - **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the August Utility Bill Adjustment Report. Ms. Harnois**
- 92 **seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
- 93 - Mrs. Johnson gave the August Treasurer's Report, stating that the total amount in all funds at the end of
- 94 August was \$794,636.41.

95
96 PUBLIC COMMENT

- 97 - Resident Sue Pray asked when the road by her house will be fixed. Mr. Thompson said hopefully after
- 98 the fair, depending on the weather.
- 99 - Resident Ivan Willmschen asked what the payment to Springbrook is for. Mrs. Johnson said it for the
- 100 town's software company. He asked if there are any updates on the Messersmith lawsuit. Mrs. Johnson
- 101 said no.

102 APPROVE CHECKS

103 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve checks 18165-18188 and 3 EFTs for a total of \$43,795.45.**
104 **Mr. Fricke seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

105
106 **Mr. Willms made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion**
107 **carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:31pm.

108

109

110

Heidi Johnson, Clerk/Treasurer

Carrie Roecks, Mayor