

1 **Rockford Town Regular Council Meeting**  
2 **October 16, 2019 7:00pm**

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

6  
7 Mayor Roecks called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

8 Roll call took place. Those present were Councilmembers Clint Stevenson, Tim Fricke, William Benson  
9 and Brian Laude. Clerk/Treasurer Heidi Johnson and Public Works' Dave Thompson were also in  
10 attendance.

11 Ms. Roecks noted that Micki Harnois was not in attendance, due to being in Chelan for an AWC  
12 Conference.

13 **Mr. Benson made a motion to excuse Ms. Harnois from the meeting. Mr. Laude seconded the motion.**  
14 **Motion was carried.**

15  
16 Ms. Roecks opened the public hearing at 7:02pm, stating that the purpose for the hearing is to take public  
17 comment about increasing the regular property tax levy by 1%. She asked Mrs. Johnson to explain the levy  
18 increase. Mrs. Johnson explained that by increasing the levy by 1%, or the maximum amount allowed, the  
19 town would receive about \$714 total for the year 2020. The option of "banking" the increase was discussed.  
20 This would allow the town to not ask for an increase but could double the increase next year. Mrs. Johnson  
21 said that increasing 1% each year takes less of a toll on the residents than not collecting anything one year  
22 and asking for 2% the next year.

23 Resident Jennie Hagen said that her opinion would be to keep a steady rate by increasing by 1% each year,  
24 instead of a different amount each year.

25 There was no other public comment. The public hearing was closed at 7:07pm and a second public hearing  
26 was opened at 7:10pm.

27 Ms. Roecks stated that the purpose for the second public hearing is to take public comment about  
28 increasing the EMS excess property tax levy.

29 Ms. Hagen comment saying "same concept" as the other levy increase.

30 There was no other comment and Ms. Roecks closed the public hearing at 7:11pm.

31  
32 **Mr. Benson made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Fricke seconded the motion. Motion**  
33 **was carried.**

34  
35 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to approve the minutes from the 10/02/2019 regular meeting. Mr. Laude**  
36 **seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

37  
38 ANNOUNCEMENTS

39 - Town of Rockford's Arbor Day 10/25 3:30pm

40 - Lion's Club Halloween Bonfire 10/31 5:30pm-7:30pm

41  
42 PUBLIC COMMENT

- 43 - Lorrie Engle said she has 90 helmets to give away at the Halloween party at the Grange. If the  
44 Grange does not have a party, can she give them away at the Lion's Club Bonfire? Mr. Benson said  
45 she is welcome to.

46  
47 ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

48 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to adopt Ordinance 19-05, amending the 2019 budget. Mr. Benson**  
49 **seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

50  
51 **Mr. Benson made a motion to adopt Resolution 19-07, increasing the EMS property tax levy. Mr.**  
52 **Fricke seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

53 **Mr. Laude made a motion to adopt Resolution 19-08, increasing the regular property tax levy. Mr.**  
54 **Fricke seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

55  
56 OLD BUSINESS

57 Exhibit Building Lease

58 Mr. Fricke attended the Lion's Club meeting on 10/14/2019 to discuss what the Lion's Club plans to do about  
59 the lease that is no longer valid on the Exhibit Building. After a discussion with the Town Council at the last  
60 regular meeting, the Lion's Club decided that the sublessor, Chris Ramsey, should deal with the town  
61 directly and that the Lion's Club would no longer lease the building. The Lion's asked that the town give  
62 them priority for use of the building. Mr. Fricke stated that the bottom line for both Council and the Lion's  
63 Club, was that there should be no animosity toward each other going forward.

64 Mr. Benson thanked Mr. Fricke for attending the Lion's Club meeting, which Mr. Benson is a member of, and  
65 stated that he did an outstanding job representing the Council and explaining the situation during the  
66 meeting.

67  
68 Public Works

69 • Mr. Thompson stated that, because he was reaching his maximum hours of sick leave accrued, he  
70 would like to request exchanging 14 days of sick leave into 7 days of vacation leave and cashing it  
71 out, per the personnel policy.

72 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to exchange the sick/vacation and cash out as Mr. Thompson**  
73 **requested. Mr. Benson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

74 • Mr. Thompson mentioned that Deputy Clerk Jennie Hagen has been looking into the proper forms  
75 and protocol for vacating streets and alleys. Because Council has discussed adopting an ordinance  
76 to not allow any new street vacations, should Ms. Hagen continue with her research or would they  
77 like to discuss the ordinance again. Council discussed street and alley vacations, and no longer  
78 allowing them. The consensus was to have Mrs. Johnson get an ordinance together stating that  
79 there will no longer be any street vacations allowed within town limits.

80  
81 Clerk/Treasurer

82 • The September Treasurer's Report shows \$636,234.43 in all funds.

83  
84 PUBLIC COMMENT

85 - Jennie Hagen mentioned that the Zoning Regs will need to be amended to show that there are no  
86 street vacations allowed anymore.  
87 - Resident Ivan Willmschen asked if the town is done with the state audit. Mrs. Johnson said no.  
88 - Mr. Willmschen offered use of his shop for storing the town's smaller equipment.

89  
90 APPROVE CHECKS

91 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve checks 16271-16290, and two EFTs for a total of**  
92 **\$15,239.49. Mr. Benson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

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94 **Mr. Benson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01pm. Mr. Fricke seconded the motion.**  
95 **Motion was carried.**

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Heidi Johnson, Clerk/Treasurer

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Carrie Roecks, Mayor