

**COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE
MINUTES
February 18, 2020**

Mayor Gallo called the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

COUNCIL IN ATTENDANCE: Aldermen Kevin O'Brien, Jenifer Vinezeano, Jon Bisesi, John D'Astice and Lara Sanoica

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Aldermen Mike Cannon and Nick Budmats

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Finance Director Melissa Gallagher, Deputy City Clerk Judy Brose, Assistant to City Manager Lori Ciezak, Police Chief John Nowacki, Fire Chief Terry Valentino, Director Public Works Rob Horne, Assistant Director Public Works Jo Ellen Charlton, Business Advocate Martha Corner, Superintendent of Internal Services Don Wenzel and City Attorney Melissa Wolf

The floor will be open to the audience for 20 minutes to address the City Council on matters that are on the agenda after the City Council discusses with Staff. We ask that persons wishing to address the City Council keep their comments to 5 minutes in length. Comments must be addressed to the Council as a whole through the Mayor, and profanity may not be used in any form.

1) Community Development Division of Public Works Update

Rob Horne, Director Public Works – When we were asked to provide this update, Staff and I sat down and looked at the presentations that we have provided last January and one last month where we talked about some of the accomplishments. As we started going through everything a couple of things came to fruition. We've done so much that it didn't make sense to get into the weeds about the all the little things that we've changed. If I'm correct, only two members of the Council were here when Public Works took over the responsibilities of Community Development. I think it's important to explain a little bit of how we got to this point so I'm going to talk about its history and its purpose, the progress we made and what we hope to do moving forward.

When we started this we were on mile one, positive attitude everything was going great but the reality is we're in the first half of that marathon. We still have a lot of changes and improvements that we have identified that we want to make but as you know all of this takes time. When you train for a marathon, there is no couch to marathon program or couch to 5k programs. You start small and work your way up.

Prior to 2017, Community Development was its own department, it had a full time director and what we found out pretty early is that there was really poor communication in the department. There were times when the Staff didn't know when rules and regulations had been changed or when codes have been adopted, there was no good transfer of information both ways, down and up. We found out that there was no good leadership in the department, there wasn't a desire of making improvements and there was a lack of priority put on customer service. As a result, the City Council approved a significant amount of money to have a professional firm to do a survey with area businesses and I think they surveyed almost 1000 businesses.

On May 22, 2017, we informed Staff that Community Development was going to be a Division of Public Works. Just so you understand what we walked into, I won't ever forget this, I was standing at the front counter with a long

February 18, 2020

COW Minutes

Page 2 of 12

time employee and talking to them about how we needed to change how we did permits. At that time, if you were building a single family home you had to fill out by hand six different permit applications for the same project and that's just to submit for the house and has nothing to do with any other requirements. I was explaining that we need to do this because we need to make it easier for the applicant, if it's easier for the applicant it's easier for us. I quote, "why do we have to make things easier for them?" and that was the attitude in the entire department. It's not very common that a Community Development Department is part of Public Works. I think we were challenged to fix some of these problems because Public Works had a reputation for getting things done.

There was about 1000 business surveys that were sent out, there were 148 responses which equals about a 15% response percentage. Community Development's grades were 72% excellent or good, 11% average and 17% unsatisfactory or negative. The 17% is not good but it does say that 83% is satisfied or considers our services acceptable. The results did expose some significant problems that we had to address. We had very poor disrespectful attitudes by inspectors and there was a concern that people were set up to fail. There was a whole culture that we had to revamp and the entire staff has worked very hard at doing that.

The core purpose of the Community Development Division is to ensure compliance with Codes adopted by City Council. This is important 1) to protect public health, safety and welfare; 2) protect residents from zoning mismatch and "nuisance" complaints; 3) maintain ISO ratings (lower insurance rates/economic development tool); 4) preserve property values/assessed values. A more diverse and well planned commercial tax base leads to lower taxes for residents. This is accomplished by effective communication with a variety of applicants; clear concise application forms, processes and fees; timely and consistent plan reviews and inspections; effective and consistent licensing renewals and property maintenance enforcement.

