

**ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2009**

The Rochelle City Council met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 2009 in the Council Chambers of City Hall; 420 N. 6th Street; Rochelle, IL 61068.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brownie Troop #475.

ROLL CALL: Present on Roll Call were Councilmembers Berg, Hayden, Colwill, Hayes, Eckhardt, and Hollonbeck. Absent: Mayor Olson. Also present were Ken Alberts, City Manager and Bruce McKinney, City Clerk.

Moved by Councilwoman Hollonbeck and seconded by Councilman Berg, **“I move the Council appoint Councilman Eckhardt as Mayor Pro-Tem for tonight’s meeting.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayden, Berg, Hollonbeck, Colwill, and Hayes. Nays: None. Abstain: Councilman Eckhardt. Motion passed 5-0.

PROCLAMATIONS:

- **Girl Scout Week:** March 8th-March 14th; proclamation read by City Clerk; accepted by Troop #475 along with Troop Leader Sarah Kilmer.
- **National FFA Week:** February 21st-February 28th; proclamation read by City Clerk; accepted by three FFA members from RTHS.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

- **Mayor:** N/A
- **Council Members:**
 - Councilman Hayes publicly thanked Chief McDermott for his many years of dedicated service. Chief McDermott announced his retirement of March 8, 2009.
 - **Introduction of New Employee:** Brian VanVickle was introduced by Chief Rob Buck. Brian is a lifelong resident of Rochelle; married with two children; recently graduated from the Police Training Institute and has experience while employed by the Rockton Police Department. Therefore, he is a perfect fit for the department.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

- 1) **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE** with Recommendations:

- a) Approve Minutes of City Council Meeting – February 9, 2009;
- b) Approve Bills/Payrolls for the first half of February, 2009.

Moved by Councilman Hayes and seconded by Councilwoman Hollonbeck, **“I move Consent Agenda Items a and b be approved by Omnibus Vote as Recommended.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayes, Berg, Hayden, Hollonbeck, Colwill, and Eckhardt. Nays: None. Motion passed 6-0.

- 2) **Memorandum of Understanding between the Cities of Rochelle, Batavia, and Geneva (Participating Members) and the Northern Illinois Municipal Power Agency (NIMPA):**

On October 23, 2006 the Mayor and City Council authorized the execution of a Power Sales Agreement with the Northern Illinois Municipal Power Agency (NIMPA) to purchase an Entitlement Share of the Prairie State Project, a 1620 megawatt coal fired generation facility located in southern Illinois. The proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is intended to accomplish two things. First, it sets a specific date for the commencement of NIMPA's obligations to its members to provide power, which was not included in the original agreements because it could not be forecast at that time. Second, the original agreements gave broad powers to NIMPA to manage transactions related to the Prairie State Project on behalf of each of the NIMPA members. Since then, some of the specifics of those management powers have been more clearly defined. The purpose of the MOU is to list those

specific elements of the management powers which are now known. Alan Cooper, City Attorney, gave a summary of “Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Prairie State Project Transactions and Effective Date” as seen in Council packet. Moved by Councilman Berg and seconded by Councilman Colwill, **“I move Agreement 09-3787, Authorizing the City Manager to Sign the Memorandum of Understanding with NIMPA, be approved.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayes, Berg, Hayden, Hollonbeck, Colwill, and Eckhardt. Nays: None. Motion passed 6-0.

3) **City Manager’s Report:**

- **Rochelle Area Chamber of Commerce Business Expo 2009:** RMU used this year’s Chamber Expo to focus on water conservation measures for the community. Using posters and displays, the Water Division took the opportunity to inform citizens about the water system in Rochelle, and explain to them the amount of water wasted when they have dripping plumbing. Not only were they wasting a valuable resource, they were wasting money. A water taste test was conducted, comparing Rochelle water with bottled water, and Rochelle water was favored by 53% of the respondents, while 8% had no preference.
- **State of the Community Dinner:** The annual “State of the Community Dinner” will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Rochelle Country Club. The program, sponsored by the League of Women Voters and Rochelle Area Chamber of Commerce, is entitled “Education-The foundation of a Community”. Speakers for the program include: Todd Prusator, Rochelle Elementary Schools, Jamie Craven, Rochelle Township High School, and Tom Choice, Kishwaukee College.
- **Budget 2009-2010** The proposed budget will be available to City Council on approximately March 13, 2009. A meeting was set for March 30 at 5 p.m. to review the budget.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **Item 1: Third Quarter Budget Presentation:** The third quarter of the current fiscal year budget ended on January 31, 2009. Handouts were given to the Council by Finance Manager, Chris Frye; afterwards she presented a review of the revenues and expenditures for the City of Rochelle and discussed the actual financial status as compared to the budget.
- **Item 2: Jobs for Illinois Infrastructure Projects:** City staff members have compiled a group of capital projects in anticipation of the availability of funds through the federal stimulus plan. These capital projects include the upgrade and extension of road and bridge infrastructure as well as water and sanitary sewer infrastructure. Economic Development Director, Jason Anderson provided additional information on these proposed projects and the development opportunities that these projects would provide for our community.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:13 p.m., moved by Councilman Berg and seconded by Councilman Colwill, **“I move the Council adjourn.”** Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

Dave Eckhardt
Mayor Pro-tem

Bruce McKinney, CMC
City Clerk, City of Rochelle