

**Rockford Town Council Meeting
August 5, 2015 7:00pm**

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.

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

Roll Call took place.

Those present were council members Clint Stevenson, Micki Harnois, Carrie Roecks, Robert Tollefson and Dave Thompson. Also present were Heather Cannon with Department of Health, Layne Merritt with JUB Engineers, and Kristy Cochrane, Clerk Treasurer. Several residents were also in attendance.

Action

Mr. Thompson made a motion to adopt the amended agenda. Because he was not on the agenda as a guest speaker, Mrs. Harnois introduced Craig Howard, reporting for the Current and whom also works for SNAP. Mr. Tollefson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 29, 2015 special meeting. Mr. Thompson seconded. Motion was carried.

Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2015 regular meeting. Mrs. Harnois seconded. Motion was carried.

Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2015 public hearing. Mr. Tollefson seconded. Motion was carried.

Heather Cannon, from Rural Community Assistance Corporation introduced the proposed Water Shortage Response Plan.

Discussion regarding the Water Shortage Plan, funding, well #3 and #4 getting repaired.

Layne Merritt, from JUB, discussed possibly hiring Ameriwest. Ameriwest would use a chemical solution that will clean out well parts. Mr. Merritt also talked about the bids for fixing well #4, the electrical panel cost and a time frame to get the well in working condition. Mr. Merritt updated the council on the time schedule for the Lagoon Liner Replacement Project.

Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the payment number four for the lagoon liner replacement. Mrs. Harnois seconded. Motion was carried.

Mrs. Harnois addressed the Missile Base road counter and was curious to see the results. Mr. Merritt cleared up some confusion about Missile Base road being ineligible for a sidewalk. He explained that Missile Base road is only ineligible if it reverts from pavement to gravel.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Mary Lou Benson stated that her neighbor's garage was broken into. A white pickup was seen about 4 a.m. driving by slowly. Resident Art Grewe had also had some theft at his house. Resident Jim Oshanick's truck had several tools stolen from it a few weeks ago and a house on Harvard Road has been burglarized twice in the last two weeks. Home owner Don Walker had a trailer stolen off of his property. Residents were advised to make police reports, and continue to do so, until action is taken.

Craig Howard from SNAP, introduced the financial assistance program and offered brochures for residents that are in need of help.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Harnois announced the car show in the park on August 8, Vacation Bible School at Rockford United Methodist Church this week, and the movie in the park on Thursday nights.

STREET REPORT

Mr. Goyke and Marshall Ellsworth have been filling pot holes around town. Mr. Goyke said patching has been done with asphalt, and has been compacted. Discussion on street repair ideas and time frames.

Mr. Goyke said the old tower needs to be surplusd out for a reasonable price.

Mr. Stevenson made a motion to surplus the old signal tower from the reservoir for what it's worth. Mr. Thompson seconded. Motion was carried.

Discussion on water usage in the parks and cutting back to preserve water.

Ms. Roecks asked that the gap between the water meter boxes at Primeland Park be filled in to prevent a tripping hazard.

Mr. Goyke informed the council that billing, water usage, reading meters are getting more efficient.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Heidi Johnson, Deputy Clerk, asked council to approve adjustments, made in May and June, on utility accounts.

Mrs. Harnois made a motion to approve corrections on the billing for the month of May 2015. Mr. Stevenson seconded motion. Motion was carried.

Mrs. Harnois made a motion to approve corrections on the billing for the month of June 2015. Mr. Thompson seconded. Motion carried.

Mrs. Johnson, asked council to approve two hard drives to back up data for Town Hall, as well as Microsoft Office 365 for \$10.00 a month.

Mr. Thompson suggested that the cost of the two hard drives, and Microsoft Office should be included in the approved cost for the new computer since the new computer was considerably cheaper than what was approved.

Mr. Thompson made a motion to buy two hard drives and Microsoft Office 365. Mr. Stevenson seconded. Motion carried.

Mrs. Johnson brought to the attention of the council the letter to be sent to residents regarding duplicate billing and issues related to billing the owner/tenant. It was suggested that council approve asking the owner to fill out a change on the account form, leaving the owner still responsible for any past due amounts, yet allowing the renter to receive and pay the bill.

Discussion regarding the change on account form, and who has the right to pay the bill.

Mrs. Johnson asked that the council approve sending the owner the bill, if the owner doesn't want the bill, ask them to sign a change on the account to change address to the renters address. The form does clearly state that the owner is still responsible if they sign the form and chose to send the bill to the renter.

Mr. Thompson made a motion to use the change of account form for six months and then re-evaluate. Mr. Stevenson seconded. Motion carried. Mr. Tollefson was opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Thompson made a motion to remove Alene Felgenhauer from the Banner Bank accounts. Mr. Stevenson seconded. Motion was carried.

Continued discussion on adopting the Town of Rockford Water Shortage Response Plan

Mrs. Harnois made a motion to adopt the water shortage plan. Mr. Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Mary Lou Benson made a statement that she had decided to stop watering her lawn since she realized from the utility bill statement how much water is required to keep it green.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Ms. Roecks reported that three accounts will be submitted to collections.
Resident Alene Willmschen asked if any fees still get added to the account after it is sent to collections.
Ms. Roecks said yes, fees are still added to the account.

Mr. Stevenson mentioned that he would like to charge a fee for having to clean around the meters before reading them.

CHECKS

Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve checks 13007 through 13017 for the total amount of \$9438.89. Mrs. Harnois seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve checks 13018 through 13036 for the total amount of \$17683.30, including the EFTs. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

Executive Session began at 10:00pm to discuss appointing a new council member to fill out the term of a vacant seat.

Executive Session ended at 10:16pm

Mr. Thompson addressed the two candidates, William Benson and Patrick Marcalus. He told them that whoever is not appointed to fill the vacant council position should continue to come to the meetings and be involved in the community because both parties are strong candidates and are needed in the town.

Mrs. Harnois moved to appoint Mr. William Benson for the open council position, through 2017. Mr. Thompson seconded. Motion was carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40pm