

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
July 22, 2019**

The Common Council of the City of Rensselaer met on July 22, 2019 in regular session in Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Stephen Wood called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by invocation offered by Russ Overton and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Answering roll call were: Mayor Stephen Wood; Clerk-Treasurer Frieda Bretzinger; Council Members Scott Barton, Bill Hollerman, Rick Odle; City Attorney Jacob Ahler; Park Supt. Joe Effinger; Building Commissioner and Fire Chief Kenny Haun; Police Chief Matt Anderson; Utility Office Manager Heather Smart; Gas Supt. Carol Lockridge; Electric Manager of Operations Steve Miller; Electric Lead Line Foreman Lenny Larson; Street Supt. Andy Daniels; Project Coordinator Jerry Lockridge. Nick Fiala with the Rensselaer Republican arrived after roll call. Absent were: Council Members George Cover and Ernest Watson, Jr; Cemetery Supt. Kevin Cochran; Electric Plant Supt. Claude Grow.

Also in attendance were: Robert Schenk with Rensselaer Adventures; Russell Overton, Stace Pickering with C/I; Randy Denton; David and Jilyan Veldman; Chris Kosary; JoAnn Wagner; Steven and Budi Freeman; John and Roseann Rippe; Jason and Kendra Duley; Dick Wiseman; Diana Robinson; Nathan Bishop; Tommy Todd; Sandy Miller; Craig and Kim Hewitt; Tom and Heather Muzek.

The minutes of the July 8, 2019 council meeting were presented. There was a motion by Barton and second by Odle to approve the minutes. The motion passed by majority, with Cover and Watson absent.

Citizen Comments and Presentation of Petitions: There were none.

Council Vote on Action of City Plan Commission for Change of Zoning for 401 E Wolf Street to 421 E. Wolf Street: Haun said the recommendation of the Plan Commission is to deny the request for re-zoning from R-1 to R-3 in Madison Subdivision. There was a motion by Barton, second by Odle, to uphold the recommendation of the plan commission to deny the request. The motion passed by majority, with Cover and Watson absent.

Permission to Go Out for Bids to Upgrade Existing Relays and Move Controls Inside Control Building: Miller sent out a letter describing the problems they've had with protective relays at Eger Substation. It seems the relays don't reclose after an interruption. He is asking permission to obtain bids to upgrade the existing relays and move the controls inside the control building. There was a motion by Odle, second by Hollerman, to allow Miller to get bids. The motion passed by majority, with Cover and Watson absent.

Dump Truck Recommendation: Lockridge received two quotes for two 2019 1 ½ ton pickup trucks. Freeway Ford Sterling Truck Sales quoted \$55,004.00 and \$57,219.00 each 2019 F450 4X4 stainless dump trucks. They are offering \$11,000.00 trade-in for a Ford 2003 F350 and a Ford 2005 F450 to bring the price of the two trucks to \$101,223.00. Gutwein Motors quoted two Ford F450 with stainless bed pickup trucks. One is \$52,979.00 and one is \$57,326.00. They offered a trade-in for the 2003 and 2005 dump truck at \$17,000.00 bringing the cost of the two trucks to \$88,305.00. Bretzinger noted that the Non-Collusion Affidavit from Freeway Ford Sterling Truck Sales was not notarized so their quote can't be considered. There was a motion by Odle, second by Hollerman, to approve the trucks be purchased from Gutwein Motors. The motion passed by majority, with Cover and Watson absent.

Permission to Obtain Quotes for Two Squad Cars: Anderson asked permission to purchase two squad cars. He's hoping to get two 2019 models so they will be less expensive. He will have one trade in. Barton asked if the second car is to replace the wrecked squad car and Anderson said yes. There was a motion by Hollerman, second by Barton, to allow Anderson to get quotes. The motion passed by majority, with Cover and Watson absent.

Credit Card Activity Log: There was a motion by Odle, second by Hollerman, to authorize the mayor to sign the credit card activity log. The motion passed by majority, with Cover and Watson absent.

Administrative Comments:

Bretzinger had nothing.
Wood had nothing.
Barton had nothing.
Hollerman had nothing.
Odle had nothing.

Claims Approval: The claims were presented for payment. There was a motion by Barton, second by Odle, to approve the claims. The motion passed by majority, with Cover and Watson absent.

Superintendents Reports:

Building Dept.: Haun said Autumn Trace grand opening is scheduled on August 3rd from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Utility Office: Smart had nothing.

Cemetery Dept.: ~~Cochran had nothing.~~

Electric Dept.: Miller thanked council and the mayor for giving him the opportunity to work for the city the last 2 ½ years. Wood said he will be missed. Larson said he hates to see Miller go.

Fire Dept.: Haun had nothing.

Gas Dept.: Lockridge had nothing.

Legal Dept.: Ahler said the purchase agreement for the floodwater plant has been signed and are getting ready to set up a closing date. The title work is being conducted on the Parkison land and are waiting on the results.

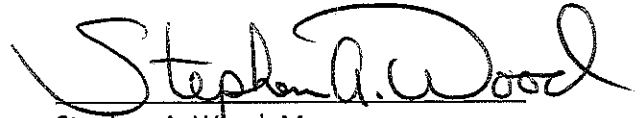
Park Dept.: Effinger had nothing.

Police Dept.: Anderson thanked council for the squad cars. He said they are getting ready to swear in the new officer. They will be opening up the application process for the second officer.

Street, Sanitation, Sewage and Water Dept.: Daniels had nothing. Lockridge said IDEM has approved three of the five DES requests. He is waiting for the other two requests to be approved. They are replacing sidewalks where trees were removed. He also thanked Miller for his service.

Lockridge said Rein with Reinforcements Design asked permission to paint a backwash tank at the park by the water plant. He wants to paint a mural of General Milroy, a deer, and a Native American on it. The only thing he is asking from the city is that we pressure wash it. People will be able to see it from College Avenue or Potawatomi Park. There was a motion by Odle, second by Barton, to allow Bontreger to paint the mural. The motion passed by majority, with Cover and Watson absent.

There being nothing more to come before council, there was a motion by Odle, second by Hollerman, to adjourn. The motion passed by majority, with Cover and Watson absent and the meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.


Stephen A. Wood, Mayor

Attest:


Frieda Bretzinger, Clerk-Treasurer