

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52

## Rockford Town Council Regular Meeting October 4, 2023, 7pm

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

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

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

**Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Fricke seconded the motion. Mr. Whitman asked which agenda was amended. Mr. Fricke said the one without his name on it. Motion was carried.**

**Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the minutes from the 09/20/2023 regular meeting. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Resident Troy Messersmith at 442 E Lee Street spoke to the council about the history of his property and the deeds from prior owners. He shared his opinion about the alley located on his property that he believed to be vacated several decades ago. Mr. Messersmith provided copies of declarations, property deeds and other court documents regarding the alleyway and the pending lawsuit between him and the town.

Ms. Roecks stated that, because the issue is still under litigation, there is nothing the council can answer or agree to at this time.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Public Hearing to take input on a property tax increase, 10/18 7pm
- Ms. Harnois said she would not be at the 10/18 meeting due to a conflict with another meeting.
- Rockford United Methodist Church Harvest Dinner 10/26.

COUNCIL REPORTS - None

#### COMMISSION REPORTS

Planning Commission – No updates. Next meeting is 10/31.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ballfield Committee – The sprinklers have been moved and the infield dirt has been ordered. No word yet when it will be delivered.

Asset Committee – no update

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

- John Curtis from Valleyford, WA spoke about the license plate scanners that the Sheriff's Department would like to install in Rockford, as discussed in a previous meeting. He opposed the placement of a license plate scanner and gave several reasons as to why the opposition. Mr. Curtis also shared his concern about the fence at Mr. Messersmith's property, and asked why it was allowed in the 70s, if the alley wasn't vacated. He suggested a compromise with Mr. Messersmith and the town and asked what development was planned for the property.
- Mike LaShaw spoke about farming to the east of Mr. Messersmith's property. He said he reviewed some of the documents provided and thought that any encroachment should be considered trespassing. He said he had heard that the town plans to bulldoze the street.

53 Ms. Roecks asked if there were any other public comments. She then said that each comment would be  
54 taken to heart, but there is more than one side to the story, which is why the courts are involved.

55  
56 ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

57 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to adopt Resolution 23-07, increasing the utilities by 3%. Mr. Fricke**  
58 **seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

59  
60 OLD BUSINESS

61 Cooperation agreement for Community Development Block Grant and Related Funds

62 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to re-approve the Cooperation Agreement with the Community**  
63 **Development Block Grant program. Mr. Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

64  
65 Code Enforcement – no update

66  
67 NEW BUSINESS

68 Spokane County Letter of Support regarding climate change policies in Comprehensive Plan was tabled  
69 until the 10/18/23 meeting.

70  
71 STAFF REPORTS

72 Public Works

- 73 - Mr. Thompson said that he is ready to purchase a new snowplow, per budget.
- 74 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve up to \$12,000 for a new snowplow. Ms. Harnois**  
75 **seconded the motion. Mr. Stevenson added that a new skin could be added to the old**  
76 **snowplow and be used as a back-up on additional plow. Motion was carried.**
- 77 - Mr. Thompson said that the building ordered to cover the booster pump on Center Street was  
78 delivered and installed today.
- 79 - The cul-de-sac on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street is almost finished. Once fire lane signs are installed, it will be complete.
- 80 - Public Works is also working on installing more auto meter readers.
- 81 - Ms. Roecks asked about the culverts that are located at the Trejbal property on C and First Streets.  
82 Mr. Thompson said that Dave Trebal will be installing them at the ditch to allow access to the  
83 property for its entire length. There will be an approach permit required before starting that project.

84  
85 Clerk/Treasurer

- 86 - Council reviewed the past due list. Mr. Whitman asked why Joey Jonquet was missing. Mrs. Johnson  
87 said that he has filed for bankruptcy, so the account has been temporarily deactivated until the  
88 bankruptcy courts decide to allow or dismiss it.
- 89 - **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the September Utility Bill Adjustment Report. Mr.**  
90 **Fricke seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**
- 91 - Mrs. Johnson gave the Treasurer's Report, stating that the total amount in all funds at the end of  
92 September was \$796,437.58.
- 93 - Mrs. Johnson reported that the State Auditor's Office has been at Town Hall the last couple of weeks to  
94 do a two-year accountability audit.

95  
96 PUBLIC COMMENT

- 97 - Mike LaShaw said that the council should Google the 1973 coming ice age when talking about climate  
98 control.
- 99 - Resident Gregg Tenner said that he filled out the application to be on the Housing and Development  
100 Advisory Committee and will leave it with Mrs. Johnson to send to the appropriate people. Ms. Harnois  
101 and Ms. Roecks thanked him for applying.

102  
103 APPROVE CHECKS

104 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve checks 18207-18223, and 7 EFTs for a total of \$31,468.78.**  
105 **Ms. Harnois seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

106 **Mr. Willms made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion**  
107 **carried.**

108  
109 The meeting was adjourned at 7:42pm.

110  
111  
112  
113  
114  
115  
116  
117  
118  
119  
120  
121  
122  
123  
124  
125  
126  
127  
128  
129  
130  
131  
132  
133  
134  
135  
136  
137  
138  
139  
140  
141  
142  
143  
144  
145  
146  
147  
148  
149  
150  
151  
152  
153  
154  
155  
156  
157

---

158 Heidi Johnson, Clerk/Treasurer

---

Carrie Roecks, Mayor