

**ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2007**

The Rochelle City Council met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 26, 2007 in the Council Chambers of City Hall; 420 N. 6th Street; Rochelle, IL 61068.

Present on Roll Call were Councilmembers Hayden, Hayes, Hollonbeck, Colwill, Berg, Eckhardt and Mayor Olson. Absent: None. Also present were Ken Alberts, City Manager; Alan Cooper, City Attorney; and Bruce McKinney, City Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilwoman Hollonbeck moved and seconded by Councilman Hayden, **“I move the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of November 13 2007 and the Special Council Meeting of November 5, 2007 be approved.”** Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

Councilman Eckhardt moved and seconded by Councilwoman Hollonbeck, **“I move the Council accept and place on file the report of the Stormwater Advisory Board meeting of September 19, 2007.”** Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

BILLS & PAYROLL: Councilman Colwill moved and seconded by Councilman Eckhardt, **“I move the bills and payroll for the second half of November 2007 be allowed and paid when checked over and found correct.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayden, Hayes, Colwill, Hollonbeck, Berg, Eckhardt and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS:

- Mayor:
 - Proclamation for “National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month” was read.
 - Mayor Olson read the employee anniversaries for November from the Employee Newsletter.
- Council Members: None

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: None

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Variance Request from Family Video Movie Club. The City has received a request from Family Video for a sign variance at their new location on West Illinois Route 38. The request is to allow the sign placement 20 feet from the property line, a five foot variance from the ordinance which requires a 25 foot sign setback. The variance was requested once it was determined that the original location of the sign would interfere with the underground detention system located on the lot. At the November 13, 2007 meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals the Family Video Move Club variance request was considered. The owner of a neighboring business requested that the sign be at least 11 feet from the ground so that a future sign at his business was not obstructed. The ZBA voted 6-0, to recommend approval of the sign variance subject to the sign being at least 11 feet from the ground to the bottom of the sign. Chris Limas was present to answer questions. Moved by Councilman Colwill and seconded by Councilman Berg, **“I move Ordinance 07-3626, An Ordinance Approving a Sign Variance for Property Located at 497 West Illinois Route 38 (Family Video), be adopted.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayden, Hayes, Colwill, Hollonbeck, Berg, Eckhardt and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Resolution Granting Real Estate Tax Abatement to Project David. The Economic Development Department has been working with a technology based business that is considering building in Rochelle. The Greater Rochelle Economic Development Corporation is requesting that the City provide financial incentives to this business in the form of property tax abatements. This project has been evaluated to determine the anticipated economic impact to the community including job creation and future equalized assessed valuation. Based on this evaluation, an abatement schedule has been proposed with a five year schedule. Jason Anderson was present to answer questions. Moved by Councilman Eckhardt and seconded by Councilman Berg, **“I move Resolution R07-35, A Resolution Granting Real Estate Tax Abatement to Project David, be adopted.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayden, Hayes, Colwill, Hollonbeck, Berg, Eckhardt and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Purchase – Skid steer. The 2007-08 General Fund Capital Budget includes \$20,000 for the replacement of a 1985 Case 1835 skid steer at the Cemetery Division. The unit is experiencing numerous mechanical, reliability, and loss of power issues. This, coupled with over 5000 hours of use, warrants a replacement of the unit. Superintendent of Cemetery, Don Elliott, secured quotes from Johnson Tractor in Rochelle and CSR Bobcat in De Kalb and recommends the purchase of the Bobcat brand skid steer based on price and design advantages. The quote of \$13,664.00 provided by CSR Bobcat of De Kalb includes a trade in allowance for the 1985 skid steer. Since this equipment is proposed to be purchased using the quotation process rather than an advertised bid opening, approval of management’s recommendation by the Mayor and City Council will require a 2/3 vote. Don Elliott was present to answer any questions. Moved by Councilman Berg and seconded by Councilman Colwill, **“I move the Council waive the bidding process and accept the quote from CSR Bobcat of DeKalb in the amount of \$13,664 and authorize the City Manager to enter into a purchase agreement.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayden, Hayes, Colwill, Hollonbeck, Berg, Eckhardt and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

4. City Manager’s Report:

- **Community Tree Lighting.** As part of the Old-Fashioned Christmas Weekend in Rochelle, the Community Christmas Tree lighting will take place at City Hall immediately following the Chamber Lighted Parade on Friday, December 7. City Manager Ken Alberts, with the assistance of Santa, will flip the switch officially marking the start of the holiday season for the City. Members of the Middle School Chorus, led by Sherrie Welles, will delight those in attendance with some holiday music selections following the lighting. Rochelle Municipal Utilities will provide treats of hot chocolate, coffee and cookies inside City Hall’s main entrance.
- **2nd Annual Christmas Tree Festival.** The 2nd Annual Christmas Tree Festival promises to be a magical evening. Entries have been received for over a dozen decorated tabletop trees and centerpieces which will be on display throughout City Hall from December 4th through December 7th. The community is encouraged to walk through and enjoy the spectacular entries. The trees and centerpieces, donated by local business, community and service groups, will include such themes as, *Icicles; Reduce, Reuse and Recycle; and Technology.* All entries will be available for purchase through a silent auction being held to benefit the Hub City Senior Center which will culminate at 8:00 on Friday, December 7th. We encourage the community to support the Hub City Senior Center through the donation of a tree or centerpiece. Entry forms will be accepted through November 30th with deliveries made by 4:30 on Monday, December 3rd.
- **Downtown / RT 38 Christmas Decorations:** Mr. Alberts commented on the nice job done on the Christmas decorations.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **Discussion Item 1 -Midyear Budget Presentation:** Bob Withrow, Director of Administrative Services, presented a midyear review of the revenues and expenditures for the City of Rochelle and discussed the actual financial status as compared to the budget. His report showed that both revenues and expenditures are down, and the reasons for these figures.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:57 pm Councilman Colwill moved and seconded by Councilman Eckhardt, **“I move the Council adjourn.”** Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

/s/ Chet Olson

Chet Olson
Mayor, City of Rochelle

s/ Bruce W. McKinney

Bruce McKinney, CMC
City Clerk, City of Rochelle