

1 **Rockford Public Hearings and Town Council Regular Meeting**
2 **December 1, 2021**
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 first Public Hearing to order at 7pm, stating that its purpose was to take
10 input on the 2021 budget amendments. There was no comment from the public.

11 Ms. Roecks asked why the numbers were so different on a couple of lines on pages 14 and 19.

12 Clerk/Treasurer Heidi Johnson said that the numbers were inadvertently entered into the remarks field in the
13 software, which will be fixed before the budget is amended by ordinance. There was no other comment, so
14 Ms. Roecks closed the public hearing at 7:05pm
15

16 *Mayor Roecks swore in new Councilmember Mark Lonam, who gave his Oath of Office.*
17

18 Mayor Roecks called the Public Hearing to order at 7:10pm, stating that its purpose was to take input on the
19 2022 final budget.

20 Resident Ivan Willmschen said that he hopes there will be money in the budget to patch Weaver, Lake and
21 B Streets. He also added that he would like to see more streetlights installed along the sidewalks, since
22 there are already electrical boxes placed for new lights.

23 Councilmember Micki Harnois said she would like to see a new Town Hall sign included in the 2022 budget.
24 Ms. Roecks said she would like to see at least \$5000 transferred to the equipment reserve fund. There was
25 no other comment, so Ms. Roecks closed the public hearing at 7:17pm.
26

27 Mayor Carrie Roecks called the regular meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.
28

29 Roll call took place. Those in attendance were Mayor Carrie Roecks, Councilmembers Clint Stevenson,
30 Micki Harnois, Tim Fricke, Mark Lonam and Brian Laude. Clerk/Treasurer Heidi Johnson and Public Works'
31 Dave Thompson were also in attendance.
32

33 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Fricke seconded the motion.**
34 **Motion was carried.**
35

36 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the minutes from the 11/17/2021 regular meeting. Mr.**
37 **Laude seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**
38

39 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 40 - 12/04/2021 Christmas on the Palouse
- 41 - Ms. Roecks stated the Representative Joe Schmick and several others in his party are looking to
42 repeal the long-term health care mandate.
43

44 COUNCIL REPORTS – Ms. Harnois said that Public Works received thank you cards because of how
45 helpful they were to the Methodist Church in getting their water line fixed.
46

47 COMMISSION REPORTS - None

48 COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

49 PUBLIC COMMENT - None

50 ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS - None

51 OLD BUSINESS - None
52

53 NEW BUSINESS

54 **Ms. Harnois made a motion to accept the amendment to the current agreement with the Spokane**
55 **County Regional Solid Waste System. Mr. Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

56
57 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to accept the rental agreement with Spokane County Fire District 11.**
58 **Mr. Fricke seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

59
60 STAFF REPORTS

61 Public Works

62 - Mr. Thompson reported that First Interstate Bank requested an easement on the west side of their
63 building. The building's staircase, railing, flagpole and electrical box is currently located in the town's
64 right-of-way.

65 **Ms. Harnois made a motion to approve the request for the easement on the west side of N.**
66 **First street by First Interstate Bank. Mr. Fricke seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

67 - Mr. Thompson said that it was time for a new computer and software to run the SCADA system.
68 Council agreed.

69 - There was a sewer back-up at a service line at 227 S Weaver Street. Public Works replaced the line
70 and removed the root ball that was in the service and main lines. The town billed the residents for
71 the portion that is their responsibility. Mr. Thompson said that he will go back in the spring to even
72 out the grass once it settles

73 - Public Works has been busy getting Christmas decorations up.

74
75 Clerk/Treasurer

76 - Mrs. Johnson submitted the past due list.

77 - **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the Utility Bill Adjustment Report for November. Mr.**
78 **Laude seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

79
80 PUBLIC COMMENT

81 - Mr. Willmschen asked if Mrs. Johnson had a total amount of the increase the raises and benefits
82 would cost the town in 2022. Mrs. Johnson said she forgot to grab that information and she will have
83 it by the next meeting.

84 - Mr. Willmschen said that several years ago, the employees got a raise instead of benefits so they
85 could purchase their own benefits. He asked what happened with that. Mr. Fricke said he wasn't
86 sure how long ago that was, but Council must've felt that was the right thing to do at that time. This
87 Council feels differently and wants to provide benefits and comparable wages to its staff.

88 - Mr. Willmschen asked about the potential lawsuit that Council went into Executive Session over
89 during the last meeting. Ms. Roecks said the town received a summons a few hours prior to the
90 meeting and the lawsuit is over a street vacation. No more information was available.

91
92 APPROVE CHECKS

93 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve checks 17295-17312, and 3 EFTs, for a total of \$25,155.47.**
94 **Ms. Harnois seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

95
96 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Laude seconded the motion. Motion was**
97 **carried.**

98
99 The meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.

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101
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103
104

Heidi Johnson, Clerk/Treasurer

Carrie Roecks, Mayor