



MINUTES

MOLINE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall, 619 16th Street

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Council Meeting: The City Council meeting came to order at 6:00 p.m. The Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Pledge: The Council and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation: There was no Invocation.

Roll Call: Roll call was taken with Mayor Rayapati, Aldermen Williams, Macias, Wendt, Timion, Moyer, O'Brien, Waldron and Schmidt present. Absent: None.

Present

Staff: Bob Vitas, City Administrator; Jeff Snyder, Fire Chief; Joe Kuhlenbeck, Building Official; Brad Fink, Interim Director of Public Works; Michael Schenk, Interim City Engineer; Charles Graves, Interim Director of Community and Economic Development.

Others: Margaret Kostopulos, Corporation Counsel; Alexandra Elias, Renew Moline President & CEO; Rock Island Arsenal Staff: Colonel Todd Allison

Public Comment

None.

Roundtable Discussion

Arsenal Viaduct Bridge. Bob Vitas, City Administrator, introduced Rock Island Arsenal Colonel Todd Allison. Vitas explained that the bridge is in need of repair; the structure is sound, but the deck requires work. Future operational needs must be addressed as well. Vitas referenced a report, dated June 24, 2020, provided by IMEG upon inspection of the bridge. Colonel Allison explained that new housing is driving the need for bridge enhancements. The Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program (DCIP) provides funding designed to address deficiencies in community infrastructure, supportive of a military installation, in order to enhance military value, installation resilience and military family quality of life. DCIP is a competitive grant program administered by the Department of Defense Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation. Congress appropriated \$110 million for the program in FY20 and FY21, supporting 29 projects. Colonel Allison indicated that the flyover bridge project is the best fit for the community at this time. Moline Fire Chief Jeff Snyder spoke to the bridge's frequency of use for emergency response, explaining that, over the past 4 years, there was an average of 30 mutual aid responses, either giving or receiving, by Moline and Arsenal Public Safety. Rock Island Arsenal Chief Engineer Mike Panilo discussed improvements and enhancements that the Arsenal has made to the bridge. Pannell stated that the slope of the bridge coming off into Moline poses a challenge. The hope is to create a bridge that can allow the transportation of oversize loads onto the Arsenal, while potentially expanding for bicyclists and pedestrians. The possibility of an alternate footprint was posed. Grade and land availability make the current solution preferable. There was discussion. Joe Kuhlenbeck, Moline Building Official, explained that, at the time of IMEG's inspection in 2020, the cost to repair was \$6.7 million. IMEG has been asked to provide an update by June, 2022. Michael Schenk, Interim City Engineer, stated that 40 years is a good stretch of time for a bridge to go before major work is needed. The bridge could last a long time with proper renovation and maintenance. Colonel Allison suggested a timeline for the project. The City would engineer the project and, when shovel ready, apply for funding in September, 2023, with Rock Island Arsenal endorsement. Allison stated that an argument could be made that the necessity is greater for the Arsenal than for the City. Receipt of funding and repair of the bridge would be anticipated in 2024. An aluminum cantilever structure, that hangs off the side, is a viable solution to get bicyclist and pedestrians off of

the bridge and onto the Great River Trail. Alexandra Elias, Renew Moline CEO, shared a map, an outcome of the Urban Land Institute's exercise, illustrating the creation of a loop on and off the Island for pedestrian and bicycle traffic. Colonel Allison noted that this would provide a recreational experience using the river as a feature. Staff will investigate state and federal grant opportunities.

Council, Staff and Citizen Comments:

Alderman Wendt asked whether the I-74 bridge walkway would be opening soon. City Administrator Bob Vitus stated that the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) is responsible for that decision. Staff will request an update and send a press release to inform the public.

Mayor Rayapati shared that the congressional delegation has written a letter asking for movement on the passenger rail project, adding that she has also advocated for project coordination.

Public Comment

None.

On motion of Alderman Wendt, seconded by Alderman O'Brien, Council adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting is on February 15, 2022. View recorded meetings at <http://www.moline.il.us/CivicMedia?CID=9>

Respectfully submitted,



Janine A. H. Parr
City Clerk