

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST MOLINE,
COUNTY OF ROCK ISLAND, STATE OF ILLINOIS
MONDAY, MAY 1, 2023, 6:30 P.M.**

PLEDGE:

Mayor Freeman led the City Council and all those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE FOR ALDERPERSONS IN WARD 1 (2-YR TERM),
WARD 2 (4 YEAR TERM) AND WARD 4 (4 YEAR TERM)**

Swearing in Newly Elected Officials:

City Clerk Roberts-Bontz swore in Newly Elected Alderperson Olivia Dorothy 1st Ward earlier today. Mayor Freeman swore in Newly Elected Alderpersons: Alderperson Jeffrey D. Deppe 2nd Ward, and Alderperson Adam Guthrie 4th Ward.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Freeman called the meeting to order and directed City Clerk Wanda Roberts-Bontz, to call the roll. The following Alderpersons were present: Olivia Dorothy, Jeffrey Deppe, Nancy Mulcahey, Adam Guthrie, Rhea Oakes, and Jose Rico.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg Aguilar, 1800 7th Street #6B, East Moline – Mr. Aguilar complimented the City Council and City of East Moline for their outstanding staff. Mr. Aguilar informed the City Council about a house located off 20th Avenue and 7th Street. There are 4 - 5 people coming up and down the driveway. They continue to the end of the driveway and lounge around. In the evening there are people looking out from the trees. There are people that come at 1:00 a.m. outside looking inside a baby carriage. Mr. Aguilar would like to know if there is anything that he could do as a neighbor? Mr. Aguilar is here to help, and he would like to bring your attention to this issue.

Mayor Freeman informed Mr. Aguilar that the City of East Moline has been working on this property for over one year. A bank out of state owns that home, the court hearing was today. Mayor Freeman has not heard what happened at the court hearing yet. It could still take over one month before anything can be done. The City is aware that there are over 18 people in that home. Mayor Freeman stated that the City is still looking at what the city could do now that the bank has taken over.

Jessica Vervaecke, 711 21st Avenue, East Moline – Ms. Vervaecke stated she thought everyone knew what was going on. There are 19 kids on both sides of the alley. Ms. Vervaecke kids are afraid to be outside during the day. Ms. Vervaecke home is the same home her Grandparents lived in for 60 years. When Ms. Vervaecke goes outside, she is approached by two big dogs who are never on leashes. She is unable to have her own dogs outside in her own back yard because she is afraid the dogs will go after my dogs. This is dangerous for the kids. Ms. Vervaecke daughter is being woken at night because of the people going through dumpsters. Whatever can we do?

Danielle Hughes, 728 20th Avenue, East Moline – Ms. Hughes continued informing the City Council about the same property. The filth is causing mice and cockroaches. Between midnight through 8:00 a.m. I have

received 24 plus notifications of people walking. Ms. Hughes has found needles in her front yard. Ms. Hughes has seen moving vans; people jump out, run inside, beat someone with a bat and then take off. Ms. Hughes' kids are unable to play outside. Ms. Hughes would like to know where they go from here?

Mayor Freeman stated that the City is working on this issue.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

City Clerk Roberts-Bontz informed the Council that she has received **Abstract of Votes** from the Rock Island County Clerk's Office and it reads as follows:

We the undersigned Members of the Canvassing Board for Rock Island County do hereby certify that on Friday, April 21, 2023, we canvassed the returns for the election held on April 4, 2023, and do proclaim that a total of **10,861** voters requested and received ballots and we do further certify that the candidates received the number of votes herein recorded. (Non-Partisan)

Office	Elected	Total Votes
ALDERMEN		
Ward 1 – 2 Yrs.	Olivia Dorothy	100
Ward 2 – 4 Yrs.	Jeffrey D. Deppe	191
Ward 4 – 4 Yrs.	Adam Guthrie	125
Ward 6 – 4Yrs.	No Candidate Filed	0

Members of the Canvassing Board were Brenda Terrell, Margaret Crouch, Kelly Sheilds and Karen Kinney.

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

City Clerk Wanda Roberts-Bontz read the Consent Agenda that included the following:

- a. Approval of the City Council Minutes of April 17, 2023.
- b. Approval of the Committee-of-the-Whole Minutes of April 17, 2023.
- c. Approval of Salaries of April 28, 2023 in the amount of \$449,651.02.
- d. Approval of the Overtime of April 28, 2023 in the amount of \$33,048.67.
- e. Approval of Bills for April 28, 2023 in the amount of \$625,626.26.

A motion was made by Alderperson Oakes, seconded by Alderperson Rico, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Upon roll call the following voted in favor: Dorothy, Deppe, Mulcahey, Guthrie, Oakes, and Rico. Motion carried.

REPORT BY MAYOR

Mayor Freeman received by email today, May 1, 2023 from the Government Finance Officers Association stating they are pleased to notify that your annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021 qualifies for GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

Mayor Freeman informed Ms. Whiting, Finance Director, about the accomplishment and informed her to pass on to her staff that they are doing an exceptional job, and the City of East Moline really appreciates their hard work.

