

1 **Rockford Town Public Hearings and Regular Council Meeting**
2 **November 1, 2017 7:00pm**
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.
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8
9 Mayor Carrie Roecks called the meeting to order at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.
10

11 Roll call took place. Those present were Mayor Carrie Roecks, Councilmembers Clint Stevenson, Micki
12 Harnois, Tim Fricke, William Benson and Brian Laude. Clerk/Treasurer Heidi Johnson, Public Works'
13 Dave Thompson and several residents were also in attendance.
14

15 Ms. Roecks opened the public hearing at 7:02pm.

16 She stated the purpose of the hearing was to get public comment regarding the possibility of increasing
17 the Regular Property Tax Levy by 1%, totaling an additional \$785.03 in 2018. There was no public or
18 council comment and the public hearing was closed at 7:04pm.
19

20 Ms. Roecks opened the second public hearing at 7:04pm.

21 She stated the purpose of the hearing was to get public comment regarding the possibility of increasing
22 the EMS Property Tax Levy by 1%, totaling an additional \$150.44 in 2018. There was no public or
23 council comment.
24

25 Ms. Roecks closed the public hearing at 7:06pm and opened the regular meeting.

26 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Fricke seconded the motion.**
27 **Motion was carried.**
28

29 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to approve the October 18, 2017 public hearing and regular meeting**
30 **minutes. Mr. Benson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**
31

32 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the October 30, 2017 special meeting minutes. Ms.**
33 **Harnois seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**
34

35 PUBLIC COMMENT

- 36 - Resident Ivan Willmschen asked if we could turn a tv on to watch the last game of the World
37 Series.
38

39 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 40 - 11/15/2017 there will be a public hearing to take comment on the 2018 preliminary budget
41 - 11/29/2017 there will be a public hearing to take comment on the 2018 final budget
42 - The Arbor Day/Tree City celebration will be 11/3/2017 at 9:00am in the Town Park
43 - The Palouse Scenic By-way committee will meet at the Harvest Moon on 11/27/2017 and is inviting
44 the North Palouse Chamber of Commerce and all local businesses to attend.
45 - A local artist will be having an art show downtown
46 - The CDA Casino is having their annual Veterans Dinner on 11/09/2017, open to all veterans and a
47 guest.
48

49 COMMISSION REPORTS

50 Comprehensive Plan – Council will receive revisions at the next council meeting.

51 COMMITTEE REPORTS

52 Spokane County Conservation District – Ms. Harnois reported that the group had pruned some trees in
53 the park and planted six new ones between the new light posts on First Street.

54
55 Asset Management Group – Ms. Harnois would like for the committee to meet soon. There are some
56 opportunities to review a presentation from the Department of Ecology.

57
58 Ms. Roecks mentioned that the dragon decoration in the park was donated by an employee of hers.

59
60 ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

61 **Mr. Benson made a motion to approve Resolution 17-06. Mr. Fricke seconded the motion.**
62 **Motion was carried.**

63
64 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to approve Resolution 17-07 to increase the EMS Levy by 1%. Mr.**
65 **Benson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

66
67 STAFF REPORTS

68 Public Works

- 69 • Dylan Anderson with AWC/RMSA will be meeting with Mr. Thompson on 11/08/17 to do an
70 annual Loss Prevention study.
- 71 • Big Sky Industries did some more camera work on the main sewer line between Emma Street
72 Bridge to the bridge at Highway 27. Mr. Thompson reported that the sewer line needs more
73 cleaning, but the second round of camera work showed less damage as the first section
74 videoed. There was discussion on potentially moving the sewer line from its existing location
75 near the train bridge, so it can be videoed and cleaned more easily, dependent on funding.
- 76 • Ms. Harnois stated that the Transportation Improvement Board has selected the projects they
77 will fund, but it will not be announced until 11/17/2017.
- 78 • Ms. Roecks stated that she will talk to Rockford's local CDBG rep, Gary Wagner, and update
79 him on the project the town has applied for.
- 80 • Mr. Thompson said Public Works is preparing for the snow by getting the equipment ready.
- 81 • Mr. Thompson mentioned that Public Works had cut down some trees to protect the sewer line
82 and bank of the creek. Mr. Laude asked about the tree that was already in the creek and Mr.
83 Thompson said he planned to get to that in the next couple of days. He also said he would like
84 to remove a couple trees near Gene Fricke's house, that are in a town easement. This would be
85 to protect another section of the main sewer line.