Community Development successes include a new "temporary" leadership in place for one year; providing resources and "a voice" for the Division improved morale; improved communication between staff and other departments/staff and "clients"; teamwork and accountability; changes made based upon the survey, we improved forms and processes; inspector training and development; two new inspectors (reassigned from PW); third party consultants; protocol for permit and plan review process and there have been no inspector complaints since 1/1/19. We are on the right track with positive attitudes, operational improvements, and improved customer service. Diligent attention to these services help protect and enhance the quality of life for businesses and residents of the City of Rolling Meadows and all who visit.

Our goals for 2020 include efficient response to retirements/staffing changes; complete Zoning Ordinance update; complete fee revisions; start and complete Building Code update and work diligently on year-long schedule for successful 2021 ERP implementation.

As always, Council members are welcome to spend time with staff in Community Development and/or Public Works to better understand the operations and process.

Mayor Gallo – Are there any questions from the Council this evening? It was a very thorough presentation and we appreciate you not getting into the weeds. For me, personally, I don't want to hear a lot about the technical issues that lead to an event. I'm very concerned with what the higher level issue was but more so concerned about what the solution is going forward and that's usually whenever I have to touch base with either you, Jo Ellen or Don, so I appreciate that.

Fire Chief Terry Valentino – I just want to piggyback on what Rob's done and since he's been here, Don Wenzel's been her a very long time, Jo Ellen and the entire Public Works staff. When I got here about 6 years ago, I had to comment I felt so compelled because the department was functionally dysfunctional at that time. The inroads that were made from when Rob came on board and when he put Don in Community Development, I was intimately involved in the fire station project where we had hurdle after hurdle after hurdle and we overcame those. Most likely we overcame that because of Don Wenzel and his requisite knowledge of what's going on in the City with all our partners from ComEd to IDOT to IEPA to the City itself to Comcast, ATT and WOW, I cannot give enough kudos to the progress that Community Development and Public Works itself has made. I think the most telling thing is back in the day when I gave my emergency management training, he had shirts made for Public Works that said "first responder," and they are. There is no 911 for Public Works, every day is 911, and they answer the call just like 911. Any time with a City project for either the fire station or anything operationally that we had a need for, Public Works answers the call. Kudos to all you guys and gals. Thank you.

2) Economic Development 2019 Recap

Martha Corner, Business Advocate – I first want to say as Business Advocate it's been a pleasure to work with the entire here at the City including the members of the City Council, Staff, Economic Development Committee and most importantly the business community. The Business Advocate position as new position in the City has required some adjustment from an organizational standpoint, the Business Advocate does not work within the Community Development Department although my office is there. I'm the Business Advocate and I have open door policy with Don, we talk daily and I have weekly meetings regularly with Jo Ellen the Assistant Director of Public Works. Things are coming along in terms of effective communications and the appropriate times for the Business Advocate to engage in what's going on with businesses in the community, if they're doing some sort of build out, if they're thinking about relocating here in the City, anything along those lines, they often come to the Business Advocate first because it is an appropriate first step. As time goes on, it's an easier process to be effectively assisting these businesses when they engage with some sort of investment in the community. Things are smoothing out and settling in and the Business Advocate is about to more proactively engage in some specific economic effort. That being said, I just would like to quickly recap what's going on and happened in 2019.

