

1 **Rockford Town Regular Council Meeting**  
2 **July 17, 2019 7:00pm**

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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.  
7

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

9 Roll call took place. Those present were Councilmembers Clint Stevenson, Tim Fricke, William Benson  
10 and Brian Laude. Clerk/Treasurer Heidi Johnson and Public Works' Dave Thompson were also in  
11 attendance. It was noted that Micki Harnois was absent.

12  
13 **Mr. Benson made a motion to excuse Micki Harnois from the meeting. Mr. Laude seconded the**  
14 **motion. Motion was carried.**

15 All members of Council wished Ms. Harnois a Happy Birthday.

16  
17 Ms. Roecks opened the public hearing to consider raising the excess fire levy by the allowable 1% from  
18 last year, which will equal \$148.55 total for the year. There were no comments from the public or from  
19 Council.

20 Ms. Roecks closed the public hearing at 7:03pm and resumed the regular meeting.

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22 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Benson seconded the motion. Motion**  
23 **was carried.**

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25 **Mr. Benson made a motion to approve the minutes from the 07/03/2019 regular meeting. Mr. Laude**  
26 **seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

27  
28 ANNOUNCEMENTS

29 None

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31 COUNCIL REPORTS

32 None

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34 COMMISSION REPORTS

35 Planning and Zoning

36 P&Z Regulations updates are in review. Council can adopt the plan at the 09/04/2019 regular meeting.

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38 Comprehensive Plan

39 Comprehensive Plan updates are in review. Council can adopt the plan at the 08/07/2019 regular meeting.

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41 COMMITTEE REPORTS

42 Asset Management will schedule a meeting soon.

43  
44 PUBLIC COMMENT

- 45 - Resident Tom Tyler asked if there were going to be radar speed signs on Emma like there is on  
46 Stringham? Mr. Thompson said yes, they will be installed soon.
- 47 - Mr. Tyler asked if the recycling program passed. Ms. Roecks said that she will be asking the Director  
48 of the Solid Waste committee to attend one of the regular council meetings in August to answer  
49 some more questions. Mrs. Johnson will contact Mr. Tyler when that is scheduled.
- 50 - Mr. Tyler asked if the rumors were true, if the town would see an influx of homeless people with the  
51 sale of the CHS office. Ms. Roecks said that the new owners will be using the building as a daytime  
52 learning center for female victims of human trafficking.

53 ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

54 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve Ordinance 19-01, amending the 2019 budget. Mr. Fricke**  
55 **seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

56  
57 **Mr. Benson made a motion to approve Resolution 19-06, increasing the excess fire levy amount. Mr.**  
58 **Laude seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

59  
60 OLD BUSINESS

61 Lion's Club Lease  
62 No update, Ms. Roecks will send Mr. Foley an email reminder.

63  
64 NEW BUSINESS

65 Mrs. Johnson said that she had met with a representative from the office of Recreation of Conservation to  
66 discuss some grant opportunities in one of the town's parks.

67  
68 STAFF REPORTS

69 Public Works

- 70 • Mr. Thompson said they are making progress on the new playground equipment and will continue to  
71 work on it as time allows.
- 72 • There is an obstruction in the sewer mainline between North Weaver and River Streets on the  
73 northside of Emma Street. Public Works has been working on getting the issue resolved, using the  
74 Rodder truck. The line may need videoed after the work is complete to see if the pipe needs  
75 replaced. They believe the cause of the issue could be tree roots.
- 76 • There is a new home being built on East Emma Street and the sewer line will be placed in the next  
77 week.
- 78 • Another new home that is being built on B Street is starting and the homeowner will need to connect  
79 to the town's main water and sewer lines. As per the Council conversation several months ago, the  
80 best way for development to happen in this area is for the town to run the main water line up  
81 easternmost portion Lake Street and have any new houses connect there instead of on B Street.  
82 Eventually, a booster pump may need to be installed. This will ensure the proper water pressure to  
83 the new homes and help with allowing more water for fire protection in that area. Mr. Thompson  
84 obtained a quote from 2M Services, LLC to dig a 700ft long, 4ft deep ditch and lay the 6 inch pipe for  
85 \$7500.00. The town would purchase the materials separately, about \$5000. Mr. Benson and Mr.  
86 Laude agreed that now is a good time to extend the towns water infrastructure. Mr. Fricke also  
87 agreed but mentioned he would like to see current residents that lack water pressure be attended to.  
88 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to accept the estimate from 2M for the Lake Street water line**  
89 **extension project. Mr. Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

90  
91 Clerk/Treasurer

- 92 • Mrs. Johnson gave the Treasurer's Report, stating that the total amount in all funds at the end of  
93 June was \$600,529.69.
- 94 • Council discussed allowing Gail Burton to make payments on a new sewer connection. Since there  
95 is an ordinance in place from 2007 stating assessments must be paid in full before connection is  
96 made, Council would have to grant a special exception to the ordinance.  
97 **Mr. Benson made a motion to require Gail Burton to pay her water connection fee up front,**  
98 **but to allow payment of the sewer connection be paid in monthly installments, for 24 months**  
99 **with a 4% interest, contingent on the town's attorney approval of the exception. Mr. Laude**  
100 **seconded the motion. Council then discussed potential requested exceptions to the same**  
101 **ordinance, and to handle each case. Mr. Benson withdrew his motion.**

102 With a motion no longer being on the table, there was more discussion about Ms. Burton having  
103 good financial history with the town and there being an unnecessary hardship of the project due to  
104 no fault of her own. Council decided that an exception can be made.

105 **Mr. Benson made a motion to allow an exception to Ordinance 07-04, due to extraordinary**  
106 **circumstances and unnecessary financial hardship by requiring the water connection to be**  
107 **paid upfront and splitting the sewer connection fee over 12 months with a 2% interest,**  
108 **contingent on the attorney's approval. Mr. Fricke seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**  
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110 PUBLIC COMMENT

- 111 - Resident Ivan Willmschen asked if the tree branches on the corner of Church and River Streets be  
112 removed by the town. Mr. Thompson said yes, that can be done.
- 113 - Mr. Willmschen said that if the tree roots in the sewer line on Emma Street were from his trees,  
114 Public Works can remove them or do whatever needs to be done to get it fixed. Mr. Thompson  
115 thanked him.
- 116 - Mr. Willmschen asked when the town got the Rodder truck. Mr. Thompson said probably 1996-1997.
- 117 - Mr. Willmschen asked if there is any news on the owner of the triangle Stringham property. Mr.  
118 Thompson said that there is not much that can be done since the structure is not connected to water  
119 or sewer.

120  
121 APPROVE CHECKS

122 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve checks 16138-16153, and 1 EFT for a total of \$9,598.78. Mr.**  
123 **Benson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

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125 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32pm. Mr. Benson seconded the motion.**  
126 **Motion was carried.**  
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Heidi Johnson, Clerk/Treasurer

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Carrie Roecks, Mayor