

Council Proceeding's  
Regular Meeting  
December 4, 2024

The Regular Council Meeting for the City of Rockwood was called to order by Mayor Troy A. Cox in the Council Chambers located at 32409 Fort St. at 7:00 PM

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Cox, Council Members Bennett, Cramton, Grzywacz, Joaquin, Mercure, and Wasner

Absent: None

City Officials

Present: Police Chief Krause, Fire Chief Mercure, Treasurer McCoy, Administrator Trush, Attorney Pelland, and City Clerk Oney

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Tiffany Reece's 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade class was in attendance to recite the pledge of allegiance

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**M-270-24** Motion by Wasner/Bennett to approve this evening's agenda as presented

Ayes are unanimous.

**Motion Carried**

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION** (Items not on Agenda)

Walter Szuper  
20083 Herzog Dr.

Mr. Szuper is here on behalf of the American Legion Post #217. Unfortunately, the day and time for the City Council Meeting is the same as the American Legion Meeting which is why the Commander is not here personally. He was asked by Commander Aaron Lawn of Post #217 to present a letter of gratitude to the City of Rockwood. We at post #217 wanted to express our gratitude to the City of Rockwood for their contribution to our fundraising drive to install a handicap restroom at our post. This contribution was made possible from the proceeds of the Veterans Day Breakfast which was hosted here in Rockwood. For those of you that do not know where post #217 is located, it is in the City of Wyandotte in Bishop Park. Post #217 serves many downriver veterans and their families. The city's contribution will certainly go a long way to help us achieve our goal of having this bathroom

installed. American Legion Post #217 would like to present a certificate of appreciation to the City of Rockwood. Mr. Szuper read the certificate as follows

The American Legion Certificate of appreciation presented to the City of Rockwood, MI

“This certificate is awarded for commitment and dedication to American Legion Post # 217, Wyandotte, MI. Your donation to our handicap bathroom addition project is a testament to your support of veterans in the Downriver area.

Presented by Edward C. Headman, Post #217, Department of Michigan, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024”

Todd Taylor  
23421 Candace Dr

Mr. Taylor stated that he was looking at the city website calendar to find out when the recycling was to be picked up and the information there is wrong. Mr. Taylor stated that the council and mayor have been in office for a year now, he thinks that they could keep the calendar up to date. Also, Mr. Taylor stated that he left several messages for someone to call him back, which did not happen. In fact, the phone system is not even up to date. He pressed option #2 for the Administrator and the message was from the old administrator. People that need to get ahold somebody in the city, whether it be residents or outside businesses, it does not look good for the city. This is something simple that needs to be addressed.

#### **PUBLIC DISCUSSION** (Items on Agenda)

None

#### **ACTION AGENDA**

**M-271-24** Motion by Wasner/Mercure to approve this evening’s action agenda items

- A) Council Meeting Minutes – November 20, 2024
- B) Accounts Payable

Ayes are unanimous

**Motion Carried**

#### **REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS/DEPARTMENTS**

Police Department:

Police Chief Krause had no formal report.

Fire Department:

Fire Chief Mercure discussed the AFG Grant 10% Share Payment, and Employee Recognition Awards

**M-272-24** Motion by Wasner/Bennett to approve the payment as listed in item 6B-1 as presented

Ayes are unanimous.

**Motion Carried**

Chief Mercure stated that they got a call on October 31<sup>st</sup> that a man had tripped on a ramp and fell forward and ended up striking his neck on a metal post which nicked a main artery. Officer Harshbarger responded and held pressure until the EMS crew arrived and they took over. They held pressure enroute to the hospital because the bleeding would not stop. He did have emergency surgery that night. The doctor said that he was about 15 minutes away from bleeding out. Chief Mercure wanted to recognize everyone involved in saving this gentleman's life.

Officer Harshbarger (in training), Kathy Mercure (working), Deputy Chief Rick Baumia, Captain Kristine Baumia, and EMT Sarah Sparks.

Chief Mercure wanted to remind everyone that with Christmas lights going up, even though they are LED, they will still overload circuits. Make sure that you have the proper power cords, so we do not have any fires this season.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer McCoy discussed the Budget Amendment 25-8

**M-273-24** Motion by Wasner/Bennett to approve the Budget Amendment 25-8 as presented.

Ayes are unanimous.

**Motion Carried**

### **CONSIDERATION ITEMS**

None

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Trush discussed the Resolution for Wayne County Annual Permits Packages, 2009 Service Van – Sale, and Resolution – 2024 Regular Meeting of City Council Schedule.

