

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
October 26, 2015**

The Common Council of the City of Rensselaer met on October 26, 2015 in regular session in Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Stephen Wood called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by invocation offered by Councilman Overton and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Answering roll call were: Mayor Stephen Wood; Clerk-Treasurer Frieda Bretzinger; Council Members Scott Barton, Bill Hollerman, Russ Overton, George Cover, Ernest Watson, Jr.; City Attorney Mike Riley; Park Supt. Joe Effinger; Cemetery Supt. Ron DeMoss; Building Commissioner and Fire Chief Kenny Haun; Police Sergeant Matt Anderson; Utility Office Manager Heather Smart; Gas Supt. Carol Lockridge; Electric Manager of Operations Trace Bowles; Electric Plant Supt. Claude Grow; Asst. Street Supt. Andy Daniels; Project Coordinator Jerry Lockridge; Caitlin Sievers with the Rensselaer Republican. Electric Lead Line Foreman Lenny Larson was absent.

Also in attendance were: Jean Fredrick with M/W Insurance; Stace Pickering with C/I; Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Linda DeMoss; Mayor's Secretary Monica Maienbrook; Gas Distribution Technician Doug Wilcox; Robert Schenk with Rensselaer Adventures; Jim Miller.

The October 12, 2015 council minutes were presented and approved unanimously with a motion by Hollerman and second by Barton.

Citizen Comments and Petitions: There were none.

Ratify Council Poll for Flowers: Wood said he contacted three council members for approval to send flowers to a council member for funeral. This will be \$100 from the Public Relations Fund. There was a motion by Overton, second by Cover, to ratify the poll. The motion passed unanimously.

Dental & Vision Group Insurance for 2016: Watson said the insurance committee has discussed the quotes and it is recommending the city go with IACT Medical Trust for its dental, vision, life and short-term disability plans. There was a motion by Barton, second by Hollerman, to accept the committee's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

H S A Contribution for 2016: Watson said the insurance committee researched when the Cadillac Tax under the Affordable Care Act would go into effect. It was verified that it will not go into effect until 2018. With that information, the committee recommends the city contribute \$1,500 to each employee's H S A account that has one. There was a motion by Barton, second by Hollerman, to accept the committee's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports: There were none.

Administrative Comments: Barton asked C. Lockridge if the gas line extension was complete. She said it was. He asked for a tally of the cost. She will get that. Barton also asked if we were still driving the old Suburban. He thought it was unsafe and that's why we bought a new vehicle. Grow said we were driving it around town but aren't driving it over 25 mph. It will be put on the next city auction. Cover talked to J. Lockridge and the gentleman with TV Cable regarding the fiber optic line that was hit by a farmer farming his field out by Drexel. He indicated we had electric lines very close to their fiber optic lines. Is the farmer running in our right-of-way? Wood said the way he understood it, we put our electric line 30 inches deep. While we had the trench open TV Cable asked if they could put their line in our trench. The lines had to be at least a foot apart so they didn't get their line deep enough. Bowles said our electric line is fine where it is and there's nothing we need to do. Wood said TV Cable will probably have to trench another trench. Watson, Bretzinger, Wood, Hollerman and Overton had nothing.

Claims Approval: The claims were presented for payment. There was a motion by Cover, second by Watson, to approve the claims. The motion passed unanimously.

Supt Reports:

Building Dept.: Haun said he's playing catch-up after being gone for vacation.

Electric Dept.: Bowles had nothing. Grow had nothing.

Fire Department: Haun said they are preparing for Trunk-or-Treat and the Haunted House this week.

Gas Dept.: C. Lockridge told council they are getting ready for heating season.

Legal Dept.: Riley had nothing.

Park Dept: Effinger stated the Park Board and Corporation will meet next Monday night at 6:00 p.m.

Police Dept.: Anderson said Phillips wanted to remind everyone that Halloween was this weekend so be cautious with trick-or-treaters out.

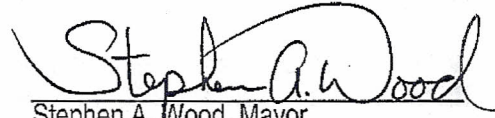
Street, Sanitation, Water and Wastewater: Daniels had nothing. J. Lockridge said the contractor working on the I-65 water main extension has been doing some directional boring. Next week they'll start putting the line in

starting at Holiday Inn Express and working their way back to town. He also asked that citizens keep leaves and branches separate for pickup.

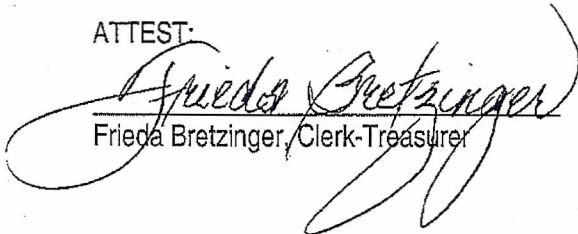
Utility Office: Smart said they will be attending a customer service meeting next week.

Weston Cemetery: DeMoss reported they will be turning the water off this week.

There being nothing more to come before council, there was a motion by Hollerman, second by Barton, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.


Stephen A. Wood, Mayor

ATTEST:


Frieda Bretzinger, Clerk-Treasurer