



**MINUTES**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Monday, February 13, 2023 at 6:30 PM**

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- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Pledge to the Flag was led by Mayor Bearrows. Prayer was said by Pastor Katherine Paisley.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Present were Councilors T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Gruben, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, and Mayor John Bearrows. A quorum of seven were present. Also, present Deputy City Clerk Jennifer Thompson and City Attorney Dominick Lanzito.
- III. PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC:**
1. Proclamation - FFA Week February 18 - 25, 2023
  2. Employee Introductions: Phillip Scheck, Walker Knight, Michael Brauhn - Water/Water Reclamation
  3. Good News - Jeremy Good, Fire Department
- IV. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**
1. Mayor's Report - Thanked the community and all the businesses for attending, supporting, and donating to From the Heart Program raising \$80,000. Congratulations to RTHS students going to state for wrestling, girls wrestling, and speech.
  2. Council Members - None.
- V. PUBLIC COMMENTARY:** None.
- VI. BUSINESS ITEMS:**
1. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIUS VOTE with Recommendations:
    - a) Approve Minutes of City Council Meeting - 01/23/2023
    - b) Approve Check Registers - 204802-204896, 204884-204955, 204956, 204957-205070
    - c) Approve Payroll - 01/09/2023-01/22/2023
 Motion made by Councilor Hayes, Seconded by Councilor D. McDermott, **"I move consent agenda items (a) through (c) be approved by Omnibus vote as recommended."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Gruben, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
  2. **An Ordinance Approving an Easement Agreement for 808 North 8th Street with K. Putzstuck and K. White.** It is necessary to upgrade and/or relocate a portion of an overhead distribution line along the westerly ten feet of property more commonly known as 808 N 8th Street. The overhead electric distribution line is over 60 years old. As a result, staff has determined a utility easement will be necessary to accommodate the adjustment and relocation. The property owners have agreed to dedicate the easement to help accommodate the new garage they propose to construct in 2023. City Engineer Sam Tesreau and Superintendent of Electric Operations Blake Toliver were available for questions. Motion made by Councilor T. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Gruben, **"I move Ordinance 23-5403, an Ordinance Approving an Easement Agreement for 808 North 8th Street with Kennth Putzstuck and Kay White, be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Gruben, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

3. **An Ordinance Approving an Easement Agreement with the Flagg Rochelle Park District.** During the development of plans for the new 7th Avenue bridge replacement it is necessary to obtain additional easements outside of the road right of way for underground utility relocation and widening of the bridge structure for improved drainage and pedestrian crossings incorporated into the bridge design. One of several easements identified is in the NW corner of the Flagg Rochelle Park District property at Midwest Park and the Kyte Creek. Furthermore, this City easement will be necessary to accommodate the regarding, shaping and erosion control stabilization of the side slopes, banks and areas adjacent to and within the Kyte Creek floodway. The FRPD board reviewed this request and have agreed to dedicate the easement while enhancing the area adjacent to the Kyte Creek. City Engineer Sam Tesreau was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor D. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Shaw-Dickey, **"I move Ordinance 23-5404, an Ordinance Approving an Easement Agreement with the Flagg Rochelle Park District, property located at 7th Avenue and Kyte Creek, PIN 24-24-426-001, be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Gruben, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
4. **A Resolution Amending the Customer Self-Generation Net Metering Policy and Updating Rider 4.** CEJA (Climate and Equitable Jobs Act) requires utilities to review their solar credits to customers annually. IMUA/IMEA have put together a list of fair credit values for each utility to use. The 2023 credit will be set at \$.0826 per kWh. The updated rider 4 allows the city manager to adjust the rate annually based on IMUA/IMEA recommendations to keep in line with CEJA. Superintendent of Electric Operations Blake Toliver was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor Gruben, Seconded by Councilor Arteaga, **"I move Resolution R23-59, Resolution Amending the Customer Self-Generation Net Metering Policy, and Updating Rider 4, be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Gruben, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.
5. **A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Extension to the Agreement with the Greater Rochelle Economic Development Corporation for Economic Development Services.** The City of Rochelle and GREDCO have been in partnership for over 35 years in the development of the City of Rochelle Railroad. In October 2019 the City and GREDCO entered into an agreement whereby the City agreed to pay GREDCO 5% of the City of Rochelle Railroad revenues. The agreement is set to expire in May of this year. The Agreement allows for up to two, 2-year extensions of the agreement. Pursuant to Paragraph 3 of the 2019 agreement the two parties agree to extend the agreement two years beyond the current term of the mayor of Rochelle. Economic Development Director Jason Anderson was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor Arteaga, Seconded by Councilor T. McDermott, **"I move Resolution R23-60, Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Extension to the Agreement with the Greater Rochelle Economic Development Corporation for Economic Development Services, be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, D. McDermott, Gruben, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: Councilor Hays. Motion passed 6-1.
6. **A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Lease Agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management for a Ford F-450 Truck for the Electric Department.** The Electric department plans to lease new trucks through the Enterprise Fleet Management Leasing program. This truck will be delivered mid 2023 with a lease term of 60 months. Under the program the City has a cost-effective way to maintain a reliable fleet without a huge upfront investment. The lease agreement includes bumper-to-bumper maintenance coverage significantly reducing repair costs and down time. This dump truck will replace a 2008 F-450 that has become increasingly more expensive to maintain and the emissions system is now failing on. Superintendent of Electric Operations Blake Toliver was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor D. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Arteaga, **"I move Resolution R23-61, a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Lease Agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management for a 2023 Ford F-450 Truck**

**for the Electric Department, be approved.**" Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Gruben, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

7. **An Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition of Real Properties Located at 509 and 509 1/2 Lincoln Avenue Through a Good Faith Offer to the Owners of Record, Condemnation or Other Means.** City Attorney Dominick Lanzito was available for questions. Motion made by Councilor Shaw-Dickey, Seconded by Councilor D. McDermott, **"I move Ordinance 23-5405, an Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition of Real Properties Located at 509 and 509 1/2 Lincoln Avenue Through a Good Faith Offer to the Owners of Record, Condemnation or Other Means, be approved."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Gruben, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, and Mayor Bearrows. Nays: None. Motion passed 7-0.

VII. **DISCUSSION ITEMS: 2022 Successes Video** – Mayor Bearrows thanked city staff for their hard work, City Council for their support, and City Manager for his guidance and leadership on the city progression.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** At 7:07 PM, Motion made by Councilor D. McDermott, Seconded by Councilor Arteaga, **"I move the Council adjourn."** Voting Yea: T. McDermott, Hayes, D. McDermott, Gruben, Shaw-Dickey, Arteaga, and Mayor Bearrows. Nats: None. Motion passed 7-0.

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John Bearrows, Mayor

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Deputy City Clerk, Jennifer Thompson