New Businesses: During 2019, 51 new businesses opened in the City (one was a second location, another a new and larger location as shown by the attached table) up from 37 in 2018. Ten (10) businesses were home occupations. Openings by City Wards were as follows: Ward 1 – 5; Ward 2 – 13; Ward 3 – 2; Ward 4 – 2; Ward 5 – 0; Ward 6 – 29; Ward 7 - 0

While all businesses in the City are important, notable business openings during 2019 include:

- Amish Farmers Market (2122 Plum Grove Road);
- Autobon Holdings Inc. (3653 Blackhawk Drive);
- Cottage Door Press (5005 Newport Drive);

- Daisy's Café (3334 Kirchoff Road);
- Fuller's Car Wash (2765 Algonquin Road);
- Hangout Café (1937 Plum Grove Road);
- Isabella's Café (5540 New Wilke Road).
- Perfect Turf (5540 Meadowbrook Court);
- School Health Corporation (5600 Apollo Drive);
- Sunset Pools & Spas (1675 Hicks Road);
- [Tesla (10 additional charging stations – 1301 Meijer Drive – not a business but notable)].

Other businesses have received or are in the process of receiving approvals for new construction or remodeling and continue to work toward 2020 opening dates:

- ATS sortimat business expansion (5655 Meadowbrook Drive);
- Aloft Hotel (3405 Algonquin Road);
- Burrito Parilla Mexicana (2101 Plum Grove Road);
- Busse's Flowers & Gifts (*Now Open* - 3445 Kirchoff Road);
- Continental Towers – Interior and Outdoor Updates (1701 Golf Road);
- Epiq Solutions (*Now Open* - 3740 Industrial Drive);
- K-BBQ (1973 Plum Grove Road);
- Leaky Keg Brewing (5100 Newport Drive);
- Lulu's Café (2633 Kirchoff Road);
- Nature's Care *Recreational* Cannabis (975 Rohlwing Road);
- Sally's Place Restaurant (1973 Plum Grove Road);
- S-E-A Limited (5600 Apollo Drive – School Health building);
- Tacos Jerez (1401 Golf Road);
- Teriyaki Madness (1319 West Golf Road).

The actual number of new business openings per year is largely a function of economic conditions, vacancies and other factors external to the City; however it is important to note that all business openings, whether in large or small locations, require much team effort on the part of City Staff and equal time by the business owner. The City continues to pride itself on a continuously high level of public/private collaboration.

2017 Business Survey Update as of January 2020: Per the 2017 Rolling Meadows business survey report completed during October 2017, the following are specific action items that have been completed or are ongoing:

- 1) Annual City of Rolling Meadows Business & Community Showcase
- 2) *Business Messenger* quarterly newsletter
- 3) Economic Development Committee new business outreach/communications
- 4) Next Level Northwest (NLNW) business accelerator program
- 5) Business Marketing Tool Kit
- 6) Rolling Meadows Dining Guide on City website and hard copy pamphlet
- 7) Various Cook County Class 6b property tax incentive support resolutions
- 8) Video gaming approvals
- 9) Restaurant Incentive program
- 10) Possible Open Land/Empty Office Building Incentive
- 11) Business Advocate

- 12) Restaurants - outdoor seating policy review – part of updating Zoning Code (2020 to complete)
- 13) Update – City of Rolling Meadows Comprehensive Plan (2019 completed)
- 14) Update – City of Rolling Meadows Zoning Code (2020 to complete)
- 15) Community Events Foundation (CEF) - enhanced programming and events
- 16) Community Development Department – staffing and procedural improvements
- 17) Annual recognition of City business sponsors and donors to community events and programs

Event and Marketing: City Staff continues to build upon marketing and events programming including:

