

**CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
March 8, 2022**

Mayor Gallo called the Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Present: McHale, Budmats, O'Brien, Vinezeano, Bisesi, Reyez, Sanoica

Absent: 0

With 7 present and 0 absent. A quorum was present.

Members of the audience were reminded that the proceedings were being recorded for current and future broadcast.

Staff Members Present: City Manager Rob Sabo, Deputy City Clerk Judy Brose, Assistant to the City Manager Lori Ciezak, Police Chief John Nowacki, Fire Chief Jeff Moxley, Deputy Fire Chief Pete Sutter, Director Public Works Rob Horne, Business Advocate Martha Corner and City Attorney Melissa Wolf

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Gallo asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 15, 2022 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Alderman Sanoica made the motion and was seconded by Alderman McHale. A voice vote approved the Minutes as presented.

Mayor Gallo asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 22, 2022 City Council Meeting. Alderman Sanoica made the motion and was seconded by Alderman O'Brien. A voice vote approved the Minutes as presented.

MOTION TO DEVIATE:

Mayor Gallo asked for a motion to deviate to swear in two new police officers. Alderman Sanoica made the motion and was seconded by Alderman O'Brien. A voice vote approved the motion to deviate.

New Police Officer Swearing-in:

- Cassandra Defranco
- William O'Sullivan

Mayor Gallo asked for a motion to close the floor. Alderman Sanoica made the motion and was seconded by Alderman McHale. A voice vote approved the motion to close the floor.

MAYOR'S REPORT: None

WARD REPORTS:

Alderman O'Brien gave the Economic Development Committee monthly update.

Alderman Reyez advised residents in Ward 6 that Public Works will be making emergency sanitary sewer repairs to a resident on Magnolia Drive starting on March 10th. The excavation will take place on Brookmeade Drive and they will need to shut down a portion of the street. There will be signs and detours posted.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR 20 MINUTES:

Mayor Gallo read the rules of procedures for addressing the City Council.

Dr. Arvind Goyal provided the science and data regarding cannabis and encourages Council to require cannabis businesses to fund a dedicated professional service/task force to help prevent and manage the expected cases of addiction.

Linda Ballantine of Rolling Meadows spoke about the economic development in the location of the proposed zoning code amendment and encouraged Council to consider the adverse effects to the large class A and class B corporate businesses within Rolling Meadows that are drug free work places.

Glenn Taras of Rolling Meadows stated that he is opposed to the proposed cannabis ordinance and he doesn't see a need for a second dispensary in Rolling Meadows.

Luke Funk of Rolling Meadows stated that he is in favor of the proposed cannabis ordinance. He's concerned about the organization in Florida that's passing around fear in Rolling Meadows. Mr. Funk also stated that Council is hearing from the loud minority but not the silent majority.

PENDING:

A) Ordinance No. 22-11 – Amend Sections 122-85 and 122-331 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rolling Meadows, Illinois, to Allow and Regulate Adult Use Cannabis Dispensaries as an Allowable Special Use in Commercial Zoning Districts (2nd Reading)

Mayor Gallo read the title into record and asked for a motion to adopt this Ordinance. Alderman Sanoica made the motion and was seconded by Alderman McHale.

Alderman O'Brien stated that personally he is in favor of this but that is not why he's on the dais. He thanked the nearly 70 residents that reached out to him and stated that 66% of those residents were opposed to this ordinance and felt that one dispensary in Rolling Meadows is enough. Alderman O'Brien stated that he will be voting no.

Alderman Bisesi stated that he put a lot of thought into this. He received some feedback since the last meeting but not as much as he hoped. Alderman Bisesi made some phone calls to residents within his Ward to determine if there was a silent majority and he's convinced that there is a silent majority in favor of this. Most of the residents that he contacted were concerned about the flyer they received but once he explained what exactly Council was voting on they understood. Alderman Bisesi is concerned with the proliferation of dispensaries and feels the previous Council did a horrible job with gaming and doesn't want that to happen with this. Alderman Bisesi proposed one amendment to the ordinance, to add "no more than one within this area". Alderman Bisesi made a motion to amend the ordinance and was seconded by Alderman Sanoica.

