

## RUSHVILLE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

### **1. ROLL CALL & CALL TO ORDER**

The Rushville City Council met in the meeting room of the City Hall building. Upon convening, Mayor Carson Klitz directed City Clerk, Stacey Briney to call the roll. Upon ROLL CALL, the following answered present: Council Members: Susan Acker, Richard Davis, Jeff Ervin, Bob Lambert, Barry Rebman, Mike Ryan, and Paul Trimble. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Council Member, Terry Dodds was absent.

Others present included: Stacey Briney, City Clerk; Charlie Burton, City Attorney; Nathan Campbell, Superintendent of Operations; David Haney of *The Rushville Times*; Mike Edwards & Tim Higgins, representing the Scripps Park Board; Mason Vincent & Vic Menely, representing the Smiles Day Committee; Gogo Her, Peace Corp Fellow; and Linda Ward.

### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Carson Klitz.

### **3. SMILES DAY UPDATE – MASON VINCENT & VIC MENELY**

Vic Menely, representing the Smiles Day Committee, stated everyone had a copy of the request sheet in their packets. *Said request sheet is attached and a part of these minutes.* Menely said the committee was hoping the city would donate One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) to help with expenses. Menely reported there are three (3) electrical boxes in Central Park that need repaired and he has talked with Superintendent of Operations, Nathan Campbell about this. Menely noted he is hoping they can be repaired before the event. Mayor Klitz asked if the committee had already coordinated with Campbell, and Menely said they had.

Mason Vincent, representing the Smiles Day Committee, stated the carnival that has been set up at Smiles Day for years backed out a couple weeks ago and the other one they contacted was already setting up in Astoria so they are getting some bounce houses. **Consensus of the council was to donate One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) to the Smiles Day Committee.**

*Mason Vincent & Vic Menely left the meeting at 7:03 p.m.*

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Gogo Her, Peace Corp Fellow, reported GROW Rushville is holding the Schuyler County Awards. Her stated they are taking nominations for Volunteer of the Year, Youth Volunteer of the Year, which mean the person has to be under the age of eighteen (18) and attend SID5, and Group of the Year.

### **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

*All items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as the first item after approval of the Consent Agenda.*

- a) Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting August 16, 2021
- b) Approve the Minutes of the Combined Water, Sewer, & Street Committee Meeting held August 19, 2021; & Combined Grievance & Personnel & Golf Course, Grounds, & Caddy House Committee meeting held August 20, 2021
- c) Approve “Claims for Council Approval Dated 09/07/21” & Accept Monthly Reports
- d) Approve Reserving Central Park on Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, for The Hub’s Family Art Day
- e) Approve Allowing The Hub to Hold Scarecrow Contest around Central Park
- f) Approve Refunds of \$130 each to Joy King & Terry Millslagle for Pool Party

**Ervin MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. Ryan SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL “YEA” ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Acker, Davis, Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, & Trimble; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Dodds.**

### **6. ITEMS TO BE REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA – IF APPLICABLE**

All items were approved on the Consent Agenda.

**7. DISCUSS & CONSIDER 2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1338, ORDINANCE AMENDING PORTIONS OF ORDINANCE NO. 1327, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE USE AND REGULATIONS OF GOLF CARTS, ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES (ATV), AND UTILITY-TERRAIN VEHICLES (UTV) WITHIN THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE, SCHUYLER COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

Trimble MOVED TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 1338, ORDINANCE AMENDING PORTIONS OF ORDINANCE NO. 1327, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE USE AND REGULATIONS OF GOLF CARTS, ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES (ATV), AND UTILITY-TERRAIN VEHICLES (UTV) WITHIN THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE, SCHUYLER COUNTY, ILLINOIS TO THE THIRD (3<sup>RD</sup>) READING. Rebman SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Davis, Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, & Acker; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Dodds.

**8. DISCUSS & CONSIDER HIRING TOM COOK AS GOLF COURSE GROUNDSKEEPER AT A SALARY OF \$40,000 WITH THE USE OF THE CARETAKER HOUSE**

Scripps Park Board Member, Tim Higgins reported himself and Board Member, Mike Edwards were in attendance in case anyone had any questions regarding the board's recommendation on hiring Tom Cook as Golf Course Groundskeeper.

Ervin MOVED TO HIRE TOM COOK AS GOLF COURSE GROUNDSKEEPER AT A SALARY OF FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$40,000) WITH THE USE OF THE CARETAKER HOUSE. Rebman SECONDED.

