



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, February 23, 2026 at 6:30 PM
City of Rochelle Council Chambers—420 North 6th Street, Rochelle, IL 61068

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Pledge to the flag and prayer were led by Mayor Bearrows.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present: Councilors T. McDermott, Hayes, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor John Bearrows. Absent: Councilor D. McDermott. A quorum of 6 were present. Also present: Interim City Manager Sam Tesreau, Clerk Rose Huéramo, City Attorney Dominick Lanzito.
- III. **PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC:** None.
- IV. **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**
 1. Mayor's Report: None.
 2. Council Members: None.
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENTARY:** Adam Czamanske, representing Geenex Solar of Dixon introduced himself to the Council. He provided an overview of an upcoming project, Prairie Brome Solar, a proposed utility-scale solar development to be located south of Rochelle and west of Steward in Lee County.
- VI. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:** None.
- VII. **BUSINESS ITEMS:**
 1. **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE** with Recommendations:
 - a) Approve City Council Meeting Minutes - 2/9/26
 - b) Approve Payroll - 1/19/26-2/1/26
 - c) Approve Payment Registers - 2/9/26, 2/16/26
 - d) Accept & Place on File - January 2026 Financials
 - e) Approve Special Event Request - Cypress House Outdoor MarketsMotion made by Councilor Arteaga, Seconded by Councilor Shaw-Dickey, **"I move consent agenda items (a) through (e) be approved by Omnibus vote as recommended."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 6-0.
 2. **A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Property Pursuant to a Sales Agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc.** The Police Department seeks to gain approval for the sale of City of Rochelle vehicles through Enterprise Fleet Management. Vehicles to be sold are seen below: 2012 Dodge Charger 2C3CDXAT8CH305088, 2013 Dodge Charger 2C3CDXAT8DH721420, 2018 Dodge Charger 2C3CDXKT1JH174484, 2016 Dodge Charger 2C3CDXKT6GH156104. 2000 Honda Accord JHMCG5677YC013881. Police Chief Pete Pavia was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor Valdivieso, Seconded by Councilor Hayes, **"I move Resolution R2026-07, a Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Property Pursuant to a Vehicle Sales Agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc., be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 6-0.
 3. **An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Rochelle of Ogle County, Illinois, to Borrow Funds from the Public Water Supply Loan Program (Replacement Water Service Lines).** The Water Department will be applying for an IEPA Public Water Supply Revolving Fund Loan for the Lead Service Line Replacements. As part of the requirement to borrow funds from the IEPA, the loan program requires the City to authorize an ordinance. In compliance with the USEPA final Lead and Copper Rule Improvement and in the best interests of public health, safety and welfare to improve the water system, the city is required to replace lead and galvanized required service lines. The Water

Department has entered into a professional engineering agreement with Willett Hoffman for this project. Willett Hoffman has submitted our Lead Service Line Replacement Plan. The Water Department has submitted their final materials inventory. The project is estimated at \$4.045 million, and the Water Department will be requesting authorization to secure a loan that will not exceed \$8,000,000. Superintendent of Water/ Water Rec Adam Lanning was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor T. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Valdivieso, **"I move Ordinance 2026-08, an Ordinance Authorizing the City of Rochelle to Borrow Funds from the Public Water Supply Loan Program (Replacement Water Service Lines), be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 6-0.

4. **An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Rochelle of Ogle County, Illinois, to Borrow Funds from the Public Water Supply Loan Program (New Well).** The Water Department will be applying for an IEPA Public Water Supply Revolving Fund Loan to drill a new well, construct a new well house and construct approximately 7400 feet of watermain. As part of the requirement to borrow funds from the IEPA, the loan program requires the City to authorize an ordinance. The Water Department has entered into a professional engineering agreement with Willett Hoffman to design and develop a new well. To confidently meet the EPA guideline requiring Water Suppliers to be able to meet peak demand with the largest pump offline, increase redundancy, and relieve other well pumps and equipment, it is necessary and in the best interests of public health, safety and welfare to improve the system. Superintendent of Water/ Water Rec Adam Lanning was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor T. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Hayes, **"I move Ordinance 2026-09, an Ordinance Authorizing the City of Rochelle to Borrow Funds from the Public Water Supply Loan Program (New Well), be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 6-0.
5. **A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager as the Authorized Representative for Public Water Supply Loan Documents.** The Water Department will be applying for loans funded through the IEPA Public Water Supply Loan Program for multiple projects including lead service line replacement, drill and develop Well 13 and Rt 251 Watermain replacement. The Water Department seeks the Council's Approval to designate the "City Manager" title as the person authorized to sign these loan applications documents. Designating a title will allow anyone in the role to sign the documents without having to reapprove an authorized representative if there is someone new in the role. Superintendent of Water/ Water Rec Adam Lanning was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor Shaw-Dickey, Seconded by Councilor Hayes, **"I Move Resolution R2026-08, a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager as the Authorized Representative for Public Water Supply Loan, be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 6-0.

- VIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At 6:43 PM. Motion made by Councilor Shaw-Dickey, Seconded by Councilor T. McDermott, **"I move the Council recess into executive session for the discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, for purposes of approval by the body and conducting the semi-annual review of such minutes, as authorized under Section 2(c)(21) and the (appointment, Employment, compensation, discipline, performance and/or dismissal) of specific employee(s). Section (c)(1)."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, Valdivieso, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 6-0.
- At 8:15 PM. Motion made by Councilor T. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Shaw-Dickey, **"I move the Council return to open Session."** Voice vote all in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

- IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** At 8:15 PM. Motion made by Councilor Hayes, Seconded by Councilor Valdivieso, **"I move the Council adjourn."** Voice vote all in favor. Motion passed 6-0.

John Bearrows, Mayor

Rose Huéramo, City Clerk