Alderman Sanoica stated that she appreciates the concern that many residents have regarding this issue. Because the State statute does not allow for additional dispensaries within a 1500 foot radius and feels that this amendment would be overkill but thinks that if the State statute would ever change Council should return to this ordinance to adjust it to make sure only one would fit in this area. As it stands, she doesn't anticipate that there would be any more than one in this specific area which borders another municipality so that would influence whether or not we can have one or none. At this time, Alderman Sanoica would not be in favor of the amendment.

Alderman Bisesi stated that things do change and now is the appropriate time to add the language to the ordinance.

Alderman McHale stated that it would be appropriate for that specific area to only have one dispensary.

Attorney Wolf stated that she can draft the language based upon the motion which would be to amend exhibit 1 of the ordinance to limit the number of dispensaries in commercially zoned districts to one.

Alderman Budmats stated that he was part of the previous Council that did a horrible job with the gambling ordinance and this is exactly how it happened, we started out with one and then it went to only if it's in a restaurant and that it will be well controlled and generate income and now there are residents saying we didn't do a good job of controlling it and it proliferated. Alderman Budmats guarantees that within a year or two residents will say we did a bad job of handling this as well and it always starts out with just one. Alderman Budmats will be voting no out of respect for his residents but understands what Alderman Bisesi is trying to accomplish.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Sanoica McHale, Bisesi, Reyez
NAYS: Budmats, O'Brien, Vinezeano
ABSENT: 0

With 4 in favor and 3 opposed. This amendment passes.

Mayor Gallo stated that Ordinance No. 22-11 is now back for final approval as amended.

Alderman McHale stated that she contacted and spoke with many residents in Ward 1 about this ordinance and she appreciates everyone's opinions. She put a lot of thought into this and heard passionate arguments from residents that are in favor and opposed to this issue. Tonight's vote is on a special use permit in a very specific area, the commercial district east of New Wilke Road. The Planning and Zoning Commission voted unanimously in favor of this text amendment. Alderman McHale is concerned that if

we do not pass this ordinance for this area it would open up space and give an opportunity for a neighboring community to open up a dispensary within their boundaries in the same general location. It would still be in the community but we would get zero benefits from that. She finds it difficult to deny this special use permit to a legal business that would bring an economic benefit to this City while being in an area that is the least obtrusive and limited impact on the residential areas especially when we do not have many areas in Rolling Meadows as is.

Mayor Gallo commended his colleagues who went out and contacted residents in their Ward as this was a one sided channel of communication initiated by the flyers. As one of the speakers mentioned earlier regarding the size of our population, we have about 24,000 residents and as of the 2020 Census results we have over 18,000 residents who are 18 and over. We all know from campaigning that if you want to get a message across you have to deliver thousands of flyers to the population. To Alderman O'Brien's point, collectively we heard from about 73 residents but that also discounts the remaining individuals who were either indifferent or in favor but didn't voice their concerns because the flyer was telling only those that were opposed to speak. Mayor Gallo thinks it's very important that we solicit feedback and not just take the sentiment that is delivered to us and make sure we consider all of the flyers that went out in the community and we received 73 responses in opposition.

Alderman O'Brien clarified that it was 73 total calls he received not all in opposition. It was a cumulative number of 73 and 66% of that were opposed.

Mayor Gallo stated that 73 was collective of what the entire Council received in opposition.

Alderman Vinezeano stated that she received numerous calls and emails. Most of them were opposed and a few were in favor. A lot of the phone calls were from residents with questions, some asking what ordinance is Council looking to change, how it would benefit the community and would it effect the residents, etc. This is too new to really have the facts so she answered the questions honestly. People are going to have their opinion and the flyer did not change their opinion on this topic. Alderman Vinezeano had an overwhelming response to vote no against this and she will continue to vote no.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McHale, Bisesi, Reyez, Sanoica
NAYS: Budmats, O'Brien, Vinezeano
ABSENT: 0

With 4 in favor and 3 opposed. This Ordinance was adopted as amended.

➤ **ORDINANCES (1st Reading):**

B) Ordinance No. 22-00– Authorize Reserving the City's 2022 Home Rule Private Activity Bond Volume Cap (1st Reading)

Mayor Gallo read the title into record and asked for a motion to consider this Ordinance for 1st reading. Alderman O'Brien made the motion and was seconded by Alderman Sanoica.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Budmats, O'Brien, Vinezeano, Bisesi, Reyez, Sanoica, McHale
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor and 0 opposed. This Ordinance moved forward for 2nd reading.

