

**CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF ROCKFORD
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
JANUARY 20, 2009
COUNCIL CONVENED AT 6:09 P.M.**

1. The Clerk called the meeting to order in the absence of the Mayor, and recognized Alderman Wasco who moved that Alderman Mark serve as Mayor Pro Tem for the meeting. Said motion was seconded by Alderman Holt. MOTION PREVAILED (Ald. Bell, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, McNeely absent).
2. The invocation was given by Father Ron Montayne, St. Sebastian Orthodox Catholic Church/Police Chaplain and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Page Carla Centeno.
3. Roll Call:

Alderman Mark, Mayor Pro Tem

Aldermen: Sosnowski, Curran, (Mark), Wasco, Johnson, Timm, Beach, Holt, Beck, Conness -10-
Absent: Bell, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, McNeely -4-
4. Alderman Beach moved to accept the Journal of Proceedings of January 12, 2009, seconded by Alderman Wasco. MOTION PREVAILED (Ald. Bell, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, McNeely absent).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

5. Frank Schier made a request to be allowed to use poster size educational material during public participation. Alderman Beck made a motion to suspend council rules on signage during Council meetings, seconded by Alderman Beach. MOTION PREVAILED (Ald. Bell, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, McNeely absent). Frank Schier presented to Council Members a strategic plan for habitat conservation and restoration.
6. Robert King spoke to Council regarding their role in making change possible during these difficult economic times.
7. John Chadwick, WREX Television, reported findings of a study of the economic impact on local companies and offered a course of action he is taking during this economic downturn.
8. Rev. Ken Copeland spoke about the positive results of the alternative drug program and encouraged the Aldermen to look to the future when making difficult budget decisions.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

9. Alderman Beck submitted letter from Kurt Duesterhoeft concerning sidewalk and parking lot snow removal in downtown Rockford. Referred to the Public Works Department.

10. Alderman Johnson submitted a letter from R.C. Cordonnier commending the Public Works Department and contractors for the thorough and exemplary job removing snow from the residential streets. Copy to the Public Works Department.
11. Alderman Johnson submitted a request from Glen Greenberg, Professional Accounting and Tax Service, requesting balloon advertising that will be secured on the roof for three weeks from January 26, 2009 – February 19, 2009 at 2955 11th Street. Alderman Johnson moved to grant the Prayer of the Petitioner, seconded by Alderman Timm. MOTION PREVAILED (Ald. Bell, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, McNeely absent).
12. Alderman Wasco submitted a Memorandum from Jessica Roberts, Planner II, regarding the Final Plat of Riverwood Subdivision. Referred to Code and Regulation Committee.
13. Alderman Wasco submitted the Rockford Traffic Commission Minutes from the meeting held on January 14, 2009. Referred to Code and Regulation Committee.
14. Alderman Curran submitted a Memorandum from Andres Sammul, Finance Director regarding 2008 Tax Abatements. Referred to Finance and Personnel Committee.
15. Alderman Curran submitted a Memorandum from Andres Sammul, Finance Director regarding Parking Improvement Project. Referred to Finance and Personnel Committee.
16. Alderman Conness submitted a Memorandum from Richard M. May, Commercial Development Coordinator, regarding a Grant Agreement approving TIF funding for the "Fee for Services" Contract with River District Association for a total of \$40,000. Referred to Planning and Development Committee.
17. Alderman Timm submitted an e-mail from Cynthia Sachs requesting replacement of "no parking" signs near the intersection of Glenwood and Rockton. Referred to the Public Works Department.

