



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, July 11, 2022 at 6:30 PM

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Pledge to the flag was led by Mayor Bearrows. Prayer was said by Pastor Chris Bender.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Present were Councilors T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Gruben, Arteaga, and Mayor John Bearrows. Absent: Councilor Shaw-Dickey. A quorum of six were present. Also, present were City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh and City Clerk Rose Huéramo.
- III. PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC:**
New Employee Introductions:
 - Molly Sedig, Sustainability Coordinator
 - Brittany Zick, HR Risk and Safety Coordinator
 - Eric Holden, Network Specialist
- IV. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**
 1. Mayor's Report - A moment of silence for Highland Park Tragedy 4th of July Parade.
 2. Council Members - None.
- V. PUBLIC COMMENTARY:** None.
- VI. BUSINESS ITEMS:**
 1. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIUS VOTE with Recommendations:
 - a) Approve Minutes of City Council Meeting - 06/27/2022
 - b) Approve Check Registers - 06/27/2022, 07/05/2022
 - c) Approve Payroll - 06/13/2022-06/26/2022
 - d) Approve Special Event Request - Bearrows Auction Road ClosureMotion made by Councilor D. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Hayes, **"I move consent agenda items (a) through (d) be approved by Omnibus vote as recommended."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Gruben, D. McDermott, Arteaga, Hayes, Mayor Bearrows. Nay: None. Motion passed 6-0.
 2. **A Resolution Approving an Amendment to the Personnel Manual - Political Policy.** The City of Rochelle "Handbook" Personnel Policies Manual had a major update in October of 2018. The Personnel Policies Manual is in constant review and revisions shall be made periodically to be consistent with all applicable laws, employment policies and current technology. The City hereby amends the Personnel Policies Manual, Chapter 5, Article J, "Other" to add the following underlined language and delete the language with a strikethrough: POLITICAL ACTIVITY The Local Governmental Political Rights Act provides municipal employees with protection to engage in political activities on their own time provided the employee does not use his or her position to coerce or inhibit others in their political activities. See 50 ILCS 35/1. You are encouraged to exercise your rights as a private citizen, which includes holding membership in and supporting a political party, voting as you choose, expressing your opinion on all political subjects and candidates, attending political meetings, and maintaining political neutrality, if desired. At no time may you use your position as an employee of the City of Rochelle to endorse or provide any public support of a political party or candidate. Any such public support must be done without reference to your status as an employee or your job title and must not express or imply any City government endorsement of any political party or candidate. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in discipline. However, the

support or promotion of political activities or interests by City employees during working hours or with City resources is strictly prohibited. Employees are prohibited from using City email and phones to engage political activity. No employee is required or expected to contribute money to any candidate or political party, or referendum supporters or opponents except on a purely voluntary basis. Human Resources Director Nancy Bingham was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor T. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Arteaga, **"I move Resolution R22-30, a Resolution Approving an Amendment to the City of Rochelle Handbook regarding Personnel Policies Manual, be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Gruben, Arteaga, Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 6-0.

3. **A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with Hitchcock Design Group for Professional Services Related to the City of Rochelle's Community Entrance Signs.** City of Rochelle staff is in the early stages of evaluating updating the four community entrance signs that welcome visitors and residents to the community. The four current locations are at 251 North and South and 38 East and West. Staff proposes the retention of Hitchcock Design Group, an engineering firm with significant experience in design of community entrance signs at a cost of \$9,900 for the completion of a schematic design of new signs, a signage location plan, and cost estimates for future budgeting. Jennifer Thompson was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor Arteaga, Seconded by Councilor D. McDermott, **"I move Resolution R22-31, a Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with Hitchcock Design Group for Professional Services Related to the City of Rochelle's Community Entrance Signs, be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Gruben, Arteaga, Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 6-0.
4. **A Resolution Eliminating Certain Boards and Committees.** Resolution R96-3 approved in 1996 revised the Rochelle Municipal Code to end the current terms of all members of City Boards and Commissions as of June 30 and make new appointments to begin July 1. In preparation for newly appointed terms, it was found the activity of these five boards and committees are no longer needed for the operation of the City's business. Currently Trucking Advisory Committee, Utility Advisory Board, Stormwater Advisory Commission, Airport Advisory Board, and Railroad Advisory Board have vacant openings. These past years has been difficult to find volunteers for these boards and committees to fill the vacancies. Any issues that these boards had discussed in the past are handled by staff and the city manager with direct reporting to the Mayor and City Council. Motion made by Councilor D. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor T. McDermott. **"I move Resolution R22-32, a Resolution to Eliminate the Trucking Advisory Committee, Utility Advisory Board, Stormwater Advisory Commission, Airport Advisory Board, and Railroad Advisory Board, be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Gruben, Arteaga, Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 6-0.

VII. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:** None.

VIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** At 6:48 PM, Motion made by Councilor T. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Arteaga. **"I move the Council adjourn."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Gruben, Arteaga, Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 6-0.

John Bearrows, Mayor

Rose Huéramo, City Clerk