- 1) ***Business Messenger Newsletter*** – Started in 2017, the *Business Messenger* is a quarterly publication with a strictly Rolling Meadows business focus on items of interest to the City’s business community. The newsletter is mailed to all businesses in the City of Rolling Meadows.
- 2) **Business & Community Showcase** – The second annual Rolling Meadows Business & Community Showcase event took place on Thursday, April 25, 2019 at the Meridian Banquet & Conference Center. 48 Rolling Meadows businesses and affiliated groups participated at a nominal cost of \$25 each. The third annual event, scheduled for *Thursday, April 23, 2020 at Meridian Banquet & Conference Center*, is also promising to be a success with business owners already asking about participation. Showcase enhancements include advertising available job opportunities by participating businesses, sharing of marketing materials by businesses not able to attend the event, and display of available commercial properties in the City of Rolling Meadows.
- 3) **Next Level Northwest (NLNW)** – The City hosted its first Rolling Meadows NLNW Pitch Panel application review and approval for Rolling Meadows-based Lakeshore Title Agency to enter into a professional coaching engagement on behalf of NLNW. The engagement will finish during February 2020. 2020 will be an even more productive year with hopefully another Rolling Meadows business budgeted to take advantage of this innovative, non-profit program involving five (5) municipal Board members (Elk Grove Village, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Schaumburg and Rolling Meadows) and two private sector Board members (Wintrust Bank and Comcast). *The Next Level Northwest 2019 Annual Report is attached.*
- 4) **Community Events Foundation (CEF) Programming** – The CEF will continue to build upon volunteer participation and business support of events throughout the year (thanks to the work of the volunteers and Assistant to the City Manager Lori Ciezak):
 - Taste the Town (February 29);
 - St. Pat’s Day Dinner (March 14);
 - City Market (May 23, June 27, July 18, August 22, September 26);
 - Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony (May 23);
 - Block Party on Central Road (June 12);
 - July 4th Parade (July 4);
 - FRIDAYS ROCK! Concert Series (June 19, July 10, September 18);
 - Family Night with the Rolling Meadows Cops (August 1);
 - National Night Out (August 4);
 - Wine-Down by the Creek (August 14);

- Senior Luncheon (September 8);
- Hometown Hoedown Fall Fest (October 3);
- Fire Department Open House (October 10);
- Veterans Dinner (November 6);
- Holiday Tree Lighting (December 3);
- Spaghetti Dinner (December 3).

Economic Development: City Staff work together on a variety of economic development initiatives to foster economic development and business success in Rolling Meadows:

- 1) Economic Development Committee (EDC)** – During 2019, to support economic development, the EDC provided a number of City Council policy recommendations:
 - Feedback from the 2019 Business & Community Showcase to be utilized in 2020 Showcase.
 - Open Land/Empty Office Building Incentive – Real Estate Transfer Tax Incentive Program (this will be back to the City Council in 2020).
 - City Website Review.
 - Next Level Northwest Work (Lakeshore Title Agency to finish engagement during February 2020) – *attached you will find the 2019 Annual Report.*
 - 6b Request by LC Mold (3640 Edison Place - extension).
 - Business Marketing Tool Kit on City website and printed distribution.
 - Restaurant listing with video gaming listed on City website. A different listing is available in pamphlet form.
- 2) Business Advocate – Business Attraction, Retention & Networking** – Throughout the year, City Staff meets with prospective or existing business owners, including property owners, to identify their needs as appropriate to the City of Rolling Meadows and to assist with follow up. Items may include site development questions, marketing assistance, research, meeting scheduling, business development or general relationship building. The Business Advocate works hard to make sure business needs are addressed while also fitting in with the ongoing Community Development, Administration and Public Works operations and other City department functions. 2020 promises to be an even more eventful and productive year.
- 3) Comprehensive Plan & Zoning Code Updates** – During 2018, the City engaged the planning consulting firm Teska & Associates to work on updating the 2006 City of Rolling Meadows Comprehensive Plan. The update, including specific recommendations for updating the City's economic development strategy, was completed during 2019. Also, to improve the City's development regulation process, a comprehensive Zoning Code update is scheduled for 2020.
- 4) Vacant Property List** – To assist prospective business owners or real estate brokers with site location research, the City maintains an Available Property listing on the City website. The website is updated as needed and includes itemized listings for Office, Retail, Industrial and Vacant sites.
- 5) Business Marketing Tool Kit** – A Tool Kit of marketing ideas and options, some offered by the City and others offered by third parties, is available for Rolling Meadows business representatives on the City website

February 18, 2020

COW Minutes

Page 7 of 12

and in a hard copy format. The Tool Kit includes the 2020 Rolling Meadows CEF event listing and sponsorship opportunities.