86
87 Clerk/Deputy Clerk

- 88 • Mrs. Johnson submitted the October Past Due list.
- 89 • Mrs. Johnson reported that there were no utility bill adjustments in October.
- 90 • Mrs. Johnson reported to Council that Fire Chief, Gary Hill, sent her two bids for insulating the
91 walls and ceiling of the fire station. He has decided to go forward with Intermountain West
92 Insulation.

93
94 OLD BUSINESS

95 None

96
97 NEW BUSINESS

98 Mayor Pro-tem

99 **Mr. Laude made a motion to appoint Micki Harnois as Mayor Pro-tem. Mr. Stevenson seconded**
100 **the motion. Motion was carried.**

101 Mr. Stevenson suggested Council vote again in January to get back on the six-month cycle. Council
102 agreed and would like the Mayor Pro-tem appointment placed on the agenda in January.

103
104 Planning Attorney

105 Ms. Roecks spoke about the special meeting that took place on October 30th with three engineers from
106 JUB Engineers, Inc. All three engineers spent two hours, free of charge, discussing future development
107 and planning. They strongly suggested that the town hire a planning attorney to help protect them if a
108 developer wants to start a project in Rockford. The attorney that was suggested is Chuck Zimmerman,
109 from Wenatchee. Ms. Roecks spoke with Mr. Zimmerman on the phone going over what he could offer
110 the town and what his rates would be. Mr. Zimmerman told Ms. Roecks that his areas of expertise are
111 growth management, annexations, planning and development. He would like to receive copies of any
112 subdivision, comprehensive plan or planning and zoning ordinances before drafting anything, so as not
113 to conflict with the existing regulations. He gave an estimate of what the initial fee would be, which is
114 around \$10,000.

115 There was discussion about placing a moratorium on any new development during this time.

116
117 Spokane County Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Plan

118 Mrs. Johnson reported that the county had contacted Rockford about their applying for a grant from
119 FEMA to update their Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Plan. In order for them to do so, they need a Letter
120 of Intent from each jurisdiction within Spokane County. Council agreed that the Mayor could send the
121 letter.

122
123 COUNCIL REPORTS

124 Ms. Harnois updated council with what she had learned at the IACC conference in Wenatchee. She
125 spoke asset management, regionalization and budgeting ideas.

126
127 PUBLIC COMMENT

- 128 - Lorrie Engle mentioned that Fairfield's Facebook page is way more informational than
129 Rockford's, and that Rockford needs to update it more often. She also asked that the Public
130 Works Department give her a heads up if they are going to be digging, or working on her
131 property.
- 132 - Resident Annie Guhlke asked that the budget be available online.

133
134 APPROVE CHECKS

135 While checks were being reviewed by Council, Mr. Stevenson showed concern by stating he thinks it
136 would be a good idea to place a moratorium on any development, until the town is better prepared with
137 agreements with a planning attorney and with Studio Cascade. Ms. Roecks said that she thinks the
138 agreements could be ready by the next council meeting on November 15th, and that she doesn't believe
139 there will be any activity from any developers before then. Mr. Benson said that he understood Mr.
140 Stevenson's concern but agreed it can wait until the next meeting. Mr. Stevenson said he hopes that
141 this decision won't "come back to bite us in the ass."

142
143 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve checks 14129-14152 and two EFTs, for a total of**
144 **\$55,820.88. Mr. Benson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

145
146 Meeting was adjourned 8:16pm.

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148
149
150
151 _____
Heidi Johnson, Clerk/Treasurer

Carrie Roecks, Mayor