



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Monday, February 10, 2025 at 6:30 PM

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Pledge to the Flag and prayer were led by Mayor John Bearrows.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present were Councilors T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor John Bearrows. A quorum of seven were present. Also, present City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh, Deputy Clerk Rosie Belmonte, and City Attorney Dominick Lanzito.
- III. **PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC:** None.
- IV. **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**
 1. Mayor's Report: None.
 2. Council Members: None.
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENTARY:** None.
- VI. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
 1. Route 251 Detention - Mike Kuehn, IDOT and City Engineer Sam Tesreau presented Council with concept drawings for a retention pond as part of the Route 251 project to be located at 1123 N. 7th Street at the former Hickory Grove location. The purpose for the pond is to help with flooding and overflow from Highway 251 and Route 38 intersections.
 2. I-39/Route 38 Diverging Diamond Interchange, Mike Kuehn, IDOT presented Council with plans for a Diverging Diamond Interchange which is to help increase safety and help with the increase of capacity of traffic. Mike Kuehn also presented intersection improvements happening on Dement Road and Route 38 which include new islands, new signals, and putting in a multi-use path from Dement Road all the way to the new Pilot at the east end of Route 38.
- VII. **BUSINESS ITEMS:**
 1. **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIUS VOTE with Recommendations:**
 - a) Approve City Council Meeting Minutes: 1/27/2025
 - b) Approve a Resolution Adopting the Official 2024 Zoning Map
 - c) Approve Payment Registers - 1/27/25, 2/3/25
 - d) Approve Payroll - 1/6/25-1/19/25Motion made by Councilor Hayes, Seconded by Councilor D. McDermott, **"I move consent agenda items (a) through (d) be approved by Omnibus vote as recommended."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
 2. **A Resolution Authorizing and Approving a Farm Management Agreement between Martin, Goodrich, & Waddell, Inc. and the City of Rochelle.** The City of Rochelle owns 47.38 acres of farmland designated for future railroad expansion. For the 2025 farming season, this land will remain undeveloped. To optimize its use, the City intends to enter into a management agreement with Martin, Goodrich & Waddell, Inc., an established farm management company. The manager will be compensation 6% of gross revenues with a minimum fee of \$1,500 per year. City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor T. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Valdivieso, **"I move Resolution R2025- 11, a Resolution Authorizing and Approving a Farm Management Agreement between Martin, Goodrich, & Waddell, Inc. and City of Rochelle, be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

3. **A Resolution Recognizing a Change in Stock Ownership of Class B Liquor License Holder.** Sissy's Wild Card Saloon, d/b/a The End Zone currently holds a Class B liquor license. The owner, Shane Erdman, plans to sell the business to new owner, Danielle Swaab via a stock sale. The new owner will continue to operate Sissy's Wild Card Saloon, d/b/a The End Zone under the current license. Ms. Swaab meets all requirements for the Class B liquor license and as such, Mayor Bearrows, acting as Liquor Commissioner, has no concerns. This process ensures that The End Zone can continue operations without interruption. Sissy's Wild Card Saloon, d/b/a The End Zone. Motion made by Councilor D. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor T. McDermott, **"I move agenda item 3 be removed from the agenda."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
4. **A Resolution Waiving Competitive Bidding and Authorizing the Proposal from Anixter, Intl. for Image Based Services.** In effort to provide more reliability we would like to partner with Anixter and Fast Forward. This agreement will provide high resolution and thermal imagery of all poles on our system. This information is then fed through a program to look for deficiencies as well as looked over by trained linemen to find loose, warm, or broken connections on our system. The imagery can also see pole condition as well. This will help prevent future outages by determining what issues we can address today that may not be visible without the thermal imagery. Superintendent of Electric Operations Blake Toliver was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor D. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Arteaga, **"I move Resolution R2025-13, a Resolution Waiving Competitive Bidding and Authorizing the Proposal from Anixter, Intl. for Image Based Services, be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
5. **A Resolution Waiving Competitive Bidding and Approving the Proposal from Utility Dynamics Corporation for the Route 39 Fiber Crossing.** In effort to expand our fiber optic network we would like to place conduit underground to connect the existing Rt.39 crossing to our pole line east of the interstate. This will allow us to expand our fiber services to the landfill as well as the village of Creston. We asked for quotes from several vendors receiving 2. The lowest quote received was from Utility Dynamics in the amount of \$60,200. Utility Dynamics has a proven track record of completing jobs in a professional manner in our territory. They are also a local vendor. Superintendent of Electric Operations Blake Toliver was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor Hayes, Seconded by Councilor Valdivieso, **"I move Resolution R2025-14, a Resolution Waiving Competitive Bidding and Approving the Proposal for Utility Dynamics Corporation for the Route 39 Fiber Crossing, be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:38 PM. Motion made by Councilor D. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Shaw-Dickey, **"I move the Council recess into executive session to discuss the pending or imminent litigation. Section (c) (11)."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0. At 7:42 PM Motion made by Councilor T. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor D. McDermott, **"I move the Council to return to open session."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: At 7:55 PM. Motion made by Councilor D. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Valdivieso, **"I move the Council adjourn."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.