ATTORNEY ROGER L. STRANLUND - PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

ORDINANCES – 1st Reading (None)

ORDINANCES – 2ND Reading (None)

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTIONS 23-29: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST MOLINE, ILLINOIS, AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF EASEMENTS (NEGOTIATED PURSUANT TO CONTRACT WITH KASKASKIA ENGINEERING GROUP, LLC) AS REQUIRED FOR PHASE 2 OF THE RAVINES D & G PROJECT

A motion was made by Alderperson Mulcahey, seconded by Alderperson Oakes, to approve Resolution 23-29 as presented. Upon roll call the following voted in favor: Dorothy, Deppe, Mulcahey, Guthrie, Oakes, and Rico. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS 23-30: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST MOLINE, ILLINOIS, APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH GovHR USA FOR COMPENSATION STUDY CONSULTING

A motion was made by Alderperson Rico, seconded by Alderperson Guthrie, to approve Resolution 23-30 as presented. Upon roll call the following voted in favor: Dorothy, Deppe, Mulcahey, Guthrie, Oakes, and Rico. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE (Alderperson Dorothy)

Alderperson Dorothy had no items for discussion, all items have been covered under the Consent Agenda, Ordinances and Resolutions.

CITY STAFF COMMUNICATION:

Each City Staff member present was given the opportunity to inform the City Council and those in attendance of events in their departments:

Tim Kammler, Engineering Director – Mr. Kammler informed the City Council that Colonel Curry, the highest-ranking officer for the Corps of Engineers, Mayor Freeman and myself went down to the levy on Sunday, April 30, 2023. Colonel Curry showed interest in what East Moline was doing.

Illinois-92 consultant is working on the preliminary drawings regarding changes to the road. Mr. Kammler has the drawings in his office if anyone would like to look at them.

Mayor Freeman requested Mr. Kammler to give an update on the IL-92 Corridor study.

Mr. Kammler stated that the IL92 Corridor study has not been touched in East Moline for decades 16th and 17th Avenues. Mr. Kammler stated that he is thankful that the State of Illinois has a consultant to work on the preliminary study regarding the sidewalks, widths of the roads, how far the right of way will be, looking at a possible roundabout down by Moline and East Moline boarder by where Hardees is located.

Mr. Maxeiner, City Administrator, added that the IL-92 IDOTS projects are programmed for the next 5 years. Except IL-92 from 19th Street to the East is planned for the next 1 – 2 years in Silvis. There is nothing planned from 19th Street to 1st Street at the border of East Moline except Engineering. Mr. Maxeiner stated even if we talk about the project does not mean we will see anything anytime soon.

Aldersperson Dorothy asked Mr. Kammler if there have been any meetings with City of Moline regarding the IL-92 Corridor?

Mayor Freeman stated that this is a State project. Mayor Freeman has read some of City of Moline's Council Minutes. The State of Illinois is dealing with Moline the same way as East Moline. They are individual projects. The State of Illinois is putting the money up and they are the ones that are making the proposals.

Brianna Huber, Water Filtration Director – Ms. Huber informed the City Council she was able to participate in an endeavor that the American Water Works Association is taking on. The American Water Works Association has 50,000 members. They are taking on an endeavor called Water 2050. They are trying to envision the future of water, what it will look like, what will the need of the community, and try to chart a path to make sure that the water is sustainable to and beyond 2050. The American Water Works Association is putting together five Think Tanks. Social, demographics, sustainability, technology, and Government. American Water Works Association is inviting 20-30 leaders to the Think Tank, to think through this and envision this. Ms. Huber was invited to demographic Think Tank. Ms. Huber provided the main points provided in the Think Tank she was part of. What is the future of water will look like, storm water and sanitation all together. Shared responsibility between public and private. Collaboration of partnerships. Affordability. There have been proposals with advancements of the live lock program at the Federal level. Equability and inclusion. Water resource management. Water as an institution for the community. Fit for Purpose infrastructure. Building public trust.

Chief DeFrance, EMFD – Chief DeFrance stated that the Firefighter that graduated at the last meeting has finished up his classes and his first shift will be on May 5, 2023. Eagle Eye is over at the Maintenance Services garage springs are broken on both sides, expect back in service as soon as it is repaired.

Aldersperson Mulcahey asked Mr. Maxeiner about Airbnb's rules.

Mr. Maxeiner stated that there was a discussion regarding Airbnb's a couple of months ago and it was decided to let it lay until it becomes an issue.

Aldersperson Mulcahey asked, "What will constitute an issue?"

Mr. Maxeiner stated, "You will know when it becomes an issue."

A motion was made by Alderperson Oakes, seconded by Alderperson Guthrie, to adjourn the City Council meeting. Upon roll call the following voted in favor: Dorothy, Deppe, Mulcahey, Guthrie, Oakes, and Rico. Motion carried. **7:01 p.m.**

Minutes taken and submitted by,

Wanda Roberts-Bontz, City Clerk