Mayor Gallo – Thank you, Martha. Any questions or feedback?

Alderman Sanoica – Do we have anything to look forward to for 2020/2021?

Martha Corner, Business Advocate – As I mentioned, we have a number of new businesses coming in, the list is included in your report. We're working on expanding the showcase platform and I think most importantly it's a matter of certainty engaging with perspective businesses in the community, helping them find locations and being informative and helpful as we go along. It's still sort of an evolution of the Business Advocate relative to the other departments in the City and we are working hard with the Economic Development Committee to develop an economic strategic plan.

3) 2020 Census

Mayor Gallo – This is one of those subjects that's not going to be too in depth here. Myself, Alderman Sanoica, Staff and some local residents are volunteering on the Complete Count Committee. As everyone knows by now the Census is conducted every 10 years and we are now in that cycle where we're going to be undergoing the Census as of April 1, 2020. Basically, what our goal as the Complete Count Committee is to engage the community as often as possible and with the greatest amount of transparency the necessity for participating in the Census for counting those residents that are in your household or you yourself if you are transient and even more so identifying those harder to reach residents and nonresidents in the community, those who live in multi-unit dwellings as they tend to be more mobile and less fixed in a given residence from year to year. It's our goal and roll to continue taking this message out to the residents piggybacking on every event possible between now and actually we're going to supersede the Census date and go on to early May when Natalia the Social Worker for the Rolling Meadows Police Department is hosting a family day in East Park Apartments and continue beyond the Census day to go ahead and continue the outreach. We did officially receive the grant funding, you've heard me mention that we received the grant before but the funding finally made its way into City Hall, so to speak, and that's a big victory because that enables us to now buy the hardware we need to go ahead and collect information for residents, signatures, emails and help them make commitments to participate. Every time that we have an opportunity to connect with a resident and have them provide some sort of confirmation that they will participate or at least pay attention to it, it's one more bite toward ownership and I think it's obliged of all of us and Councilmen and women and Aldermen representatives of our Ward to continue to bring this message out. So while you're at the events and you do see our booths, please recommend to those other attendees to stop by and pick up some literature and also share the information with those who might not be aware. Alderman Sanoica, I don't know if I covered everything, but from a high level is there anything else you'd like to bring up?

Alderman Sanoica – I just want residents to realize that when we're talking about transient population, this is in addition and kind of superseding that traditional stereotypical picture of a homeless person that's living under a bridge. We're also talking about someone who perhaps lost their job in their mid-50s and they're living with one son or daughter for one part of the year and they move the other part of the year. These types of individuals that don't necessarily have a fixed address or they're staying with other people, that's really a very difficult population for us to hit. If any residents know of these individuals, we're going to need their help to make sure that they're counted as well. For every person that we don't count, I believe the statistic is essentially loss of about \$15,000 over 10 years. If you aren't counted in this Census, you don't count at all because these only happen every decade. It's crucially important for us to participate and to participate fully.

February 18, 2020

COW Minutes

Page 8 of 12

Mayor Gallo – Thank you. You brought up a good point also for transiency, there is such a thing of high school homelessness. There are high school age individuals who do a bounce from family to family and they too need to be counted. This money as Alderman Sanoica did bring up does help with our infrastructure but also leads to overall economic development. It's very important and it ties greatly with all facets of community so long as we make sure that we get our residents to fulfill their obligation which is report their family members, their income and all the details that the Census does ask for. Again, we will provide a lot of literature at each one of our tables so that way people can become familiar with it but most importantly just remember that it's a good thing to participate. It's not about a big brother or just being a part of this count, it literally equates to dollars and those dollars drive our community forward. With that, are there any questions from the Council?

Alderman Bisesi – Correct me if I'm wrong, we definitely want to make sure whether a resident is legal or illegal they still need to be counted. There's no questions, there's nothing on there where they have to give their status.