➤ **NEW BUSINESS:**

C) MOTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS ON WARRANT 3/8/2022

Mayor Gallo asked for a motion to approve the Warrant. Alderman Sanoica made the motion and was seconded by Alderman O'Brien.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: O'Brien, Vinezeano, Bisesi, Reyez, Sanoica, McHale, Budmats
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor and 0 opposed. The Warrant was approved.

➤ **CONSENT RESOLUTIONS:**

The Consent Resolutions consisted of two (2) items, items D and E. Mayor Gallo asked if any Alderman wished to remove any item from the Consent Agenda for Resolutions. No items were removed.

Mayor Gallo declared it in order for one motion to consider the Resolutions in one motion without debate. Alderman Sanoica made the motion and was seconded by Alderman Vinezeano. Mayor Gallo read the titles into the record.

D) Resolution No. 22-R-26 – Award a Three (3) Year Contract for Landscape Services FY2022 through FY2024 with Two (2) Annual Renewal Options

E) Resolution No. 22-R-27 – Award a Construction Contract for the Brockway Sanitary Sewer Extension

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Vinezeano, Bisesi, Reyez, Sanoica, McHale, Budmats, O'Brien
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor and 0 opposed. The Resolutions were adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS & REPORTS:

Mayor's Appointments:

Library Board of Trustees Appointment

- Adrienne Rubinkowski

Mayor Gallo asked for a motion to approve this appointment. Alderman Bisesi made the motion and was seconded by Alderman O'Brien.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Bisesi, Reyez, Sanoica, McHale, Budmats, O'Brien, Vinezeano
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor and 0 opposed. Adrienne Rubinkowski was appointed to the Library Board of Trustees.

Mayor's Proclamations: None

City Clerk's Report: None

City Staff Reports:

Lori Ciezak, Assistant to the City Manager reviewed the following:

1) Community Items of Interest

- 1) The March Newsletter can be found on the City web site. Please visit www.cityrm.org and click on the "News & Views" tab.
- 2) Don't forget to 'spring forward' this Sunday, March 13 at 2AM for daylight savings. This is also a great time to test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and replace any non-functioning batteries or expired alarms.
- 3) Enjoy extra savings at five Rolling Meadows restaurants during the Chicago Northwest Eat Local Week! Visit Gus' Diner, Stadium Sports Club, Rep's Place, Los 2 Pollos Mexican or Coquelicot Café until March 13th for valuable savings. Remember to mention the "Eat Local Week" discount. A list of more participating restaurants can be found at EatChicagoNW.com.
- 4) Are you ready to rock and roll in Meadows this year? The City is proud to present many acclaimed bands this summer including 16 Candles, Hello Weekend, Wedding Banned, Student Body, Anthem, and many more. Stay up to date on City happenings and special events by visiting and following the City's Facebook page at, facebook.com/cityofrollingmeadows.
- 5) Rolling Meadows Public Works department is now hiring seasonal employees at competitive pay in a variety of positions such as maintenance workers, clerical, custodial, and interns for

community development and engineering. Applicants must be 18 or older and can apply by visiting www.cityrm.org.

- 6) Striving for safer streets in our City, the Rolling Meadows Police Department will be participating in the St. Patrick's Day traffic enforcement campaign from March 11-18. They will be actively enforcing DUI violations, speeding, unlawful use of cell phone while operating a motor vehicle, seatbelt enforcement and child safety seat violations. If alcohol will be part of your St. Patrick's Day festivities, don't get behind the wheel impaired, rather, plan ahead to ensure you have a safe ride home.
- 7) To raise funds for the IL Special Olympics this past Sunday, the Rolling Meadows Police Department did a 'polar plunge' into the icy waters at Twin Lakes Recreation Area in Palatine. The team raised over \$3,800 for these amazing athletes. A special thank you to all participants and especially to Officer Pak for his outstanding dedication to this and other Special Olympic fundraising events.

