

**ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 10, 2010**

The Rochelle City Council met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 10, 2010 in the Council Chambers of City Hall; 420 N. 6th Street; Rochelle, IL 61068.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

PRAYER: The Prayer was said by City Clerk McKinney.

ROLL CALL: Present on Roll Call were Councilmembers Berg, Hayes, D. McDermott, Hollonbeck, T. McDermott, Eckhardt, and Mayor Olson. Absent: None. Also present were City Manager Alberts and City Clerk McKinney.

PROCLAMATION: Police Week May 9 – 15, 2010: Read by Bruce McKinney; Mayor Olson presented to Police Chief Higby and fellow police officers.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

- ***Mayor:*** Thanked staff for getting up to speed in technology with the Council Agenda now being paperless and also available on the City website for public access.
- ***Council Members:*** None

PUBLIC COMMENTARY:

- None.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

- 1) **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE** with Recommendations:
 - a) Approve Minutes of City Council Meeting – April 26, 2010
 - b) Accept and Place on File Minutes of Airport Advisory Board Minutes - February 22, 2010
 - c) Approve Bills 04/16/10-04/22/10, 04/23/10-04/29/10
 - d) Approve Payroll 04/05/10-04/18/10
 - e) Authorize the Use of the Main Street Gazebo Area for the Harvest Market June through September

Moved by Councilman Berg and seconded by Councilman D. McDermott, **“I move Consent Agenda Items (a) through (e) be approved by Omnibus Vote as Recommended.”**

Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers D. McDermott, Berg, Eckhardt, Hayes, T. McDermott, Hollonbeck, and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

- 2) **The RMU distribution system currently includes several 4 kV distribution circuits:** The long range plan is to convert the existing 4 kV systems to 12 kV which will increase the capacity of power flowing through the system, improve the reliability and better serve the future needs of RMU customers. In order to manage these upgrades effectively, the entire conversion project will be divided into four or five phases over the next few years. The first circuit identified for conversion, Feeder 62, serves nearly 700 customers in the northwest area of the community and includes the Carrie Avenue substation. This area was selected for multiple reasons, including the need for a backup transformer at the generation station which can be moved from this area once the upgrade is complete. Sargent & Lundy has provided an engineering agreement to evaluate the removal of the Carrie Avenue Substation, perform field work, complete new pole configurations, and provide a material list and estimate for completing work associated with converting Feeder Circuit No. 62 from 4 kV to 12 kV at a fee of \$70,000. RMU Staff recommends proceeding forward with the Phase 1 Scope of Work as outlined. The 2010-2011 Electric Operations Capital Budget includes \$1,500,000 for conversion of the electric distribution circuit in this area. Ed Carr and Joe Orlikowski, of RMU, were present for further information, using Power Point, and to answer questions. The first phase is in three sections. October 30th is anticipated start date. Will use in-house employees and contractors. Will move the Carrie Avenue Transformer to Second Avenue. Moved by Councilman Eckhardt and seconded by Councilwoman Hollonbeck, **“I move Agreement 10-3919, An Agreement between the City of Rochelle and Sargent & Lundy for services related to the conversion of an electric distribution circuit, be approved.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers D. McDermott, Berg, Eckhardt, Hayes, T. McDermott, Hollonbeck, and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
3. **Ordinance Approving a Sign Setback Variance for Lincoln State Bank:** The petitioner, Lincoln State Bank, has requested a variance to the setback requirements contained in the Rochelle Municipal Code sign ordinance in order to locate a double-sided sign in the northwest corner of their lot. The requested variance would allow for a setback of 1 foot from the property line instead of the required 25 feet. The proposed sign is approximately 8 feet tall by 8 feet wide and would be installed 10 feet off the ground. It includes a full color electronic message board which would be used to promote a variety of Lincoln State Bank and community information. An inspection by City staff confirmed that the lot and facility layout do not provide any options for adhering to the setback requirements. Nor will the proposed location in the asphalt drive for the drive-through facility pose any visual problems for the motoring public. Chris Limas, Community Development Director, recommends approval of the requested variance providing a protective barrier is installed around the sign and striping is added to designate proper vehicle movement. A public hearing was scheduled for the May 3, 2010 meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission to consider the variance request. Due to the lack of a quorum the commission was unable to make an official recommendation. The four voting members in attendance did review the facts and supported the Community Development Director’s recommendation of approval subject to the pavement striping, but without the protective barrier. Chris Limas, Community Development Director, was available to answer questions. Moved by Councilman Berg and seconded by Councilman D. McDermott, **“I move Ordinance 10-3920, An Ordinance Approving a Sign Setback Variance (Lincoln State Bank), be adopted.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers D. McDermott, Berg, Hayes, T. McDermott, Hollonbeck, and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Abstain: Councilman Eckhardt. Motion passed 6-0.