Mayor Gallo – Correct. There's no retaliation as a result of the affiliation of legal or non-legal.

Alderman Bisesi - There's absolutely no reason to make sure that they're counted.

Alderman Sanoica – I believe what Alderman Bisesi was alluding to, whether or not only US citizens count for the Census, it is all individuals including newborn infants. If you have a baby within 3 days of the Census then that baby also counts. The US Census Bureau and all the individuals that work for it have to swear an oath and all the information they receive is confidential through life. There are severe penalties for anyone who uses that information for any other purpose other than the Census.

Mayor Gallo – Take it out to your residents and those in your Ward and just keep spreading the word. Remind them of the April 1st Census date and to participate.

4) New Utility Software Service Enhancements

Melissa Gallagher, Finance Director – This is an information piece to highlight some of the new Utility Billing Service Enhancements for residents (and businesses) and the new customer-focused technology. As a reminder, each month, the City bills approximately 6,700 customers for water, sewer, stormwater & garbage/recycling.

Listening to residents' feedback, Tyler and the City are developing the Utility Billing module with flexible payment options, added features to the City's monthly utility bill and introducing a new citizen self-service portal. We are focusing on providing excellent customer service by being proactive with information to residents.

The City is making sure that residents and businesses are informed of upcoming changes through a variety of methods: In person, on the phone, at the front counter, on the City's website, by mail, social media, articles in the City's News & Views (and other methods).

Estimated Next Steps for the New Utility Billing Module and Citizen Self-Service Portal: In March, the City will mail out a "special mailing" to Utility Billing customers (this special mailing will also include an insert for the U.S. Census Survey from the City's Complete Count Committee). At the March COW meeting there will be a presentation of the New Utility Bill. In April the final data is cutover to Tyler Munis. At the April COW meeting we will review the New Citizen-Self Service Portal. On May 1st the new utility bills will be mailed and residents may begin to sign up for E-Bills and use the Citizen Self-Service Portal. At the May COW meeting we will review the new payment methods for Utility Billing.

Tyler's "Integrated Solution" will help the Finance Front Counter Staff and Residents with determining what is owed to the City more efficiently. For instance, when a Senior Citizen comes to the front counter, the Senior Citizen

February 18, 2020

COW Minutes

Page 9 of 12

may not have all of their invoices for Senior Snow Plowing Services and their Utility Bill invoice. The new software will pull up the amounts owed for Senior Snow Plowing Services and the Utility Bill on the screen (a search by last name, address and other ways). The old system required several steps and looking items up on paper or other spreadsheets. This information is now in the software.

Tyler's configurable payment and collections options allow residents and Finance Staff to record transactions and review balances across Departments and in "real-time". For example: a resident's payment is recorded in real-time just after the payment is made

Tyler's Utility Bill Invoice, Shut-Off Invoice, AR Invoices (and future invoices such as Business Licenses and Building Permits) are processed with scan-line technology. For example, the new scanline is expected to reduce some inaccuracies from online bill pay and the scanline will be integrated with the new Citizen Self-Service Portal.

Tyler Cashiering does not store billing or customer data. Other essential features: Payment Card Industry (PCI/PADSS) security standards, Chip card enabled hardware that meets all point-of-sale best practices, and user permissions with data control access. All types of tender and combinations may be processed at the Cash Register. The software reduces the number of keystrokes and mouse clicks per transaction. The software provides detailed and summary batch reporting for transactions, payments and tender types.

After the first paper bill is mailed out in May, residents may sign up to receive their utility bills via email. The link will be on the City's homepage under Online Payments. This login portal is called the Citizen Self-Service Portal. For many years, residents have requested electronic e-bills as a service improvement. Residents will be able to view usage history, past bills and view their actual bill as if it was a paper bill. Rental Owners may also receive an e-bill on their tenant's accounts (a request from many owners). The software will also maintain an electronic copy of the bill. When reviewing a bill with a resident, Finance Staff may see the same bill as the resident sees. (This helps us communicate better with residents.)

