

**ROLLA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2020; 6:30 P.M.
ROLLA CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
901 NORTH ELM STREET**

Presiding: Mayor Louis J. Magdits, IV

Council Members in Attendance via Zoom Videoconferencing: Rachel Schneider, Monty Jordan, Matthew Crowell, Ann Murphey, Jacob Rohter, David Schott, Jody Eberly, John Meusch, Marie Allen, and Christine Ruder

Council Members in Physical Attendance: Carrolyn Bolin

Council Members Absent: None.

Department Directors in Attendance via Zoom Videoconferencing: Community Development Director Steve Flowers, Parks Director Floyd Jernigan, Environmental Services Director Brady Wilson, Public Works Director Steve Hargis, and Interim Recreation Center Director Marci Fairbanks

Department Directors in Physical Attendance: Fire Chief Ron Smith, Police Chief Sean Fagan, and Finance Director Steffanie Rogers

Other City Officials in Physical Attendance: City Administrator John Butz, City Counselor Lance Thurman, and City Clerk Carol Daniels

Mayor Louis J. Magdits, IV called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. and asked Councilwoman Jody Eberly to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Bolin and seconded by Jordan to approve the consent agenda as submitted. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Jordan, Bolin, Ruder, Schneider, Allen, Murphey, Crowell, Meusch, Rohter, Eberly, and Schott. Nays; None. Absent; None. Motion carried. The consent agenda consisted of the following:

(A) Approval of the Rolla City Council Minutes for the following:

- 1) City Council Meeting – May 4, 2020
- 2) City Council Closed Session Meeting, May 4, 2020
- 3) City Council Meeting – May 18, 2020
- 4) City Council Closed Session Meeting – May 18, 2020

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II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

III. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

(A) Request to Close 10th St. from Cedar to Holloway from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, June 13 in Support of the RHS Outdoor Graduation: Public Works Director Steve Hargis asked the Council to consider closing a portion of Tenth Street from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. during the Rolla High School outdoor graduation. He noted the noise emanating from the traffic on Tenth Street makes it difficult for those attending to hear the graduation speakers. Mr. Hargis said staff recommends approval.

Regarding the health precautions being taken in light of the coronavirus, Rolla High School Principal Jim Pritchett explained limited tickets to the graduation were distributed so the people in the stands are distanced. The students will be sitting six feet apart on the field. Principal Pritchett added they are still working through some of the precautions going across the stage.

A motion was made by Murphey and seconded by Bolin to authorize the closing of Tenth Street from Cedar Street to Holloway on June 13, from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Allen, Murphey, Bolin, Schneider, Ruder, Meusch, Rohter, Eberly, Crowell, Schott, and Jordan. Nays; None. Absent; None. Motion carried.

IV. REPORT OF MAYOR and COUNCIL/REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS/CITY DEPARTMENTS

Mayor Magdits referred the Council to **(A)** the April 2020, Environmental Services Department Monthly Report; **(B)** the April 2020, Parks Financial Analysis; **(C)** the April 2020, Centre Financial Analysis; **(D)** the April 2020, Municipal Court Monthly Report; **(E)** the April 2020, Police Department Monthly Report; **(F)** the April 2020, Animal Control Division Monthly Report; **(G)** the April 2020 Building Codes Monthly Report; **(H)** the May 12, 2020, Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting Minutes; **(I)** the May 19, 2020, Development Review Committee Meeting Minutes; **(J)** the April 2020 Rolla Municipal Utilities Monthly Report; and **(K)** the April 28, 2020, Rolla Board of Public Works Meeting Minutes.

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V. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

(A) Motion Amending Various Service Agreements: Finance Director Steffanie Rogers recalled that during the past two meetings, the Council approved seven contracts between the City and various organizations. After the last meeting, the Phelps County Emergency Services Board (PCEB) conducted an extra review and have requested the following statement be added to Section 5, under the “hold harmless City” section: “subject to and without waiving sovereign immunity.” Ms. Rogers noted this language was added to all seven contracts. She asked the Council to consider approving this amendment.

A motion was made by Bolin and seconded by Eberly to amend the seven service agreements by adding “subject to and without waiving sovereign immunity” language as outlined by Finance Director Steffanie Rogers. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Crowell, Schott, Ruder, Schneider, Jordan, Murphey, Bolin, Meusch, Rohter, Eberly, and Allen. Nays; None. Absent; None. Motion carried.

(B) Review of Ordinance No. 4554 – Return-to-Work Ordinance: City Administrator John Butz recalled that on March 30, the Council initiated a stay-at-home order due to COVID-19. On May 4, the return-to-work ordinance was approved and expires today. Mr. Butz told the Council they now have three options. One is to let the existing ordinance expire, take no further action, and the city would then fall under the State’s general guidelines. The authority for enforcement would then fall under the County Health Department. Mr. Butz noted the second option would be to just renew the last ordinance for another two, four weeks, etc. He stated the third option, which staff is proposing, is to extend the return-to-work ordinance with a gradual relaxing of some of the qualifiers. Mr. Butz then provided an overview of the proposed ordinance, which would be in effect until July 7. He noted the most significant change in the proposed ordinance is in Section 3.03 pertaining to social activities. The actual language in the proposed ordinance for consideration goes to the heart of Lions Club, Summerfest, or a large church that might host a gathering. Mr. Butz then read the proposed addition as follows: “Special events that take place on City property or on public right-of-way or

VI. NEW BUSINESS (continued)

(B) Review of Ordinance No. 4554 – Return-to-Work Ordinance (continued): special events that require the utilization or support of emergency services including public works, police, fire or EMS, shall provide a written health and safety plan. Said written health and safety plan must be approved by City and the Phelps County Health Department no less than fourteen (14) days prior to event.”

