

ROCKVILLE CITY COUNCIL LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH MEETING MINUTES
February 24, 2020
Rockville City Hall

Item 1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mayor Duane Willenbring.

Item 2) Roll Call

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Duane Willenbring, Bill Becker, Jerry Tippelt, and Don Simon. Absent: Brian Herberg.

Staff members present: City Administrator, Martin Bode and Public Works Director, Gene VanHavermaet.

Others present: various members of the public.

Item 3) Additions/Approval of Agenda

Motion by Simon, second by Becker, to approve of the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Item 4) Public Comment

None.

Item 5) Lowell Lunceford 406 Walnut Circle – Backyard Storm Water

Mr. Lunceford expressed his concerns to the Council over the poor storm water runoff in his backyard. Mr. Lunceford maintains that the reasons for the water not draining the way it used to is due to the sediment coming from the culvert that runs underneath Ptarmigan Lane and through his backyard as well as the neighbor's fences that have been allowed to be erected near the backyard property lines in this neighborhood.

Administrator Bode stated that he had previously informed Mr. Lunceford that there is a Utility and Storm Water Easement 10 feet wide on each side of the backyard property lines, however there are no municipal storm water tile, drains or services in this development. This development was required, during the development stage, to provide storm water management grading practices. Bode further stated that it might appear that the storm water backups may have been more to do with the very large amount of snow received in the winter of 2018/2019. Along with the many previous years of backyard mowing and landscaping activities.

The consensus of the Council was that the apparent best option was that Mr. Lunceford work with the surrounding neighbors to mitigate the runoff issues.

Item 6) Stearns County SWCD – Wayne Cymbaluk – Ground Water

Mr. Cymbaluk introduced himself to the Council and stated that his role with the District has recently changed and one of his responsibilities is to work with communities implementing their wellhead protection plan. It appears that 2020 is the last year of the City of Rockville's 10-year plan and in September 2020 the Department of Health will start looking at the updating of a new 10-year wellhead protection plan.

Item 7) EDA

Administrator Bode informed the Council that again a request has been received by the potential buyer of the Rockville Gas and Bait for financial assistance from the Rockville EDA. Bode asked for confirmation as to Council direction if they had a desire to activate the Rockville EDA as it relates to this ongoing request for financial help regarding the Rockville Gas and Bait. The requested financial assistance is approximately \$40,000 which would be used for inventory. At this time no lender has agreed to be the primary lender for the purchase and operation of this venture. The Council consensus was due to the lack of a primary lender and the current financial constraints on the City, is not to activate the Rockville EDA. Mayor Willenbring stated that he along with member Becker (Planning Commission Chair) will review the additional information and if needed can provide additional information to the Council.

Item 8) Water Tower Rent Contract (% increase)

Administrator Bode noted that so far, the City has not sent out the annual COLA increase notices to the tower rental companies.

Item 9) Road Past Capital Granite (Old Yankee Road)

Administrator Bode again reviewed with the Council the ongoing question as to who owns the “connector” road that runs past Capital Granite between County Road 138 and State Highway 23. City records show that in 2004 the City turned down the turn back request from MnDOT on this connector road. In 2013 MnDOT sent the City of Rockville a Quit Claim Deed for this connector road but staff has found no records to indicate the City acted on that Quit Claim Deed nor is there anything recorded at the County. Kevin Schmidt with MnDOT has requested to meet with Bode sometime this spring to discuss this issue.

Item 10) ROCORI Trail – Tippelt

Member Tippelt’s concern about the grant language that states the trail will be maintained for twenty years. Mayor Willenbring reminded the Council that the three cities of Rockville, Richmond and Cold Spring formed a joint powers agreement called the Rocori Trail Construction Board to purchase and construct a trail between the three cities. The hope is that once the trail is complete the Minnesota DNR will take the trail over from the Joint Powers. Until the time the DNR takes over the trail, the Joint Powers is responsible to maintain the trail. The cost is shared equally by the three cities.

Item 11) Postal Addressing – Tippelt

Administrator Bode was requested to get local and County 911 representatives and a representative from Congressman Tom Emmer’s office to come to a future Council meeting.

Item 12) Rental Property – 143 Broadway Street

Administrator Bode updated the Council on the rental property regarding the recent fire call to the apartments at 143 Broadway Street. The Fire Chief, State Fire Marshall, and City Inspector/Building Official met with the property owner to discuss the noted concerns of possible safety violations at this property and the property owner appeared very willing to address each of the concerns as directed.

Bode again stated that part of the concern is that in 2018 the City Council rescinded the City of Rockville’s Rental Ordinance, thereby eliminating any rental inspections. The Council directed staff to continue to look into providing a new rental ordinance for the Council to review and consider and also continue to plan on an April 2020 public hearing to consider a new proposed rental ordinance and/or consider adopting Life Safety 101.

Item 13) Public Works

- a) SCADA

Public Works Director VanHavermaet reported that he did get a quote from another company called IPS out of Albany, MN to get the lift station SCADA system at Grand Lake back up and running at an approximate cost of \$2,400. VanHavermaet stated he will be getting numbers together of what it will cost the City to update the entire SCADA monitoring system.

- b) Stickney Meter

Administrator Bode stated the meter for Stickney should arrive on or near the 27th of February and installation will happen shortly thereafter. All related parties have been provided proper notice.

Item 14) Other

Email complaint regarding snowmobiles in town.

Item 15) Adjourn

Motion by Becker, second by Simon, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Martin M. Bode
City Administrator*