Council Member, Susan Acker reported she sat in on the interviews for groundskeeper and has nothing against Cook. Acker stated that in the past four (4) years, this is the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) expert the park has hired from out of town. Acker noted there was a local guy that was interviewed that has a vested interest in the community, along with family here. Acker said she knows this individual does not have the knowledge but feels he could be trained. Council Member, Jeff Ervin stated he totally agrees with Acker but if this individual learns as he goes and we lose a green, that would be a Fifty Thousand Dollar (\$50,000) learn as you go deal. Council Member, Mike Ryan asked if this individual could work at the golf course to gain the knowledge, and Acker noted he used to work there. Higgins reported that he had spoken to this individual after the interviews and told him why the board went with Cook. Higgins stated he was still very interested in going out to learn from Cook and if the position comes up again, he would be interested in applying again.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 6 YEAS – Ervin, Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, & Davis; 0 NAYS; 1 PRESENT – Acker; 1 ABSENT – Dodds.

**9. DISCUSS & CONSIDER PURCHASE & PAYMENT OF BOBCAT COMPACT EXCAVATOR & TRAILER**

Ervin reported that Campbell has been looking at a mini excavator for a while now and has finally found one they like on state bid. Ervin stated the Bobcat mini excavator cost Fifty-Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Eleven Dollars and Ninety-Four Cents (\$57,811.94). Ervin noted this would come in very handy in a lot of areas throughout the city. Ervin said the city would also have to purchase a trailer to haul it and Campbell has found a new one in Litchfield for Nine Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-Seven Dollars (\$9,467). Ervin reported the total for both would be Sixty-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-Eight Dollars and Ninety-Four Cents (\$67,278.94) and that amount would be divided between water, sewer, and streets.

Ervin MOVED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE AND PAYMENT OF A BOBCAT COMPACT EXCAVATOR AND TRAILER AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED SIXTY-SEVEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS AND NINETY-FOUR CENTS (\$67,278.94), WITH THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$30,000) COMING OUT OF THE WATER FUND, TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$20,000) COMING OUT OF THE SEWER FUND, AND TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED ELEVEN DOLLARS AND NINETY-FOUR CENTS (\$23,811.94) COMING OUT OF THE GENERAL FUND. Ryan SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS - Lambert, Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, Davis, & Ervin; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT.

**10. COUNCIL MEMBER & OFFICIALS' REPORTS**

Council Member, Susan Acker asked City Attorney, Charlie Burton what happened in court with Jennifer Gordley, owner of 147 E. LaFayette Street. Attorney Burton stated she appeared and was fined Six Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$675). Attorney Burton said himself and Chief of Police, Rick Wright had a conversation with Gordley afterwards and explained to her that the city has an option to clean up the

property and send her the bill but she did not have anything to say about that. Ervin asked what legal actions we need to take before we clean it up, and Attorney Burton noted the city would need to give Gordley notice first. Mayor Klitz stated the city needs to pursue this. Mayor Klitz stressed that the city has a lot of things going for us and we have to get some of these trashy properties cleaned up. Mayor Klitz recommended moving forward and notify Gordley that the city will clean up the property and send her a bill.

Council Member, Bob Lambert reported he has had several people discuss with the him possibility of having an Economic Development Coordinator again. Lambert noted this would have to be something the city and county did together. Mayor Klitz suggested Lambert pursue this to see if it goes anywhere.

Council Member, Mike Ryan reported he has been getting some complaints about a pontoon boat sitting on the street at the end of Liberty Street. Attorney Burton said the ordinance states it cannot block a public space.

Mayor Carson Klitz reported the downtown improvements are funded by the TIF fund and the city has sufficient funds to pay the commitments that are still out there. Mayor Klitz noted there is approximately Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) in the fund and he would like to make a One Hundred Thousand Dollar (\$100,000) payment on the loan. Mayor Klitz said the city is paying four and one-half percent (4 ½%) interest right now. Mayor Klitz stated he will look into this further.

Mayor Klitz asked for the council's authority to look into the loan in the sewer department. Mayor Klitz noted he cannot determine the amount that is left to be paid. Mayor Klitz stated there is Two Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand Dollars (\$278,000) in the depreciation fund.

Superintendent of Operations, Nathan Campbell reported the city received the operating permit for well #11. Campbell stated well #11 has been on for a week now and is pumping very good. Campbell noted it pumps about one thousand two hundred (1,200) gallon per minute. Campbell said there are a few tweaks with the communication that need to be done but it is up and running great.

**11. ADJOURN**

**Ervin MOVED TO ADJOURN. Acker SECONDED, AND THE MOTION CARRIED WITH AN ALL "YEA" ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: 7 YEAS – Rebman, Ryan, Trimble, Acker, Davis, Ervin, & Lambert; 0 NAYS; 1 ABSENT – Dodds. THE MEETING STOOD ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY AT 7:22 P.M.**

Minutes submitted by,

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Stacey L. Briney, City Clerk/CMC

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Date Minutes Approved