

**ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
October 22, 2018**

The Rochelle City Council met in Regular Session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, October 22, 2018 in the Council Chambers of City Hall; 420 N. 6th Street; Rochelle, IL 61068.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG & PRAYER: The prayer was led by Pastor Greg Dunkin.

ROLL CALL: Present on Roll Call was Councilmembers Bearrows, Burke, Hayes, D. McDermott, T. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey and Mayor Olson. Absent: None. A quorum of seven were present. Also present were City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh, City Clerk Sue Messer and Deputy Clerk Rose Huéramo.

PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC: None

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

- Mayor- Thanked the Food Truck Festival vendors/committee and all who were able to come and support the event.
- Council Members

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: Stephanie Casillas, Luis Castro and Pastor Rob Hamilton gave thanks to Council and City Manager for taking the time hear and help in their work environment with the Americold Expansion Project.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

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

- a) Approve Minutes of City Council Meetings – 10/09/18
- b) Approve Exceptions – 10/3/2018-10/15/2018
- c) Approve Bills – 10/16/2018
- d) Approve Payroll – 09/24/18-10/07/18
- e) Approve Request from Hispanic Heritage Festival Committee – September 4, 2019
- f) Accept and Place on File Financial Statement – September 2018

Motion made by Councilor Hayes and seconded by Councilor Bearrows, **“I move consent agenda items (a) through (f) be approved by Omnibus Vote as recommended.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Bearrows, Burke, Hayes, D. McDermott, T. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

- 2) **Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Not to Exceed \$4,500,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source).** At the Budget Workshop on August 20th, preliminary discussion was held about the issuance of bonds for infrastructure improvements including but not limited to 2nd Ave street urbanization and drainage improvements, downtown storm sewer and drainage improvements including street and sidewalk reconstruction as needed, and other general street improvements. The authorizing ordinance was approved, and a BINA hearing has been held. The parameters ordinance allows the City to issue the bonds before April 22, 2019 at an amount not to exceed \$4,500,000, with a rate not to exceed 6%, and maturities no later than 2029. City Manager, Jeff Fiegenschuh was available to answer questions. Motion made by Councilor D. McDermott and seconded by Councilor Hayes, **“I move Ordinance 18-4917, an Ordinance authorizing and providing for the issue of not to exceed \$4,500,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), of the City of Rochelle, Ogle and Lee Counties, Illinois, for the purpose of paying the costs of financing various infrastructure improvements in and for the City, the pledge of certain revenues to the payment of principal and interest on the bonds, the levy of a direct annual tax to pay such principal and interest if the pledged revenues are insufficient to make such payment, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof, be approved.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Bearrows, Burke, Hayes, D. McDermott, T. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
- 3) **City Manager Annual Performance Appraisal and Salary Increase.** City Manager, Jeff Fiegenschuh’s one (1) year anniversary date was September 11, 2018. Per his contract, the Mayor and Council Members completed his annual performance review. Upon the completion of the process the Mayor and Council support a 5% increase of his current base salary. Motion made by Councilor Burke and seconded by Councilor Bearrows, **“I move the Council approve a 5% increase of the current base salary for City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh retroactive to his one-year anniversary date of September 11, 2018.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Bearrows, Burke, Hayes, D. McDermott, T. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

- 4) **IEPA Loan Repayment Amendment – Drinking Water Project Well 11.** The original loan agreement to fund the well 11 radium removal plant had a repayment schedule beginning on 12/12/2018. On September 26, 2018 we received a letter from the IEPA indicating that the repayment schedule changed to January 4th, 2019 and requires the City’s approval. There is no change in the dollar amount for this loan. Adam Lanning was present to answer questions. Motion made by Councilor Hayes and seconded by Councilor Burke, **“I move the Council approve a Loan Repayment Amendment with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency changing the start date of the repayment schedule from December 12, 2018 to January 4, 2019 for the Drinking Water Project L175426 for the well 11 radium removal plant.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Bearrows, Burke, Hayes, D. McDermott, T. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
- 5) **Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement for the City Industrial Rail East Bridge and Rail Extension.** The City of Rochelle Railroad (CIR) needs to be extended east and south of the current terminus of the rail system to open ~500 acers to future rail access. The rail extension will pass over the Johns Creek and through a flood way. Hydraulic modeling and preliminary engineering for bridge design and stormwater mitigation must be done before permitting the project to be constructed. Noah Carmichael was present to answer any questions. Motion made by Councilor D. McDermott and seconded by Councilor Shaw-Dickey, **“I move the Council approve a Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement with Fehr Graham for the design work for the future permitting and construction of a rail extension and rail bridge over Johns Creek.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Bearrows, Burke, Hayes, D. McDermott, T. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
- 6) **Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Establish a Limited Period Amnesty Program for Utility Debts Owed to the City of Rochelle.** The City currently has some old utility debts which have been difficult to collect. Most of these debts have been sent to a collection agency and/or the Local Debt Recovery Program but have not been paid. The collection agency has also reported the debts to credit bureaus. The amnesty program will give debtors a final chance to pay their debts. The amnesty program will be available from November 1, 2018 through November 30, 2018. The program will allow debtors to pay their debt at a 25% discount. Eligible debtors will receive a letter informing them of the program and the discount. The City of Rochelle has outstanding utility debts from 2006-2012 totaling \$713,735.30. Payment of the debts will assist with maintaining fiscal stability. Barbara Bell was available to answer questions. Motion made by Councilor D. McDermott and seconded by Councilor Shaw-Dickey, **“I move Resolution R18-40, a Resolution Authorizing the Establishment of a Limited Period Amnesty Program for Certain Debts Owed to the City of Rochelle, be approved.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Bearrows, Burke, Hayes, D. McDermott, T. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: At 6:52 PM, moved by Councilor Burke and seconded by Councilor D. McDermott, **“I move the Council adjourn.”** Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

Chet Olson, Mayor

Rose Huéramo
Deputy Clerk, City of Rochelle