

1 **Rockford Town Council Public Hearing and Regular Meeting**
2 **April 5, 2023, 7pm**
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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.
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8 Mayor Carrie Roecks called the Public Hearing to order at 7pm. She stated the purpose of the meeting was
9 to take public input on the variance request submitted by Nina and Victor Rudnitsky. They are building two
10 homes at 529 and 537 S Second Street and are asking for a variance on the side setbacks from 10ft to 5ft.
11 Public Works Director Dave Thompson said because the parcels are 5000sq ft, building a home with 10 foot
12 side setbacks would be difficult. He spoke with the fire chief who said that, because of the alley in the back
13 of the property, there should be no issue with fire suppression in the back of the lots. Clint Stevenson asked
14 if the property owners would be required to develop the alley. Mr. Thompson said no, the fire department
15 can access the back of the properties without the road being developed.

16 Resident Kathleen Creed asked if variance requests like this will keep happening. Mr. Thompson said there
17 is only one other property that has a 5000 sq foot lot size, but the owner applied for a permit before the
18 setbacks were changed to 10 feet. This should not continue to be an issue.

19 There was no other public comment and Ms. Roecks closed the public hearing.
20

21 Ms. Roecks called the regular meeting to order at 7:11pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.
22

23 Roll call took place. Those present were Mayor Roecks and Councilmembers Clint Stevenson, Tim Fricke,
24 Micki Harnois, Walt Whitman and Kevin Willms. Clerk/Treasurer Heidi Johnson and Public Works' Dave
25 Thompson were also in attendance.
26

27 Ariane Schmidt with Spokane County BROADLINC

28 Ms. Schmidt explained to Council what the next steps in planning for the installation of broadband lines in
29 Rockford. The council was given the agreement with the County to review, in addition to other documents relating
30 to the project. The County and the Town, along with other small south county towns, are still in the planning
31 phase and there will be more opportunities to discuss.
32

33 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion.**
34 **Motion was carried.**
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36 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the minutes from the 03/15/2023 regular meeting. Mr.**
37 **Fricke seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**
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39 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 40 - Stan Seehorn Memorial Service 04/08
- 41 - Frog Regatta 04/22
- 42 - Spokane Valley Partners mobile food bank will be at the Methodist Church 4/27 1:45-2:45pm
- 43 - Freeman all-school reunion 06/23-06/24
44

45 COUNCIL REPORTS

46 Ms. Harnois said that Team Rubicon will be in touch with Town Hall to get the right-of-entry forms.
47

48 Ms. Harnois suggested sending Deputy Clerk Jennie Hagen to Olympia if/when SHB 1577 (amending RCW
49 42.23.030) that she has been working on gets signed into law. Council requested that Mrs. Johnson get
50 an estimated cost for this.
51

52 COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

53 Planning Commission - Next meeting 05/02/2023 at 7pm.

54 Ballfield Committee
55 The backstop posts have been installed and the fence should be installed next week.
56 **Mr. Whitman made a motion to approve ball field related purchases of no more than \$25,000 plus tax**
57 **to refurbish the ball field. Mr. Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**
58

59 Asset Committee
60 Mr. Thompson said he and Ms. Hagen are almost finished with inventory of the water system. Ms. Hagen
61 has entered the items into a spreadsheet and marked the items that need replacing.
62

63 PUBLIC COMMENT

- 64 - SE Spokane County Fair President Connie Reinhardt told Council that she has gotten a confirmation
65 that a new carnival will be at the fair. She also said that they would like to reintroduce truck pulls on
66 Friday night and lawnmower races on Sunday. It was suggested that the fair board coordinate with Mr.
67 Stevenson for use of the horse arena.
- 68 - Resident Ivan Willmschen said that the announcements on the agenda show that the all-school reunion
69 would be 06/22, which is a Thursday. Mrs. Johnson confirmed that the dates are 06/23 and 06/24
70

71 ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS – None
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73 OLD BUSINESS

74 Ms. Roecks asked Mrs. Johnson to get some information together for the Council regarding what a Code
75 Enforcement Officer would be required to do.
76

77 NEW BUSINESS

78 Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Johnson suggested looking into placing a utility tax on the water and sewer
79 charges. Mrs. Roecks said that the finance committee could investigate that and also possibly increasing the
80 sales tax rate in Rockford.
81

82 STAFF REPORTS

83 Public Works

- 84 - The fire station roof will need to be replaced but, if a new furnace needs to be installed, the roof will
85 have to wait until that project has been completed. A bid from Banner Furnace and Fuel to replace the
86 furnace at the fire station was reviewed. Ms. Roecks asked that a second bid be submitted before a
87 decision was made.
- 88 - The survey on Third Street has been completed and Mr. Thompson will be able to start creating a cul-
89 de-sac once the residents there move their sheds off the street.
- 90 - Public Works is almost done discharging the lagoons for the year.
- 91 - There is a leak in the water line in the park near the bathrooms. This will need to be addressed before
92 the bathrooms can be opened for the summer.
- 93 - Ms. Roecks asked where the gravel on A Street came from. Mr. Thompson said the contractors from
94 Second Street supplied the gravel but there would need to be more added.
95

96 Clerk/Treasurer

- 97 - Mrs. Johnson gave the Treasurer's Report, stating that the total amount in all funds at the end of March
98 was \$731,742.61.
99 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to accept the March Utility Bill Adjustment Report. Mr. Fricke**
100 **seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**
- 101 - The Past Due report was reviewed.
- 102 - Abbey Pro Construction has ordered the windows for Town Hall and will soon schedule installation.
- 103 - Ms. Roecks said she will not be able to attend the 04/19/2023 Council Meeting.
104
105
106

107 PUBLIC COMMENT

- 108 - Resident Bill Creed said asked Mr. Thompson for a summation of the survey on Third Street. Mr.
- 109 Thompson said that the pins have been set and marked. It goes to the fence line to the south and three
- 110 out of the four survey stakes were already there.
- 111 - Resident Kathy Creed asked if the council would start using the sound system again.
- 112

113 APPROVE CHECKS

114 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve checks 17951-17975 and three EFTs for a total of**

115 **\$\$41,326.70. Ms. Harnois seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

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117 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Willms seconded the motion. Motion was**

118 **carried.**

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120 The meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm.

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Heidi Johnson, Clerk/Treasurer

Carrie Roecks, Mayor