NEW COMMITTEE REPORTS

19. Alderman Curran read a Finance and Personnel Committee Report approving the request of reauthorization of water revenue bonds, and directs the Finance Director to seek by statutory procedures the authority to issue Water Revenue Bonds and Alternate Revenue Bonds in the amount of \$25 million. The Legal Director shall prepare the appropriate ordinances. LAID OVER.
20. Alderman Curran read a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending approval of the total vouchers for the week of January 19, 2009 in the amount of \$3,336,663.29. MOTION PREVAILED by a Roll Call vote of:

Ayes: Sosnowski, Curran, Mark, Wasco, Johnson, Timm, Beach, Holt, Beck, Conness -10-

Nays: -0-

Absent: Bell, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, McNeely -4-

OFFICERS REPORTS

21. Alderman Mark invited all City Council Members and Department Heads to the Stanley Street Pumping Station Dedication Ceremony on Monday, January 26, 2009 at 1:30 pm. at 1141 Cedar Street, just west of the Water Division's main office. Tours of the facility and demonstrations will be conducted.
22. Alderman Mark called attention to a Memorandum from Andres Sammul, Director of Finance, regarding the 2009 Budget Reduction Proposal – Update 1/15/09 for review.
23. Alderman Mark submitted an Appointment to the CCA Human Services Board, Ms. Crystal Walker, which will expire January 2012. LAID OVER.
24. Alderman Mark reported the Wall Street Journal has begun a series entitled "Main Street Journal" featuring Rockford as a typical Midwestern city facing the challenges of current economic downtrends while hopeful of a prosperous future promised by the Obama Administration; www.wsj.com/mainstreet
25. Alderman Curran again voiced his concern regarding parking tickets issued during the recent Snow Emergency Operation and submitted print-outs of "home pages", at the time of the Snow Emergency, of local television stations, the Rockford Register Star and the City of Rockford which reflect no posted announcement of the Snow Emergency. He suggested a review of the procedures used to inform the community and a review of the tickets issued during this time. Referred to the Legal Department.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2009-005-O

26. Alderman Wasco moved the adoption of an Ordinance for the Vacation of property commonly known as Lewis Street and a portion of South 3rd Street to Joseph Behr and Sons. MOTION PREVAILED by a Roll Call vote of:

Ayes: Sosnowski, Curran, Mark, Wasco, Johnson, Timm, Beach, Holt, Beck, Conness -10-

Nays: -0-

Absent: Bell, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, McNeely -4-

2009-023CR

27. Alderman Conness moved the adoption of a Planning and Development Committee Report recommending approval of the attached proposed Intergovernmental Boundary Agreement between the City of Rockford and the Village of Rockton. The Legal Director shall prepare the appropriate ordinance. MOTION PREVAILED by a Roll Call vote of:

Ayes: Sosnowski, Curran, Mark, Wasco, Johnson, Timm, Beach, Holt, Beck, Conness -10-

Nays: -0-

Absent: Bell, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, McNeely -4-

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

2009-007R

28. Alderman Curran, on behalf of the Finance and Personnel Committee, moved the adoption of a Resolution authorizing the Central Services Manager to take bids for the following:

Bid: Household Hazardous Waste Collection, funding source: Sanitation Fund

Bid: Backflow Inspection, funding source: Property Fund

MOTION PREVAILED by a Roll Call vote of:

Ayes: Sosnowski, Curran, Mark, Wasco, Johnson, Timm, Beach, Holt, Beck, Conness -10-

Nays: -0-

Absent: Bell, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, McNeely -4-

2009-008R

29. Alderman Beach, on behalf of the Legislative and Lobbying Committee, moved for the adoption of a Resolution regarding the support of the Charter School Initiative, and specifically the Chicago International Charter School – Rockford proposal that will be voted on by the Rockford Public School District 205 Board. MOTION PREVAILED (Ald. Bell, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, McNeely absent).

NEW BUSINESS

30. Alderman Wasco introduced and read an Ordinance amending Article 64 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Rockford for a Variation to increase the maximum allowable height from eighteen (18) feet to twenty-nine (29) feet for a tree house in an R-1, Single-family Residential District at 1589 Shiloh Road. Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Meeting any applicable building codes and obtaining the appropriate permits.
2. That the necessary structure (tree house) shall not be intended for habitation or business use.
3. There shall be no storage of materials beneath the tree house itself.
4. The structure shall contain operating smoke and carbon dioxide detectors and a minimum of a five (5) pound rated fire extinguisher.

LAID OVER.

