

**ROCKPORT COMMON COUNCIL
DECEMBER 3, 2013 6:00PM**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Ferman Yearby, Connie Hargis, Bob Mack, Carol Huff, Chris Brown, Mayor Harold Goffinet, Clerk-Treasurer Susie Roberts, City Attorney John Hargis.

PLEDGE: The *Pledge of Allegiance* was said by all in attendance.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Connie made a motion to approve the minutes of our previous meeting; Chris seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

CHARLIE FINECY MUSEUM UPDATE: Charlie says things are slow at the museum this time of year. He also reported that one of the tree carvings, The Three Ages of Lincoln, has some deterioration along the base of it. He spoke with Willy Loper about solutions on how to preserve the carving. He suggested that we cut it off at the base and fill it with an epoxy, or plastic wood, and place it on a stone base. This should preserve it for many years.

CSO UPDATE/JOHN WETZEL: John Wetzel and Mark Sullivan, from Midwestern Engineers, appeared before the council to discuss Phase III and IV of the CSO project. John discussed the use of a 290,000 gallon storage container that would be used for our overflow in the event of a heavy rain. We could then pump the overflow to the south plant as time allowed. This would be part of our Phase IV project. It was also discussed that the south plant is in need of some major improvements. These improvements to the south plant were included in Midwestern's projected cost for Phase IV. After some discussion, it was decided to omit the cost of the improvements to the south plant in our submission to IDEM. Ferman made a motion to submit to IDEM Phase III and up to the storage containment for Phase IV for our long term control plan; Bob seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed. Ferman made a motion to allow Umbaugh to do an overall study of our sewer utility, including suggestions for financing of approximately 6.7 million dollars for our CSO project and upgrades to our south treatment plant along with a review of our existing SRF bonds; Connie seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

DOWNSPOUT ORDINANCE: Mayor Goffinet wanted to inform the council that we are in the planning stages of preparing an ordinance that will allow us to enforce the disconnection of all downspouts from our city sewer. City attorney, John Hargis, is gathering information for this.

GENTRY BUILDING WALL: Mayor Goffinet stated that he had a bid of \$15,800 from Klenck to deconstruct a portion of the west wall of the Gentry building. He was going to submit it to the council tonight for approval, however, the wall fell this afternoon. Building Inspector, Phil Brown, presented pictures of the Gentry building from 2011 that showed the building needed a lot of repairs then. Connie made a motion

to allow the city to clean up the debris from the parking lot area; Carol seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

AUTO PARTS BUILDING WALL: Phil Brown and Terry Davis discussed the condition of the east wall of the Auto Parts building. They stated that the east wall is in need of immediate attention. Chris made a motion to allow Terry Davis to get bids from three contractors regarding the demolition of the east section of the Auto Parts building; Connie seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved. Ferman made a motion to allow the mayor the authority to make any immediate decisions regarding the demolition/shoring of the wall; Chris seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

OLD BUSINESS: Clerk-Treasurer, Susie Roberts, mentioned that she had spoken to the State Board of Accounts regarding some shortfalls for the park. She learned that the easiest solution would be to pay some of the pool repairs from a non-taxable account. Carol made a motion to allow her to pay \$20,349.82 in pool repairs from the AEP account (Fund #473); Bob seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

She also mentioned that she would like to start taking credit card payments by using PayGov.us for utility payments. There would be no cost to the city for this service; all fees are paid by the user. Chris made a motion to allow the utility department to start using PayGov.us for utility payments; Carol seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Currently we are transferring \$11,300 per month for the water bond payment and \$14,000 per month for the sewer bond payment from the operating account to the bond payment account. The Clerk-Treasurer has not been able to find any documentation regarding this practice. At this time our bond payments are approximately \$240,000 per year each for water and sewer. She is recommending that we transfer \$20,000 per month for each utility to make the appropriate bond payments. Connie made a motion to allow the Clerk-Treasurer to make monthly transfers of \$20,000 from the operating account to the bond payment account for each utility (water and sewer); Carol seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

NEW BUSINESS: Susie brought it to the attention of the council that we have a \$255,373.58 sewer Certificate of Deposit maturing on December 22, 2013. Chris made a motion to cash in the Certificate of Deposit and deposit it into the sewer extension and replacement account (Fund #614); Bob seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

CLAIMS: Claims were signed.

ADJOURNMENT: Carol made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Connie seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

