

1 **Rockford Town Council Public Hearing and Regular Meeting**
2 **December 6, 2023, 7pm**
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4 NOTE TO PERSONS REVIEWING THIS DOCUMENT: THIS IS NOT A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT. WHILE
5 AN ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO DOCUMENT PERTINENT POINTS, THESE MINUTES CONTAIN
6 ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION AND VOTING.
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8 Mayor Carrie Roecks opened the public hearing and stated that the purpose of the hearing was to take
9 public input on the 2024 final budget.

10 Ms. Johnson said that she lowered the budgeted amounts for the purchase of the service truck and for the
11 town's insurance premiums.

12 There was no public comment. Ms. Roecks requested a printout of the 5-year budget comparison.

13 Ms. Roecks closed the public hearing and called the regular meeting to order at 7:04pm with the Pledge of
14 Allegiance.
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16 Roll call took place. Those present were Mayor Carrie Roecks, Councilmembers Clint Stevenson, Tim Fricke
17 and Walt Whitman. Clerk/Treasurer Heidi Johnson and Public Works' Dave Thompson were also in
18 attendance.
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20 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to excuse Ms. Harnois and Mr. Willms from the meeting. Mr. Fricke**
21 **seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
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23 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Fricke seconded the motion.**
24 **Motion carried.**
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26 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to approve the minutes from the 11/15/2023 regular meeting. Mr. Whitman**
27 **seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
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29 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 30 - Town Hall will be closed 12/25/2023 for Christmas.
- 31 - A public hearing to take input on a variance request for 33 W Emma Street 12/20/2023 at 7pm
- 32 - A public hearing to take input on the 2023 budget amendment 12/20/2023 at 7pm
- 33 - A newly elected officials workshop will be held in Fairfield on 12/09 from 9am-2:30pm
- 34 - A Freeman FFA Steve Meyer Memorial Alumni Trap Tournament will take place at the Spangle Gun
35 Club on 12/16/2023 at 10am.
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37 **COUNCIL REPORTS - None**
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39 **COMMISSION REPORTS**

40 Planning Commission – President Gregg Tenner said that the owner, Andrew Gibson, of 33 W Emma Street
41 is requesting a floodplain variance for this building. Mr. Tenner explained what Mr. Gibson would like to
42 accomplish and said that the Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend that the council grant
43 the variance. Next meeting is 01/02/24.

44 Mr. Tenner said that the CDBG Board accepted his application and his first meeting with them will be in
45 January.
46

47 **COMMITTEE REPORTS - None**
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49 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- 50 - Lorrie Engle said that the Fair Board was approved for grant from the Department of Agriculture for
51 \$165,000 to reseal the floor and update the electrical in the Exhibit Building. The grant also includes

52 extending the pathway in the park to be ADA compliant. She has a meeting with Public Works to
53 discuss these projects at 9am on 12/08/2023.

54
55 **ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

56 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to adopt amended Resolutions 23-08 and 23-09, to include the total**
57 **amounts that the levies collected in 2022. Mr. Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

58
59 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to accept Resolution 23-10, amending the fee schedule. Mr. Fricke**
60 **seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

61
62 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to adopt resolution 23-11, accepting a loan from the Department of**
63 **Ecology for \$387,000. Mr. Fricke seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

64
65 **OLD BUSINESS**

66 **RMSA Insurance Premiums**

67 Mrs. Johnson said that AWC/RMSA has decreased the 2024 insurance premiums from \$72,951 to \$67,481,.

68
69 **Empire Disposal**

70 Mrs. Johnson said that Empire Disposal has agreed to a 5% increase in garbage service, instead of the 12%
71 they originally requested.

72 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to accept the 2024 rate increase of 5% increase from Empire Disposal. Mr.**
73 **Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

74
75 **2024 Wages**

76 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to give Jennie Hagen a 5% raise for 2024. Mr. Stevenson seconded the**
77 **motion. Motion carried.**

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79 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to give Patrick Marcalus a 5% raise for 2024. Mr. Stevenson seconded the**
80 **motion. Motion carried.**

81
82 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to give Clint Stevenson a 5% raise for 2024. Mr. Whitman seconded the**
83 **motion. Motion carried. Mr. Stevenson abstained.**

84
85 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to give Dave Thompson a 5% raise for 2024. Mr. Whitman seconded the**
86 **motion. Motion carried.**

87
88 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to increase Heidi Johnson's hourly wage to \$24.50 for 2024. Mr. Whitman**
89 **seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

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91 **NEW BUSINESS**

92 **2024 and 2025 TIB Grants**

93 Mrs. Johnson reported that TIB accepted two different grant request applications for the town. One is for
94 maintenance on 5 different streets, totaling \$67,600 and the other is for pavement preservation on 6 streets,
95 totaling \$160,450.

96
97 **STAFF REPORTS**

98 **Public Works**

- 99 - Mr. Thompson reported that the new plow was installed, and it is more efficient than the older plow.
- 100 - Mr. Whitman asked what happened with the bus collision last Friday. Mrs. Johnson and Mr.
- 101 Thompson said that somebody hit a school bus and took off.

102 **Clerk/Treasurer**

- 103 - Mrs. Johnson gave the Treasurer's Report, stating that the total amount in all funds at the end of
- 104 October was \$809,704.39.

- 105 - The past due report was reviewed. There are only 4 accounts past due.
106 - **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the November Utility Bill Adjustment Report. Mr. Fricke**
107 **seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

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109 PUBLIC COMMENT - None

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111 APPROVE CHECKS

112 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve checks 18279-18310 and 3 EFTs for a total of \$36,895.74.**
113 **Mr. Fricke seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

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115 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion. Motion**
116 **carried.**

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118 The meeting was adjourned at 8:36pm.

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Heidi Johnson, Clerk/Treasurer

Carrie Roecks, Mayor