**M-274-24** Motion by Wasner/Grzywacz to approve the Resolution authorizing execution of Wayne County Permits as presented

Council Member Grzywacz asked if there were any changes from the previous resolution

Trush stated that she does not believe so. She can reach out to make sure. A lot of times we do not use them

Council Member Grzywacz stated that it appears to be a “Plug & Play”, she just wanted to make sure.

Ayes are unanimous.

**Motion Carried**

**M-275-24** Motion by Wasner/Bennett to approve the request to list the 2009 Service Van for sale under sealed bid process

Council Member Grzywacz asked what the listing price would be.

Administrator Trush stated that under the sealed bid process it will start at \$3,000.00. We have also talked about getting it appraised through Gorno Ford. In that case the starting bid may fluctuate a bit.

Council Member Grzywacz asked if there was any indication on when the bid process would close.

Administrator Trush stated that the bid usually stays open for about two weeks

Ayes are unanimous.

**Motion Carried**

**M-276-24** Motion by Wasner/Mercure to approve the Resolution for the 2025 Regular Meeting Schedule as presented

Council Member Grzywacz wanted to clarify the January 2025 Meeting’s will be on January 8<sup>th</sup> and January 22<sup>nd</sup>

Ayes are unanimous.

**Motion Carried**

#### **ATTORNEY’S REPORT**

Attorney Pelland had no formal report

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Cox discussed the Resolution to approve the 33<sup>rd</sup> District Court Budget, Recognitions, Appointment – Andrew Ross- Board of Review Alternate, and City Clerk Resignation.

**M-277-24** Motion by Wasner/Bennett to approve the Resolution of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District Court Budget for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025

Ayes are unanimous.

**Motion Carried**

Mayor Cox wanted to present some recognition plaques.

Toni & Christopher Raymond of Raymond Lawn Care and Maintenance

The Raymonds reached out to Officer Koren about donating a Christmas Tree to the City of Rockwood. Soon after, Mayor Cox spoke with them personally. He learned that they had recently moved to the City of Rockwood earlier in the year and that they are not only residents but business owners in our community also. Toni has expressed how they love the city and have had great experiences while being here. Their Children also go to Chapman Elementary School and are very pleased with it. Both Christopher and Toni wanted to do something for the city which is why they are donating the Christmas Tree. The beautiful 9 foot Christmas Tree is sitting at the front of City Hall with a tree stand and is decorated with lights. Although Mayor Cox stated that he does realize that things like this are not free, on behalf of the citizens of Rockwood and this Council, he would like to express our thanks to them for making this happen. Mayor Cox presented a plaque to the Raymonds for their generosity.

“Thank you for your Christmas Tree donation to the City of Rockwood. We appreciate your support within our community and are grateful to have you as a community partner. This would not have been possible without the generosity of Raymond’s Lawn Care and Maintenance. The City of Rockwood is honored to have you within our community both as residents and business owners. Once again, thank you for your kindness and support and we greatly appreciate your contribution. “

Mr. Raymond stated that he and his wife are very pleased and honored to have this opportunity. They really do like to give back. When they started this business 4 years ago, they had no idea where it would take them. He believes that Rockwood will be their home.

Mayor Cox would also like to present a plaque to Katt McIntosh. Mayor Cox stated that Katt reached out to his wife and stated that she was going to be able to get a live Christmas Tree donated to the City of Rockwood. Katt and her family have been friends with his family for years and their children have grown up playing sports together. Mayor Cox and his wife have been trying to get a Christmas Tree to grow with the city for years to come. Unfortunately, Katt had stated that due to unforeseen circumstances, this plan had fallen through. Mayor Cox thanked her for trying. Approximately two weeks ago Katt reached out again and had found another opportunity to secure a tree and had a 9 foot tree delivered the very next day. True to her word, the tree was delivered the very next day.

Mayor Cox and DPW Director Boron went out to Mercure Park and found a spot on a hill be itself to bask in its glory. This year the tree is lit in the park gleaming with Christmas cheer. Mayor Cox hopes to have Christmas themed events in the park utilizing this tree. Mayor Cox also wanted to mention that Katt does not even live in Rockwood but out of the kindness of her heart, wanted to make this happen for our community. Mayor Cox presented Katt McIntosh with a plaque that read.

