

1 **Rockford Town Regular Council Meeting**  
2 **June 17, 2020 7:00pm Teleconference**

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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 regular meeting to order at 7:00pm. Because of the COVID19, and the  
9 social distancing guidelines, the meeting was conducted via telephone conference.

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11 Roll call took place. Those present were Councilmembers Clint Stevenson, Micki Harnois, Tim Fricke,  
12 William Benson and Brian Laude. Clerk/Treasurer Heidi Johnson and Public Works Director Dave  
13 Thompson were also in attendance.

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15 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Benson seconded the motion.**  
16 **Motion was carried.**

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18 **Mr. Fricke made a motion to approve the minutes from the 06/03/2020 regular meeting. Ms. Harnois**  
19 **seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**

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21 Cynthia Wall, Department of Ecology

22 Ms. Wall stated that some of the regular testing has recently resulted in invalid flow numbers at the lagoons.  
23 Mr. Thompson and the town's engineer, Layne Merritt, opened the inflow vault and noted fats, oils and/or  
24 grease plugging up the parshall flume. Ms. Wall said that she has received a call from Riverkeepers who  
25 have expressed concern over the flow numbers. She asked Riverkeepers if she could have some time to  
26 address the issue with Council.

27 There was discussion about what was causing the buildup of grease. Ms. Wall said that food grease is the  
28 number one culprit of issues like this. There is currently a resolution that was adopted in 2012 requiring  
29 management of fats, oil and grease. Mr. Thompson suggested that Council adopt an ordinance with similar  
30 verbiage. Council agreed to passing an ordinance and having one-on-one discussions with the local  
31 restaurants as soon as possible.

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33 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 34 - There will be a public hearing regarding the Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan before the  
35 next regular meeting. 07/01/2020 at 7pm.
- 36 - The Southeast Spokane County Fair has been canceled for 2020, due to the COVID19 situation.

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38 **COUNCIL REPORTS - None**

39 **COMMISSION REPORTS - None**

40 **COMMITTEE REPORTS - None**

41 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- 42 - Fire Chief Gary Hill expressed concern about the new stop sign that was installed at the intersection  
43 of First and Emma Streets. He said there have been several phone calls and text message from  
44 residents that he has received. His worries include traffic backing up in the downtown area,  
45 potentially causing a delay in emergency response times. He mentioned that the previous three-way  
46 stop had only one accident that was a single-vehicle vs power pole. Mr. Hill said he was afraid that  
47 people will not stop, out of habit, and now cause accidents. He was concerned that there was not  
48 advance signage in place and semi-trucks not being able to turn the corner with other traffic in the  
49 way. Lastly, he spoke about how bad the timing of the installation of the new stop sign was due to  
50 people already being unhappy with the COVID19 situation.

51 Mayor Roecks explained that Council discussed at length that "something" needed to be done with  
52 the three-way stop that was becoming increasingly dangerous. The State decided that the stop sign

53 was what could be done to remedy the situation. There was discussion of the lack of planning or  
54 warning from the State prior to installation. Deputy Clerk Jennie Hagen mentioned that the impact of  
55 the new sign will be hard to figure out for a while, due to Highway 27's road construction and traffic  
56 coming into town in clusters.  
57

58 ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

59 **Mr. Benson made a motion to approve Resolution 20-04, placing an Excess Fire Levy on the**  
60 **November ballot. Mr. Fricke seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**  
61

62 OLD BUSINESS - None

63 NEW BUSINESS

- 64 - **Mr. Fricke made a motion to accept the agreement between the Town and the Department of**  
65 **Commerce for the CARES Act grant funds. Mr. Laude seconded the motion. Motion was**  
66 **carried.**
- 67 - Ms. Roecks said that the County Commissioners have sent a letter to Dr. Bob Lutz, with the  
68 Spokane Regional Health District, asking to be moved to Phase 3.  
69

70 STAFF REPORTS

71 Public Works

- 72 - Dave Thompson updated Council with the projects that Public Works has been doing around town,  
73 including manholes being raised on Emma Street, Lake Street water lines being addressed and two  
74 TIB funded project. There are several road and infrastructure updates coming up.  
75

76 Clerk/Treasurer

- 77 - **Mr. Benson made a motion to approve the May Utility Bill Adjustment report. Mr. Stevenson**  
78 **seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**  
79

80 PUBLIC COMMENT

- 81 - Mr. Benson asked when the dog park will be available, regarding getting a fence installed in the  
82 animal barn area at the park. Mr. Stevenson said that it will be awhile as the new grass needs a  
83 chance to grow.  
84

85 APPROVE CHECKS

86 **Mr. Stevenson made a motion to approve checks 16593-16604, with check number 16603 being**  
87 **voided, for a total of \$8,574.61. Mr. Benson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.**  
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89 **Mr. Benson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:58pm. Mr. Laude seconded the motion.**  
90 **Motion was carried.**  
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Heidi Johnson, Clerk/Treasurer

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Carrie Roecks, Mayor