

**ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2009**

The Rochelle City Council met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 9, 2009 in the Council Chambers of City Hall; 420 N. 6th Street; Rochelle, IL 61068.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG & PRAYER

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

PROCLAMATION, COMMENDATIONS, ETC: None

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

- **Mayor:** Recommended Michael Cruz to fill the vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Commission; Moved by Councilman Berg and seconded by Councilwoman Hollonbeck, **“I move the Council approve the Mayor’s recommendation to appoint Michael Cruz to fulfill the unexpired term on the Planning & Zoning Commission with term expiring July 1, 2011.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayes, Berg, Hayden, Eckhardt, Colwill, Hollonbeck and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
- **Council Members:**
 - Bil Hayes was recently in Washington, D.C., he met with Senator Durbin and his staff.
 - David Eckhardt reported on the “From the Heart” fundraiser; the preliminary number of \$27,000 will be going to HOPE and Focus House.
 - Pal Colwill reminded everyone that the Golden K Pancake Day coming up.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

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

- a) Approve Minutes of City Council Meeting – January 26, 2009;
- b) Accept Minutes of Planning & Zoning Commission – January 5, 2009;
- c) Accept Minutes of Stormwater Advisory Commission – November 19, 2008;
- d) Accept and Place on File Community Development Department Annual Report - 09-3782;
- e) Accept and Place on File Police Department Annual Report – 09-3783;
- f) Accept and Place on File Audit Report Motor Fuel Tax Funds 1/1/06-12/31/07 – 09-3778;
- g) Resolution Establishing the Official Zoning Map for 2008 – R 09-04;
- h) Approve Bills/Payrolls for the first half of February, 2009.

Moved by Councilman Colwill and seconded by Councilman Eckhardt, **“I move Consent Agenda Items a, b, d, e, f, g, and h be approved by Omnibus Vote as Recommended.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayes, Berg, Hayden, Eckhardt, Colwill, Hollonbeck and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

- 2) **Purchase of Full Size Pickup Truck – Water Department:** The 2008-09 Water Capital Budget includes \$25,000 for the purchase of a Full Size Pickup Truck. Once in service this pickup truck will replace a 2000 Chevy Astro Van. The pickup truck will be used to respond to service calls and will provide additional versatility to the water department. Subsequent to the required public notice, bids were opened on January 27, 2009, with three local dealers submitting bids. Staff has reviewed all of the bids and compared them with the Illinois Department of Central Management Services listing for this equipment. The local bids include the trade-in of the existing Chevy Van, estimated to be worth \$1,000-\$1,500, in the final price. When the trade-in value is taken into consideration there is a net difference of approximately 18% between the lowest local bid and the State of Illinois program. Gary Larsen, who was present to answer any questions, recommends purchase of the pickup truck through the Illinois Department of Central Management Joint Purchasing Program at a cost of \$16,410 and the sale of the 2000 Van at the annual City Auction. Moved by Councilman Eckhardt and seconded by Councilman Colwill, **I move the Council reject all bids for the purchase of a full size pickup truck for the Water Department.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayes, Berg, Hayden, Eckhardt, Colwill, Hollonbeck and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

Moved by Councilwoman Hollonbeck and seconded by Councilman Eckhardt, **“I move the Council authorize the purchase of a 2009 2x4, 8,800 lbs. standard cab and 8-foot bed through the Illinois Department of Central Management Joint Purchasing Program in the amount of \$16,410 for the Water Department.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayes, Berg, Hayden, Eckhardt, Colwill, Hollonbeck and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