“The City of Rockwood would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for your efforts in facilitating the donation of our future and first ever City Christmas Tree. Thank you for making a difference in our community. The donation will be able to grow with us for years to come. Your donation effort is a true statement to our strong community of supporters. The citizens of Rockwood appreciate your support more than words can express. Your efforts and generosity have been instrumental in making a difference in our community, and for this we humbly say, Thank You. Once again, thank you for your kindness and support and we greatly appreciate your efforts in making this happen. Given this day, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, by the Mayor of Rockwood and The Rockwood City Council.

Mayor Cox also wanted to recognize Casey Brown and C&K Ole Skool Express. Casey is responsible for securing this tree and delivering it. He worked in coordination with Katt to make sure that the City of Rockwood had this tree. This says a lot about Casey, whom the mayor just met this evening, to have the generosity to help this community with such a great donation. Mayor Cox stated that he cannot express his gratitude enough to be able to accept such a gift. The City of Rockwood has never had a Christmas Tree. Again, this tree is planted in Mercure Park and is lit for all to see. Mayor Cox presented a plaque to Casey that read.

“The City of Rockwood would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for your donation of our future and first ever city Christmas Tree. Thank you for choosing to make a difference through your donation which will be able to grow with us for years to come. This donation is a true testament to our strong community of supporters. The citizens of Rockwood appreciate your support more than words can express. Your generosity has been instrumental in making a difference in our community, and for this we humbly say, Thank You. Once again thank you for your kindness and support and we greatly appreciate your contribution. Given this day, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, by the Mayor of Rockwood and the Rockwood City Council. “

**M-278-24** Motion by Wasner/Mercure to go into closed session with roll call vote at 7:26 PM to discuss compensation

Ayes: Mayor Cox, Council Member Bennett, Cramton, Grzywacz, Joaquin, Mercure, and Wasner

Nays: None

**Motion Carried**

**M-279-24** Motion by Wasner/Joaquin to come out of closed session at 8:44 PM with roll call

Present: Mayor Cox, Council Members Bennett, Cramton, Grzywacz, Joaquin, Mercure, and Wasner

Absent: None

**Motion Carried**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Council Member Grzywacz stated that about 2 weeks ago we had discussed the traffic light situation at Old Fort St and Woodruff Rd. Due to the holiday she did not receive any call backs or emails until yesterday at about 5 pm. So, she is a little ill-prepared. However, she does have a diagram available from SEMCOG to show the council that shows the side streets and accidental activity. This report is available to anybody. The dots represent crashes over a 10-year time span. It is not much. She did get a return call from the maintenance engineer from Wayne County, He stated that he was not the person we needed to talk to. She explained that they had done a survey and had concluded that there should be no change in traffic pattern there. He did say that there is plenty of land for a roundabout, but it would cost an egregious amount of money. Wayne County only has one roundabout, it takes a long time to get approved. He also indicated that there really needs to be a further in-depth study done to really truly determine whether Wayne County would provide a traffic signal. Because there is a light there, it would be more cost effective to change the traffic pattern.

Council Member Grzywacz also stated that she talked to the State Representative, Jamie vv c for a response. Hopefully we will have an update at the next council meeting.

Council Member Grzywacz stated that she went to help pass out medical ID bracelets to the seniors last Friday. They were able to pass out 6, it takes quite a bit of time to get these activated. They were grateful to have this provided for them. We have more bracelets if anyone is interested.

Council Member Grzywacz stated that the City Website has been a concern of hers as well, since before she came into the office. She would like an update on if we had a plan to update this in the future. She had the idea of subletting it out to a senior or a junior who might be doing web design or something of that nature, at one point she had offered her assistance but was told that there were other plans in process.

Mayor Cox stated that he did talk to Jake (IT Department) and he was told that we should absolutely not let just anyone have access to the system and it should be done through the IT department. It takes progress and money. We do not have a timeline yet.

Council Member Grzywacz stated that maybe that would be something that they can work on together.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Cox stated that they made the decision to remove the playground equipment at Silver Creek Park. DPW Director Boron will get that started.

He would like to thank the beautification Committee and Marcie for decorating the Community Center.

He would also like to remind everybody that we now have Toys for Tots boxes in the lobby and ready to except unwrapped toys

Mayor Cox also stated that they will have a small plaque put in front of the tree so everyone knows who donated it.

Council Member Mercure wanted to remind everyone that the Goodfellows will be out this weekend collecting donations

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**M-280-24** Motion by Wasner/Bennett to adjourn this evening's council meeting at 8:51 PM

Ayes are unanimous.

**Motion Carried**

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City Clerk, Colleen E. Oney

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Mayor, Troy A. Cox