

**ROLLA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 15, 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: Christine Ruder

Council Members in Physical Attendance: Rachel Schneider, Matthew Crowell, Ann Murphey, Jacob Rohter, David Schott, Jody Eberly, John Meusch, Carolyn Bolin, and Marie Allen

Council Members Absent: Monty Jordan

Newly Elected Officials in Attendance: Ward I Councilwoman Terry Higgins, Ward III Councilman Lister B. Florence, Jr., and Ward VI Councilwoman Deanne Lyons

Department Directors in Attendance via Zoom Videoconferencing: Community Development Director Steve Flowers, Parks Director Floyd Jernigan, Public Works Director Steve Hargis, and Finance Director Steffanie Rogers

Department Directors in Physical Attendance: Interim Recreation Center Director Marci Fairbanks, Environmental Services Director Brady Wilson, Fire Chief Ron Smith, Police Chief Sean Fagan

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

A member of the Rolla Ministerial Alliance opened the meeting with prayer.

Mayor Louis J. Magdits, IV called the meeting to order at approximately 6:31 p.m. and asked Councilman John Meusch to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. OLD BUSINESS

None.

JUNE 15, 2020

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 15, 2020
PAGE 2

II. CONSENT AGENDA

(A) Motion Accepting the June 2, 2020, Certified Election Results: A motion was made by Rohter and seconded by Schneider to accept the June 2, 2020, Certified Election Results as certified by the Phelps County Verification Board. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Rohter, Crowell, Murphey, Schott, Schneider, Ruder, Allen, Eberly, Bolin, and Meusch. Nays; None. Absent; Jordan. Motion carried.

III. ELECTED OFFICIALS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

(A) Comments/Recognitions of Outgoing Councilmembers: Mayor Magdits recognized outgoing Councilmembers Monty Jordan and Jacob Rohter. He presented them with a Certificate of Appreciation and thanked them for their dedicated service on the City Council.

(B) Swearing-In of Newly Elected Officials: City Clerk Carol Daniels administered the oath of office to the following newly elected officials: Municipal Judge James Crump; Ward I Councilwoman Terry Higgins, Ward II Councilwoman Ann Murphey, Ward III Councilman Lister B. Florence, Jr., Ward IV Councilwoman Jody Eberly, Ward V Councilwoman Carrolyn Bolin, and Ward VI Councilwoman Deanne Lyons. Note: City Attorney (Prosecutor) Bradley Neckermann was unable to attend the meeting, but was administered the Oath of Office in the City Clerk's Office.

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

V. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

(A) Review of Proposed Budget for Forum Plaza Community Improvement

District: City Administrator John Butz explained the Community Improvement District (CID) is a sales tax overlay that was imposed on the Forum Plaza Shopping Center beginning in 2014 or 2015. He informed the Council that one of the CID's requirements is to annually present the budget to the Council for their review. Council approval is not necessary.

(B) Motion Authorizing the Five-Year Extension of Land Lease/Composting Site:

Environmental Services Director Brady Wilson informed the Council that the current ten-year lease with the Phelps County Landfill Board for the compost site located at the north end of McCutchen Drive, expires at the end of June. He asked the Council to consider approving the first of two, five-year extensions contained in the lease.

A motion was made by Bolin and seconded by Schneider to grant a five-year extension of the Land Lease-Compost/Mulch Site lease with the Phelps County Landfill Board. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Higgins, Bolin, Ruder, Schneider, Allen, Murphey, Lyons, Crowell, Meusch, Florence, Eberly, and Schott. Nays; None. Absent; None. Motion carried.

(C) Motion Authorizing the Closing of Certain Streets & Parking Lots on July 10 & 11 during Rolla's 2020 Route 66 Summerfest:

Public Works Director Steve Hargis informed the Council that this year's Summerfest would be held Friday evening, July 10, 2020, and all day Saturday, July 11, 2020. The event is virtually identical to previous years. Mr. Hargis said the streets and parking lots would be closed in and around the festival lots. A motion was made by Murphey and seconded by Bolin to approve the closing of the recommended streets and parking lots during the Summerfest activities. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Allen, Lyons, Murphey, Bolin, Schneider, Ruder, Meusch, Florence, Eberly, Crowell, Schott, and Higgins. Nays; None. Absent; None. Motion carried.

City Administrator John Butz told the Council that the Summerfest Committee has submitted their health and safety plan for the event.

VII. CLAIMS and/or FISCAL TRANSACTIONS

None.

VIII. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

(A) Council Appointment of Planning & Zoning Commission Representative: A motion was made by Schott and seconded by Meusch to appoint Councilwoman Jody Eberly as the City Council Planning and Zoning Commission representative. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Allen, Murphey, Bolin, Schneider, Ruder, Meusch, Higgins, Lyons, Crowell, Schott, and Florence. Nays; None. Abstentions; Eberly. Absent; None. Motion carried.

(B) Council Appointment of Mayor Pro-Tempore: A nomination was made by Meusch and seconded by Schott to appoint Councilman Matthew Crowell as Mayor Pro-Tempore. No other nominations were made. A voice vote on the nomination showed the following: Ayes; Schott, Ruder, Schneider, Higgins, Murphey, Lyons, Bolin, Meusch, Florence, Eberly, and Allen. Nays; None. Abstentions; Crowell. Absent; None. Motion carried.