31. Alderman Wasco introduced and read an Ordinance amending Article 63 of the Zoning Ordinances of the City of Rockford for a Special Use Permit for an auto detailing shop in an R-2, Two-family Residential District at 1515 Broadway. Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Meeting all Building and Fire Codes.
2. There shall be no oversight outdoor storage of vehicles on the property.

3. No outside storage of any kind
4. Submittal of landscape plan to include the type of species to be planted for Staff's review and approval.
5. All conditions must be met prior to establishment of use.

LAID OVER.

32. Alderman Wasco introduced and read an Ordinance amending Article 64 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Rockford for a Variation to reduce the side yard setback from the required six (6) feet to three (3) feet for a two-car garage addition in an R-1, Single-family Residential District at 1234 National Avenue. Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Construction of the proposed addition must be compatible with the existing architectural style of the home.

LAID OVER.

33. Alderman Wasco introduced and read an Ordinance amending Chapter 3, Section 3-4, "Curb service or outdoor sales prohibited" of the Liquor Ordinances of the City of Rockford.

LAID OVER.

34. Alderman Holt made a motion to go into closed session to discuss the Police Survey issue, seconded by Alderman Beach. MOTION PREVAILED by a Roll Call vote of:

Ayes: Sosnowski, Curran, Mark, Wasco, Johnson, Timm, Beach, Holt, Beck, Conness -10-
Nays: -0-
Absent: Bell, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, McNeely -4-

The meeting went into closed session at 6:42 pm.

The meeting returned to open session at 6:55 pm and found the following aldermen present:

Aldermen Sosnowski, Mark, Curran, Mark, Wasco, Johnson, Timm, Beach, Holt, Beck, Conness -10-

35. Phil Schraegel of Walker Parking Consultants made a presentation to Council with the results of their study and suggested recommendations to resolve the parking issues.

36. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Reed
City Council Clerk

[The meeting was taped in its entirety, and the tape is on file in the Legal Department]

CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS
City Council Chambers, 2ND floor City Hall
425 E. State Street, Rockford
January 26, 2009
6:00 P.M.
AGENDA

The following represents, in general, the chronological order of proceedings at the City Council meeting:

- Call to Order by the Mayor
- Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call and determination of quorum
- Acceptance of Journal of Proceedings
- Public Hearing
- Public Participation
- Petitions and Communications
- New Committee Reports (Reports of Standing Committees – Code and Regulation, Finance and Personnel, Planning and Development - and other select committees)
- Officers Reports
- Unfinished Business of previous meeting

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

I. COMMITTEE REPORTS LAID OVER JANUARY 20, 2009

1. Curran - Finance and Personnel - Approving the request of reauthorization of water revenue bonds, and directs the Finance Director to seek by statutory procedures the authority to issue Water Revenue Bonds and Alternate Revenue Bonds in the amount of \$25 million. The Legal Director shall prepare the appropriate ordinances.

II. ORDINANCES LAID OVER JANUARY 20, 2009

1. Wasco - Ordinance - Amending Article 64 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Rockford for a Variation to increase the maximum allowable height from eighteen (18) feet to twenty-nine (29) feet for a tree house in an R-1, Single-family Residential District at 1589 Shiloh Road. Approval is subject to the following conditions:
 1. Meeting any applicable building codes and obtaining the appropriate permits.
 2. That the necessary structure (tree house) shall not be intended for habitation or business use.
 3. There shall be no storage of materials beneath the tree house itself.
 4. The structure shall contain operating smoke and carbon dioxide detectors and a minimum of a five (5) pound rated fire extinguisher.

2. Wasco - Ordinance - Amending Article 63 of the Zoning Ordinances of the City of Rockford for a Special Use Permit for an auto detailing shop in an R-2, Two-family Residential District at 1515 Broadway. Approval is subject to the following conditions:
 1. Meeting all Building and Fire Codes.
 2. There shall be no oversight outdoor storage of vehicles on the property.
 3. No outside storage of any kind
 4. Submittal of landscape plan to include the type of species to be planted for Staff's review and approval.
 5. All conditions must be met prior to establishment of use.

