

**ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2007**

The Rochelle City Council met in a Special Session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 5, 2007 in the Council Chambers of City Hall; 420 N. 6th Street; Rochelle, IL 61068.

Present on Roll Call were Councilmembers Hayes, Berg, Colwill, Eckhardt, and Hollonbeck Absent: Councilman Hayden and Mayor Olson. Also present were City Manager Alberts, City Attorney Cooper, and City Clerk McKinney.

A motion was made by Councilman Berg and seconded by Councilman Eckhardt, **“I move the Council appoint Councilman Colwill as Mayor Pro-tem for the November 5, 2007 meeting.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayes, Hollonbeck, Berg, and Eckhardt, Nays: None. Present: Councilman Colwill. Motion passed 4-0.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. **Resolution Authorizing Referendum Question on Adoption of Home Rule:** The League of Women Voters and City of Rochelle (LWVRA) formed a research committee in the fall of 2006 to explore the merits of Home Rule for our community. This committee has met several times to discuss Home Rule Authority, its implications, advantages and disadvantages, and its use in other communities. On September 27, 2007 a Public Meeting was held where the committee shared the information they had collected and concluded that “Home Rule status could benefit the citizens of Rochelle.” At their October 25, 2007 meeting The League of Women Voters voted 17 yes and 10 present to support a vote on Home Rule at the General Primary Election scheduled for February 5, 2008. City Manager Alberts commended the LWVRA for their hard work and commitment for this year-long study. At this time he introduced Diane McNeilly, President of LWV and Vicki Snyder-Chura who were present to further explain and answer questions on “Home Rule.” There was also written information given the council as well as an over-head for the public, on the findings of the LWVRA. Items covered were an explanation of Home Rule; how a community gets Home Rule; the history of Home Rule; regulatory, tax, and economic development implications of Home Rule. Also, disadvantages; safeguards against the abuse of; other nearby communities who have it; and how Rochelle might use Home Rule authority. Moved by Councilman Berg and seconded by Councilwoman Hollonbeck, **“I move Resolution R07-34, A Resolution Authorizing Referendum Question on Adoption of Home Rule, be adopted.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayes, Hollonbeck, Berg, Colwill, and Eckhardt. Nays: None. Motion passed 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:09 pm Councilman Berg moved and seconded by Councilman Eckhardt, **“I move the Council adjourn.”** Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

/s/ Wendell Colwill

Wendell Colwill
Mayor Pro-tem, City of Rochelle

/s/ Bruce W. McKinney

Bruce McKinney, CMC
City Clerk, City of Rochelle