- 3) **Resolution Granting Real Estate Tax Abatement to Project Buffer:** The Economic Development Department has been informed that an existing company is considering expanding its operations 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 estimated job creation of 25-35 positions and an estimated capital investment of \$18,000,000, including a building expansion of 120,000 to 140,000 square feet. Based on this evaluation a three-year abatement schedule has been proposed. Jason Anderson was present to discuss and answer questions. The City is still in competition with four other locations. The starting salaries will be \$55,000 and up; hourly starting wage will be \$14 to \$16/hr. Had a chart to show how the tax abatements will work; and the importance of a tax abatement at this time with the way economy is at the present time. Moved by Councilwoman Hollonbeck and seconded by Councilman Berg, **I move Resolution R09-04, A Resolution Granting Real Estate Tax Abatement to Project Buffer, be adopted.** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayes, Berg, Hayden, Eckhardt, Colwill, Hollonbeck and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
- 4) **Ordinance Amending Chapter 98 (Utilities) of the Municipal Code of Rochelle – Aggregation of Demand Response:** On October 27, 2008 the Federal Energy Regulator Commission (FERC) issued a new Rule that requires Regional Transmission Organizations to allow retail customers to bid and sell their retail demand response directly into the wholesale electricity markets through qualified aggregators. The new FERC rule could seriously impact the existing local demand response programs, resource planning and operations of Rochelle Municipal Utilities (RMU) which could result in increased cost of service to all RMU customers. The Mayor and City Council, through the Municipal Code, serve as the electric retail regulatory authority for the City of Rochelle. Gary Larsen, RMU General Manager, was present to discuss this further and answer questions. He recommended the approval of an ordinance with respect to the Aggregation of Demand Response on behalf of Retail Customers. This ordinance designates RMU as the sole entity permitted to bid demand response programs for the benefit of all of the retail customers served by the City of Rochelle. According to Gary Larsen, RMU customers are actually better off as they do not have to deal with a middle-man. Moved by Councilman Eckhardt and seconded by Councilwoman Hollonbeck, **I move Ordinance 09-3784, An Ordinance Amending Article V (“Electric Service”) of Chapter 98 (“Utilities”) of the Rochelle Municipal Code to Make Provision with Respect to the Aggregation of Demand Response on Behalf of Retail Electric Customers in the City of Rochelle, be adopted.** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayes, Berg, Hayden, Eckhardt, Colwill, Hollonbeck and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
- 5) **Northwest Illinois Major Case Squad Intergovernmental Law Enforcement Agreement:** Several law enforcement agencies in northwestern Illinois have recognized the benefits of reestablishing a regional squad for handling major cases. The proposed Northwestern Illinois Major Case Squad would provide comprehensive investigative assistance to member departments in extraordinary cases as deemed necessary. Each member department would be responsible for assigning one or more investigators to the Major Case Squad. A member department can then request assistance from any other member department and will also provide assistance to other departments as practical. Each member department will be responsible for their respective employee related expenses incurred for providing these services. Participation in this agreement will ensure that assistance is available to the City of Rochelle during the investigation of a major case. Chief Rob Buck was present to answer any questions. This is not connected to the national security program; this is more for murder cases, etc. Moved by Councilman Colwill and seconded by Councilman Hayes, **I move Ordinance 09-3785, An Ordinance Approving Northwest Illinois Major Case Squad Intergovernmental Law Enforcement Agreement and Authorizing Police Chief to Executive Agreement, be adopted.** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayes, Berg, Hayden, Eckhardt, Colwill, Hollonbeck and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: Mr. Jeff Pignato directed a question to the Mayor and Council regarding the vacancy for the Planning/Zoning Commission. He had applied and was not notified that the position had been filled.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:53 p.m., Councilwoman Hollonbeck moved and seconded by Councilman Berg, **I move the Council recess into Executive Session to discuss Collecting Negotiating Matters, Section (c) (2).** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers Hayes, Berg, Hayden, Eckhardt, Colwill, Hollonbeck and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

At 9:04 p.m., Councilman Berg moved and seconded by Councilwoman Hollonbeck, **I move the Council return to Open Session.** Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

ADJOURNMENT: At 9:04 p.m., moved by Councilman Eckhardt and seconded by Councilman Berg, **“I move the Council adjourn.”** Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

Chet Olson
Mayor, City of Rochelle

Bruce McKinney, CMC
City Clerk, City of Rochelle