(C) COVID-19 Update: Mayor Magdits noted that COVID-19 is resurging in some areas across the state and locally, Phelps County has had its sixth case and there are currently no known admissions to the hospital. Mayor Magdits said the City has not had a very strong consensus on which direction to take. He noted that on June 11, the Governor implemented Phase 2 of his recovery plan, which goes into effect June 16. He has essentially lifted all restrictions throughout the state, but deferred to local cities and municipalities. Mayor Magdits reminded the Council the City's current ordinance is valid until July 7. He asked the Council how they wish to proceed.

A motion was made by Meusch and seconded by Bolin to consider the drafting and action to repeal the existing COVID-19 ordinance. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Florence, Bolin, Crowell, and Meusch. Nays; Schneider, Ruder, Higgins, Murphey, Schott, Allen, Eberly, and Lyons. Absent; None. Motion failed.

A motion was made by Eberly and seconded by Allen to reconvene to consider amending our ordinance no later than next month. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Schott, Meusch, Higgins, Bolin, Schneider, Ruder, Allen, Murphey, Lyons, Crowell, Eberly, and Florence. Nays; None. Absent; None. Motion carried.

Mayor Magdits asked the Council to give him ideas of what they want changed in the ordinance. The Council asked that occupancy limits be loosened while maintaining the requirements for masks and health checks of service providers; retaining the section of the ordinance regarding larger events and the submission of a health and safety

VIII. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS (continued)

(C) COVID-19 Update (continued): plan; outlining some trigger points for the future in the event the ordinance needs to be more restrictive; loosening the mask restrictions on some personal services that do not require the people to be right next to each other (i.e. dog grooming, veterinarian); and, increasing the number of people allowed in a waiting room.

A motion was made by Bolin and seconded by Allen to schedule a special council meeting for no later than Monday, June 22, 2020, to consider a modified ordinance. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Ruder, Murphey, Higgins, Schneider, Allen, Bolin, Lyons, Crowell, Meusch, Florence, Schott, and Eberly. Nays; None. Absent; None. Motion carried.

IX. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

(A) Reopening of City – Mr. Joshua Vroman and Ms. Sarah Snodgrass: Mr. Joshua Vroman, 115 Gene Drive, (Ward I), Rolla, Missouri, explained that COVID-19 has really affected people. He noted that after he did not win the recent City election in Ward II, he and his wife decided to move to a smaller home. He told the Council that due to COVID-19, they were having financial problems. Mr. Vroman provided the Council with statistics regarding those infected with the virus. He said businesses need to get back to business and the bottom line is, the Council needs to reopen the city. He asked the Council to really think about the local businesses.

Ms. Sarah Snodgrass, 1113 Murry Lane, Rolla, Missouri, pointed out that cities in close proximity to Rolla (Lebanon, Waynesville, Cuba, Sullivan, Springfield) do not have a stay-at-home order. All cities in close proximity to Rolla are and will be open as of tomorrow with no restrictions and some of these locations started planning large events as early as two weeks ago. Ms. Snodgrass noted, however, that in Rolla, we continue to be held hostage by the strict guidelines set by the Rolla City Council. She stated that as a Rolla resident, she wants her rights and city back.

(B) Open Citizen Communication: Mr. Ron Bell, 14 S. Murry Lane, and owner of American Taco Co., told the Council that with the current six feet distancing regulations it has not allowed him to open his dining room. Mr. Bell indicated he follows the rules 100% at his business. He said he is not trying to avoid rules, but rather trying to

IX. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS (continued)

(B) Open Citizen Communication (continued): make a living. Mr. Bell said his business is struggling. He told the Council he is not paying himself so he can pay his employees and keep the business open. Mr. Bell concluded by asking the Council to consider his comments.

Mr. Johnny Jones, 206 Brookridge Drive, Rolla, Missouri, said this shut down thing is getting out of hand. He stated he did not serve the United States of America to be locked down and told what to do. Mr. Jones asked the Council to let them live their lives and make their choices. Right now, the Council is making our choices. He asked the Council to take that into consideration.

Mr. Nick Barrack, 1297 Highway O, Rolla, Missouri, stated there are many good things in the ordinance. However, he proposed creating an amendment that would delete all sections that inhibit business owners' ability to sell their product or service.

X. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

None.

XI. CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Schneider and seconded by Bolin to adjourn into Closed Session pursuant to RSMo. 610.021 to discuss contract negotiations. A roll call vote on the motion showed the following: Ayes; Murphey, Lyons, Allen, Bolin, Schneider, Ruder, Higgins, Eberly, Florence, Schott, and Crowell. Nays; None. Absent; Meusch. Motion carried.

The Council adjourned into Closed Session at approximately 8:35 p.m.

XII. CLOSED SESSION ACTION

The Council reconvened into open session at approximately 9:55 p.m.

City Counselor Carolyn Buschjost reported that during Closed Session the Council discussed one matter of contract negotiation. No final action was taken.

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 15, 2020
PAGE 7**

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:56 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by City Clerk Carol Daniels.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

JUNE 15, 2020