

**ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 10, 2017**

The Rochelle City Council met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 10, 2017 in the Council Chambers of City Hall; 420 N. 6th Street; Rochelle, IL 61068.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG & PRAYER: The Prayer was said by Clerk McKinney.

ROLL CALL: Present on Roll Call were Councilmembers Burke, Eckhart, Hayes, Hollonbeck, D. McDermott, T. McDermott, and Mayor Olson... Absent: None. A quorum of seven was present. Also present were Acting City Manager Messer, City Attorney Wagner, and City Clerk McKinney.

PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC:

- American Public Power Association Certificate of Excellence in Reliability
- Week of the Young Child – April 24-28, 2017
- National Telecommunicators Week - April 9-15, 2017

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor: Congratulated Sue Messer on her appointment.

Council: None.

New Employee Introduction: Chad Judd.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY. New Council will be sworn in May 1.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE with Recommendations:

- a) Approve Minutes of City Council Meeting – March 27, 2017
- b) Approve Bills – 031717-032317, 032417-033017
- c) Approve Payroll – 031317-032617
- d) Accept and Place on File Annual Fire Department Report
- e) Approve the request from Rochelle United Methodist Church to close one block of Eighth Street-May 23, 2017.

Motion made by Councilor Hollenbeck and seconded by Councilor Burke, **"I move Consent Agenda Items (a) through (d) be approved by Omnibus Vote as recommended."** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Burke, Eckhart, Hayes, Hollonbeck, D. McDermott, T. McDermott and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

- 2) **Ordinance Amending Chapter 6 of the Municipal Code – Alcoholic Beverages.** Most of the verbiage in Chapter 6, Alcoholic Beverages, of the Rochelle Municipal Code has been in place for over 20 years. As a result some of the terms, including those that are used to describe the licenses, have become outdated or the meaning is difficult to understand. Recently a group of city staff worked with Attorney Wagner to draft changes to Chapter 6 that bring it more in line with area ordinances and make it easier to understand. The proposed changes to Chapter 6, including an increase of \$100 to all of the licenses except the temporary (Class T) classification, were discussed at the March 13th council meeting. Since that meeting, staff has not received any suggested modifications from council. Moved by Councilor D. McDermott and seconded by Councilor Burke: **"I move ordinance 17-4666, an ordinance amending and updating Chapter 6 (Alcoholic Beverages) of the Municipal Code of the City of Rochelle to modify the License Classification System, Licensee Fees and other Provisions, be approved."** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Burke, Eckhart, Hayes, Hollonbeck, D. McDermott, T. McDermott and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

- 3) **Agreement between the City of Rochelle and GREDCO – Rail Revenue Sharing.** Over the past 38 years the City of Rochelle and the Greater Rochelle Economic Development Corporation (GREDCO) have collaborated on dozens of industrial economic development projects. One development that has become a major industrial driver is the City of Rochelle Railroad (CIR), which was started by GREDCO in 1986. Per Jason Anderson, the CIR has directly been responsible for the creation of 15 industries, an increase of more than \$50M in EAV of industrial land development, more than 1,500 jobs and over \$5M of revenue. In order to guarantee the City would have the potential to expand the CIR, GREDCO has been purchasing rail right of way over the past 20 years resulting in more than 8 miles of lead track being built. Due to these rail expansions, CIR rail revenue now exceeds \$1.5M/year. Additionally GREDCO has purchased options for industrial properties that the CIR now serves and where over a dozen industries have been built. In the past GREDCO derived its financial reserves through grants, loans and land sales. However, these resources are no longer available and therefore GREDCO's reserves have diminished to the point that ongoing support of the City's economic development efforts are in jeopardy. There is a need to identify financial resources so GREDCO can continue to provide economic development support to the City of Rochelle. Economic Development Director Jason Anderson recommends that the City Council approve an agreement allocating a share of CIR revenue to GREDCO for the purpose of continuing to expand the industrial base and the CIR. The agreement includes a 5% share of the gross CIR revenues payable quarterly to GREDCO with a minimum share of \$50,000 per year. The term of the agreement is 10 years with an automatic renewal for an additional 10 years. Jason Anderson and Richard Ohlinger were present to answer questions. Council deferred action until next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:58 p.m., Councilor Eckhart moved and seconded by Councilor Hollonbeck, **"I Move the Council recess into Executive Session to discuss: Purchase or lease of real property for City's use. Section (c) (5); Pending or intimate litigation. Section (c) (11); and the (appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, walnuts and or dismissal) of specific employees. Section (c) (1).** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Burke, Eckhart, Hayes, Hollonbeck, D. McDermott, T. McDermott and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

At 8:37 p.m., Moved by Councilor D. McDermott and seconded by Councilor Eckhart, **"I move the Council return to open session."** Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:37 PM, moved by Counselor Eckhart and seconded by Counselor Burke. **I move the Council adjourn."** Motion passed by voice vote without dissent. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

Chet Olson, Mayor

Bruce W. McKinney, CMC
City Clerk, City of Rochelle