4. **Washington Street/Lincoln Highway and 4th Avenue Improvements:** As discussed at the November 11, 2009 City Council Meeting, \$320,082 in stimulus funds have been designated for the City of Rochelle through the American Recovery Reinvestment Act. The project which has been identified to utilize these funds includes improvements on Lincoln Highway and Washington Street from First Avenue to Fifth Avenue and Fourth Avenue from Sixth Street to Main Street. These improvements will include pavement removal and rehabilitation, storm sewer and manhole upgrades, curb and gutter replacement and construction, and minor sidewalk removal and replacement. On February 8, 2010 the Mayor and City Council considered a bid from Rock Road Companies in the amount of \$418,892.60 and recommended approval of the bid to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). In early March the City received notification from IDOT that the low bidder had not submitted all of the necessary documentation and the project would be rebid at a later date. Subsequent to being re-advertised in the IDOT Transportation Bulletin, bids were opened in Springfield on April 23, 2010, with four contractors submitting bids. IDOT staff has confirmed that the apparent low bidder, Rock Road Companies of Janesville, WI has completed similar construction projects. City Engineer, Sam Tesreau recommends acceptance of Rock Road Companies bid of \$461,718.93, which is 25% lower than the IDOT approved estimate. The local portion of approximately \$100,000, plus any other expenses that are incurred during the course of the project, will be funded through the Fiscal Year 2010/2011 Capital Improvements Budget with funding available through local infrastructure sales and/or utility taxes. Sam Tesreau was present to answer any questions. The project will probably start the first week of July and be completed by the end of October. Sam hopes they will be out of the downtown area after a couple of weeks. The public will be notified of any closings. Moved by Councilwoman Hollonbeck and seconded by Councilman Hayes, **“I move Council Recommend to IDOT approval of Contract C10-08, Awarding a bid for the Washington Street/Lincoln Highway and 4th Avenue Improvements to Rock Road Companies in the amount of \$461,718.93.** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers D. McDermott, Berg, Eckhardt, Hayes, T. McDermott, Hollonbeck, and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
5. **Agreement between the City and Union Pacific Railroad – Overweight/Oversize Trucks**
The City Code presently contains provisions designating allowable weights on certain streets and roads. From time to time, the City has been approached to allow an overweight (i.e., over 80,000 pounds) or oversize load, and these instances have been dealt with on an individual basis. Recently, the City has been approached by the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) and Edison Mission Energy Company, regarding the need to ship oversize/overweight loads, consisting of the component parts of wind turbines destined for use outside Ogle County, from the entrance to the Global III Intermodal Facility over Intermodal Drive to Illinois Route 251, a distance of approximately 6,300 feet. The parts are being shipped to the Intermodal Facility by train, and some have already arrived. It is anticipated that there will be in excess of 600 oversize/overweight loads. City staff has negotiated an agreement with the UP to address the possibility that these oversize/overweight loads may cause damage to Intermodal Drive, the bridges, curbs or adjacent facilities along Intermodal Drive. The agreement provides that UP will bear the cost to repair any damages caused by these loads. The City will inspect and photograph the pertinent facilities before the loads begin, and again after the last load, to determine what damages may have occurred. Before the loads begin, the City will also enter into Special Use Permits with each trucking company, for each load hauled by that company. A schedule of fees for the special use permits has also been negotiated. The terms of the proposed agreement have been negotiated by staff and by the City attorney and the UP attorney. City Attorney, Alan Cooper, and City Engineer, Sam Tesreau were both available to answer questions. Moved by Councilman Eckhardt and seconded by Councilman Berg, **“I move Agreement 10-3921, An Agreement between the City of Rochelle and Union Pacific Railroad for Overweight/Oversize Trucks, be approved.”** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Councilmembers D. McDermott, Berg, Eckhardt, Hayes, T. McDermott, Hollonbeck, and Mayor Olson. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **Prairie State Generation Update:** The Northern Illinois Municipal Power Agency (NIMPA), of which the City of Rochelle is a participant, has an ownership interest in the Prairie State generation facility located in southern Illinois. The facility is expected to be operational in 2011 and will be an important component in meeting our community's future electric needs in a cost effective manner. Ed Carr, RMU General Manager, provided an update on the progress of the facility's construction as of April 2010, using Power Point.
 - Power plant is 1600 megawatts, consisting of two-800 megawatts pulverized coal boilers.
 - Largest power plant under construction in the United States at four-million dollars.
 - Serves more than 2.5 million families in the United States.
 - Owned by eight not-for-profit power companies.
 - 41.3% complete at this time.
 - 345 KV substation
 - Emissions will be less than half of average of regulation rates of US coal operations at that time; mercury emission will meet Illinois standards, one of the strictest in the United States; one of the highest sulfur removable rates in any plant within the United States; excellent compliance of environmental impact during construction.
 - Mine construction is on schedule at approximately 54%.
 - Celebrated 2,000,000 state man hours as of July 2009; project will stimulate creation of another 860 jobs in Illinois; Prairie State will contribute more than \$785-million annual economic activity.
 - Will produce 6.3 million tons/yr.
 - Will probably be able to start buying power in another year.
 - We own 7.6%.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:00 pm, the meeting was adjourned.

Chet Olson
Mayor, City of Rochelle

Bruce McKinney, CMC
City Clerk, City of Rochelle