3. Wasco - Ordinance – Amending Article 64 of the Zoning Ordinance of the Cit of Rockford for a Variation to reduce the side yard setback from the required six (6) feet to three (3) feet for a two-car garage addition in an R-1, Single-family Residential District at 1234 National Avenue. Approval is subject to the following conditions:
 1. Construction of the proposed addition must be compatible with the existing architectural style of the home.

4. Wasco - Ordinance - Amending Chapter 3, Section 3-4, "Curb service or outdoor sales prohibited" of the Liquor Ordinances of the City of Rockford.

III. MISCELLANEOUS LAID OVER JANUARY 20, 2009

1. Mayor Morrissey - Appointment - CCA Human Services Board - Ms. Crystal Walker, which will expire January 2012. (Pursuant to Rule 18 this appointment is up for passage on February 23, 2009).

- Motions and Resolutions

IV. NEW BUSINESS (note: Ordinances may be read in under New Business and Rule 11 suspended and final vote taken. Committee Reports would have previously been voted on).

1. Conness – Ordinance - Recommending approval of the attached proposed Intergovernmental Boundary Agreement between the City of Rockford and the Village of Rockton.

* same action taken before

- Adjournment

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POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

The following items appear on the City Council Standing Committee Agendas as noted. Items may receive a vote at committee and come before the first City Council meeting held after the

committee meeting. Rule 11 can be suspended and final vote taken on said items at the City Council meeting (no rule suspension is necessary to take a vote on vouchers).

CODE AND REGULATION COMMITTEE

Monday, January 26, 2009, 5:00 p.m.

Conference Room A, City Hall 2nd floor (north room)

AGENDA

1. C & R 09-03 January Traffic Commission Minutes
2. C & R 09-02 Final Plat of Riverwood Subdivision
3. C & R 08-243 ZBA#054-08 Special Use Permit for an auto salvage or junk yard in an I-2, General Industrial Zoning District at 371 Blackhawk Park Avenue
4. C & R 09-04 Closed Session for Purposes of Pending Litigation

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Monday, January 26, 2009, 5:15 p.m.

Conference Room B, City Hall 2nd floor (south room)

AGENDA

1. 2008 Tax Abatements
2. Parking Improvement Project
3. Purchasing and Vouchers
 - A. Award of Bid: Bag Salt-Ice & Snow Melting Product – Suspend rules
 - B. Award of Bid: Symantec Anti-Virus Renewal
 - C. Change Order: Arterial Resurfacing 2008 – Suspend rules
 - D. Engineering Agreement: Water System Rehabilitation Task Order #9 – Suspend rules
 - E. Engineering Agreement: City-Wide Alley Reconstruction 2009 Phase II – Suspend rules
 - F. Engineering Agreement: Chelsea/Highcrest Intersection Improvement – Suspend rules
 - G. Engineering Agreement: City-Wide Residential Reconstruction 2009: Sewell & Potter – Suspend rules
 - H. Engineering Agreement: Park Avenue Reconstruction – Suspend rules
 - I. Engineering Agreement: City-Wide Residential Reconstruction 2009 Alton & Barnum – Suspend rules

- J. Engineering Agreement: Kishwaukee Reconstruction – Suspend rules
- K. Resolution to take Bids
- L. Vouchers
- 4. Intergovernmental Agreement for Lease of Fairgrounds Park Day Care Center
- 5. 4th Quarter Investment Report

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**Monday, January 26, 2009, 5:15 p.m.
CD Conference Room, City Hall 2nd floor
AGENDA**

- 1. Memorandum from Richard M. May, Commercial Development Coordinator, regarding a Redevelopment Agreement approving TIF Funding for the construction of the Rockford Renaissance Development LLC, a mixed-use development, at West State Street and Springfield Avenue.

LEGISLATIVE LOBBYING COMMITTEE

**Conference Room A, City Hall 2nd floor (north room)
AGENDA**

No Meeting Scheduled.