City Counselor Lance Thurman read the following proposed ordinance for its first reading, by title. ORDINANCE NO. 4565: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4554 IN THE CITY OF ROLLA, MISSOURI, ALLOWING ALL BUSINESSES TO OPERATE WITHIN THE CITY OF ROLLA WITH PROPER SAFEGUARDS. A motion was made by Allen and seconded by Schneider to suspend the rules and that the ordinance be read for its final reading, by title. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Eberly, Allen, Murphey, Bolin, Schneider, Ruder, Jordan, Crowell, Schott, and Rohter. Nays; Meusch. Absent; None. Motion carried. A motion was made by Bolin and seconded by Murphey to amend the ordinance to include “...frequently (at least every three hours). Special events that take place on City property or on public right-of-way or special events that require the utilization or support of emergency services including public works, police, fire or EMS, shall provide a written health and safety plan. Said written health and safety plan must be approved by City and the Phelps County Health Department no less than fourteen (14) days prior to event.” A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Schneider, Rohter, Ruder, Bolin, Jordan, Murphey, Schott, Crowell, Allen, and Eberly. Nays; Meusch. Absent; None. Motion carried. Mr. Thurman then read the proposed ordinance for its final reading, by title, as amended. A motion was made by Bolin and seconded by Ruder to approve the proposed ordinance, as amended. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Schott, Jordan, Bolin, Schneider, Ruder, Allen, Murphey, Crowell, Eberly, and Rohter. Nays; Meusch. Motion carried. The ordinance passed.

VII. CLAIMS and/or FISCAL TRANSACTIONS

None.

VIII. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

(A) Open Citizen Communication: Mayor Magdits opened the floor to anyone wishing to address the Council.

Mr. Wesley Crutcher, 590 Basswood Drive, Rolla, Missouri, told the Council that they have no idea whether social distancing is working. He said New York is a good example where people were told to stay at home. They are discovering that many of the people who stayed at home still got the virus. Mr. Crutcher said the Council is enforcing the guidelines and punishing people who are trying to get their businesses open. The Council is treating them as if they are children. Mr. Crutcher indicated another big problem is the Council is doing this meeting from home except for one councilwoman who is in the Council Chambers. He told the Council if they are going to cast rules that are going to affect the people of this town, they should be in this room and not at your house. The fact the Council is afraid and at home, shows that they are ruling by fear. If you believe all your social distancing works, apply it while you are here. Don't stay at home doing it, actively apply it, and do it here. Mr. Crutcher asked the Council to void all these rules. He accused the Council of pushing the rules through without getting public opinion. He stated he knows the Council did not go out and ask for public opinion from everybody.

No one else present addressed the Council.

IX. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

(A) Sidewalk and Drainage Problem: Councilwoman Eberly thanked the Public Works and Parks Department employees for the hard work in repairing the sidewalk and drainage problem on the Acorn Trail just behind the Veterans Park. She indicated this has been a real difficult section of trail for a long time.

(B) Tiny Libraries: Councilwoman Schneider reported that she has received feedback from local citizens who are excited about the tiny libraries in Ber Juan Park.

(C) Hand Sanitizers: Councilwoman Ruder expressed her appreciation for the placement of hand sanitizers in the Ber Juan Park pavilion.

(D) Thank You: Councilman Schott thanked Mayor Magdits, City Administrator John Butz, and the Police and Fire Departments for all they have been doing to help keep the citizens of Rolla safe during the pandemic and all the extra work they have been doing.

IX. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS (continued)

(D) Thank You (continued): Additionally, Mr. Schott thanked the City Police for their willingness to adapt to the many changes that have been happening.

Mr. Schott mentioned that a friend of his who was at Veterans Park when it was reopening said City employees were doing a very thorough and deep job of disinfecting and cleaning. He thanked City employees for their hard work and extra efforts.

Mr. Schott also thanked Mr. Nick Barrack, CSE Enterprises and USA Tours for the work their crews have been doing on the train at Schuman Park. It is really looking great and has been a great service to our area.

Parks Director Floyd Jernigan stated that plans are to complete the work on the train this week. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be planned upon completion.

X. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

(A) Civic Fundraiser: Mayor Magdits told the Council that Ms. Judy Jepsen is very passionate about animal welfare and over the years has given her heart, money, and time to animal welfare. He indicated that Ms. Jepsen, with the assistance of Ms. Lonna Sowers and Scott's Printing, has written and published a cookbook, titled "For the Love of Cooking and for the Love of Animals." He reported that Ms. Jepsen is donating 100% of the proceeds from the sale of the cookbook to the new animal shelter. The cost of the books are \$20. Mayor Magdits thanked Ms. Jepsen for her generosity.

(B) Cemetery Cleaning: At the request of Mayor Magdits, Parks Director Floyd Jernigan reported that Ms. Carole Groggin has been the lead person in the cleaning of approximately 50 cemetery stones, primarily from the civil war era. Mr. Jernigan added that volunteers from the community and soldiers from Fort Leonard Wood have also assisted.

XI. CLOSED SESSION

None.

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XII. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:32 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by City Clerk Carol Daniels.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

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