Martha Corner, Business Advocate reviewed the following:

2) February 2022 New Businesses

- 1) Ferreras Print Solution Inc. – Sales/Rental – Copiers & Printers
- 2) TMS Sales & Marketing, Inc. – Manufacturer Reps
- 3) Astrology Gallery – Books & Crystals
- 4) Barber Marketing Inc. d/b/a BMI Supply – Theatre Supply & Installation
- 5) Figaro USA, Inc. – Sales/Technical Support Gas Sensors
- 6) New Skills Training, LLC – Workforce Development Training

Rob Horne, Director Public Works reviewed the following:

3) Carnegie Drainage Improvement Status Report

Over the course of the last two years, the City has received numerous drainage complaints in this area, many of which remain unresolved due to the cost prohibitive nature of many of the solutions. As a result, staff and the City Engineer have been active in pursuing funding opportunities through the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District. Unfortunately, to date, those efforts have not resulted in significant enough funding to make substantive changes in the area.

Staff and the City Engineer have worked to develop a short-term solution for the property at 1225 Carnegie Street, while also providing beneficial stormwater improvements to adjacent property owners. The solution developed by the City Engineer requires cooperation from several separate property owners. Coincidentally, after communications began with adjacent property owners, a petition for a special use was submitted for the property at 1125 Carnegie Street. As much of the concerns related to the property at 1225 result from conditions existing on 1125 Carnegie, Staff is working with the new owner to remedy these areas. Once completed, Staff will have the remaining improvements completed with the assistance of a contractor, using funds available in the Stormwater Fund, for projects of this nature.

Rob Sabo, City Manager reviewed the following:

4) March 15, 2022 Committee of the Whole Draft Agenda

- 1) *Firehall Concept Presentation*
- 2) *Building Codes & Local Amendment Updates*
- 3) *Temporary Suspension of Water Shut-Off/City Services for Non-Payment Discussion (Continued from the January 18, 2022 COW meeting)*
- 4) *Discussion of the Use of ARPA Funds for Water Infrastructure Improvements*
- 5) *Refuse Automation Update*
- 6) *Personnel Rules and Regulations of the City of Rolling Meadows Related to the City's Pay Plan (postponed at 11/23/21 City Council Meeting)*

Rob Sabo, City Manager reviewed the following:

5) March 22, 2022 City Council Draft Agenda

MOTION TO APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MARCH 8, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION TO DEVIATE: New Firefighter/Paramedic Swearing-In

- *Dusty Psaila*
- *Javier Salgado*
- *Nicholas Mann*

MAYOR'S REPORT:

WARD REPORTS:

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR 20 MINUTES:

PENDING:

- A) Ordinance No. 22-00 – Authorize Reserving the City's 2022 Home Rule Private Activity Bond Volume Cap (2nd Reading)*

CONSENT ORDINANCES:

- B) Ordinance No. 22-00 – Amend the Personnel Rules and Regulations of the City of Rolling Meadows Related to the City's Pay Plan (1st Reading)*

NEW BUSINESS:

- C) MOTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS ON WARRANT MARCH 22, 2022*

CONSENT RESOLUTIONS:

- D) Resolution No. 22-R-00 – Approve Replacement of High-Ranger Forestry Vehicle*

- E) Resolution No. 22-R-00 – Award a Contract for 2022 Annual Pavement Marking Services*

F) Resolution No. 22-R-00 – Award a Contract for 2022 Annual Pavement Patching Contract

G) Resolution No. 22-R-00 – Award a Contract for 2022 Annual Pavement Rejuvenator Contract

OTHER BUSINESS & REPORTS:

Mayor's Appointments:

Mayor's Proclamations:

City Clerk's Report:

- City Staff Reports:*
- 1) *Community Items of Interest*
 - 2) *February 2022 Financials*
 - 3) *April 26, 2022 City Council Draft Agenda*

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

CLOSED SESSION:

- 1) *Review Closed Session Minutes – 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (21) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act - Semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.*

ADJOURNMENT:

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: None

CLOSED SESSION:

- 1) **Union Negotiations – 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (2) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act** - Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

Mayor Gallo stated the he would like to entertain a motion to go into closed session under section 2(c)(2) of the Open Meetings Act regarding Union Negotiations. Alderman Sanoica made the motion and was seconded by Alderman McHale.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Reyez, Sanoica, McHale, Budmats, O'Brien, Vinezeano, Bisesi
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor and 0 opposed. City Council entered into Closed Session.

The audience and press were advised that they do not anticipate taking any action upon returning to open session.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, by unanimous consent the City Council meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Judy Brose, Deputy City Clerk

March 8, 2022 City Council Minutes Approved by Council on March 22, 2022.

Judy Brose

Judy Brose, Deputy City Clerk