The new Citizen-Self Service Portal will offer 24/7 customer access for viewing and paying bills. The online portal is a safe and secure site which allows residents to self-enroll in Automatic Bill Pay and Electronic Billing. Residents may view water consumption history, previous bills and payment history. *A future service enhancement:* the online portal will add other modules such as Accounts Receivable Invoices (such as for Senior Snow Plowing), Business Licenses and Building Permits.

The new software will be able to print Delinquent Notices and Shut-Off Notices eliminating the City's current cumbersome and time-consuming "mail-merge" process. With added features in the collections processing, the City will be able to review accounts in a variety of new ways for past due balances.

Going forward, the software will adapt and change with the needs of the City. The software has flexible rate structures for consumption and flat rates. The software has a flexible bill statement design which includes usage consumption graphs. These new consumption graphs may also be viewed online so residents may see their water usage trend data. The system offers easier set-up options for new customers and moving out customers who request final readings. This improves the real estate transfer process.

To ensure that modules are added correctly and appropriately, there may be future service improvements for residents that will take place after the City brings the software online. One example: "Payments by Phone in English or Spanish" (possibly other languages) [known Interactive Voice Response (IVR)] is a possible option for the City to add on after the system is online. This option would help the City offer another payment method and in a different language.

As we transition, there may be questions or concerns. Please let us know. Finance Staff may be reached at ub@cityrm.org or at (847) 394-8500. There is more information to come. Thank you for your patience as we work towards this important service upgrade.

Mayor Gallo – I can't wait for the auto draft opportunity myself so thank you. Any questions?

Alderman Bisesi – Some people may be wondering, will all the payment options be free? Will there be a service fee?

Melissa Gallagher, Finance Director – No fees at all.

5) 2020 Community Events

Lori Ciezak, Assistant to City Manager – On behalf of the Community Events Foundation Committee we'd like to thank you for your continued support through the year for these exciting City events. With the celebration of the City's 65th year of incorporation in 2020, the Rolling Meadows Community Events Foundation Committee will celebrate by showcasing a new St. Patrick's Day dinner event and an impressive line-up of band and event features throughout the year.

To date, there are approximately thirty active volunteers from the Community Events Foundation that play an integral part in helping with all City events, and new volunteers are always welcome. This group meets monthly to discuss all aspects of event planning, promoting and implementation. Adding to the current volunteer roster is a top priority in 2020, as additional volunteer help is always needed, especially with fundraising, setting up, directing the vendors, assisting residents, parking, clean up, etc.

2020 Rolling Meadows Community Events

- **TASTE the TOWN** – Saturday, February 29th
 - Featuring music by Howl2Go Dueling Pianos
- **ST. PAT'S DAY DINNER** – Saturday, March 14th
 - Featuring music by the band, Arranmore
- **BUSINESS & COMMUNITY SHOWCASE** – Thursday, April 23rd
 - Over 30 businesses are expected to participate in this event.
- **CITY MARKET** - Saturday, May 23rd (same day as the City's Memorial Day activities)
 - Featuring music by David Paige (local musician and resident)
- **MEMORIAL DAY PARADE & CEREMONY** - Saturday, May 23rd
- **BLOCK PARTY on Central Road** – Friday, June 12th
 - Featuring the band, American English
- **FRIDAYS ROCK! & ROLL IN MEADOWS** – Summer Concert Series
 - **Friday, June 19th** – featuring the band, Hi-Infidelity
 - **Friday, July 10th** – featuring the band, Hot Rocks
 - **Friday, September 18th** – featuring the band, Boy Band Review and the Rolling Meadows Environmental Committee annual Duck Race
- **CITY MARKET** – Saturday, June 27th

- Featuring music by Stann Champion (lead singer of the band, Roots Rock Society)
- Special Feature: Rolling Meadows City Council Meet & Greet (suggested date)

- **4TH OF JULY PARADE & FIREWORKS** - Saturday, July 4th

- **CITY MARKET** - Saturday, July 18th
 - Featuring music by Brian Castillo

- **FAMILY NIGHT WITH THE RM COPS** – Saturday, August 1st

- **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT** - Tuesday, August 4th

- **WINE-DOWN BY THE CREEK** - Friday, August 14th
 - Featured music by the band, Semple

- **CITY MARKET** - Saturday, August 22nd
 - Featuring music by Rolling Meadows High School Band

- **SENIOR LUNCHEON** - Tuesday, September 8th
 - Featured music TBD

- **CITY MARKET** - Saturday, September 26th
 - Featuring music by Arlington Heights School of Rock
 - Special Feature: Rolling Meadows City Council Meet & Greet (suggested date)

- **HOMETOWN HOEDOWN FALL FEST** - Saturday, October 3rd
 - Featuring music by the band, Wyatt Earp

- **FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE** – Saturday, October 10th

- **ANNUAL VETERANS DINNER** – Friday, November 6th (*first time in November*)

- **HOLIDAY CELEBRATION** - Thursday, December 3rd

For more information on these events, or to donate or volunteer to the Rolling Meadows Community Events Foundation, visit www.cityrm.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

TASTE the TOWN - Saturday, February 29, 6-9 pm – fill your plate with food from more than 15 Rolling Meadows restaurants as you enjoy the upbeat music from Howl2Go Dueling Pianos. \$15/person; no registration required. Cash bar with wine, beer and margaritas. (While supplies last.)

ST. PAT'S DAY DINNER (*New this year!*) – **Saturday, March 14, 6-10 pm** – the City is partnering with the Park District for this popular event in its 20th year! Enjoy Irish/American cuisine and fun Irish music by the band, Arranmore. Try your luck at the Reverse Raffle's grand prize of \$1,500! Dinner and raffle tickets are \$30 a piece and for sale at City Hall (Lori Ciezak) or the Park District (Amy Charlesworth).

February 18, 2020

COW Minutes

Page 12 of 12

Alderman Sanoica – For the residents that wanted to participate in the City Council Meet & Greet, I mean they really wanted to participate and were upset that they missed it. I see that we have 2 of those Meet & Greets on the calendar for the City Market, is it possible to have a booth even if not all of us can make it for residents to be able to speak with us on a weekend or do we not have space at this time with the amount of vendors that are participating?

Lori Ciezak, Assistant to City Manager – Are you talking about a solid booth at each Market?

Alderman Sanoica – Yes.

Lori Ciezak, Assistant to City Manager – I love that idea. Yes, we definitely have space.

Alderman Sanoica – If we still have space as we near these dates, that might be something that we might want to explore.

Lori Ciezak, Assistant to City Manager – Sure, I will definitely pursue that and talk with you more about how best to make that happen.

Alderman Sanoica – Thank you.

Alderman Bisesi – One other event that's not through the Community Event Foundation, the Library does their annual Dr. Seuss Birthday on March 7, 2020. I encourage people to come out and enjoy our Library and all the events. It's great for kids. English and Spanish readers. It should be a good time.

Mayor Gallo – It will be a good time. Hopefully Council has received the email from the Library inviting you all to read and participate. There's 2 session, morning and afternoon and I encourage you to make both if you can. I'll be there, I did it the prior 2 years. Thank you for sharing that for the Library's behalf. Is there a motion to adjourn? Alderman O'Brien has made the motion and it has been seconded by Alderman Vinezeano. All in favor say aye; those opposed say nay. The ayes have it and the meeting is adjourned.

There being no further business, by unanimous consent the Committee-of-the Whole meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Judy Brose, Deputy City Clerk

February 18, 2020 Committee-of-the-Whole Minutes Approved by Council on March 10, 2020.

Judy Brose

Judy Brose, Deputy City Clerk