

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
COMMON COUNCIL  
MAY 29, 2018**

The Common Council of the City of Rensselaer met on May 29, 2018 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 Rev. Lisa Ulrich with the Church of the Nazarene and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Answering roll call were: Mayor Stephen Wood; Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Linda DeMoss; Council Members Scott Barton, George Cover, Ernest Watson, Jr; Cemetery Supt. Kevin Cochran; Park Supt. Joe Effinger; Building Commissioner and Interim Fire Chief Kenny Haun; Police Chief Matt Anderson; Utility Office Manager Heather Smart; Electric Manager of Operations Steve Miller; Electric Plant Supt. Claude Grow; and Lead Line Foreman Lenny Larson. Council Members Rick Odle and Bill Hollerman; Gas Supt. Carol Lockridge; Project Coordinator Jerry Lockridge; Street Supt. Andy Daniels; Nick Fiala with the Rensselaer Republican and Clerk-Treasurer Frieda Bretzinger were absent. City Attorney Mike Riley came in at this time.

Also in attendance were: Randy Denton; Robert Schenk with Rensselaer Adventures and Rev. Lisa Ulrich with the Church of the Nazarene.

The May 14, 2018 council meeting minutes were presented. There was a motion by Barton and second by Watson to approve the minutes. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman and Odle absent.

**Citizen Comments and Presentation of Petitions:** Chief Anderson stated that Jayce Halligan with the Rensselaer Eagles has asked to have Harrison Street closed for their Eagle-Fest on June 23 from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. They will have a beer garden, music and an auction. There was a motion by Cover, second by Barton, to allow Harrison Street closed from Van Rensselaer Street to Front Street. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman and Odle absent.

**Ordinance 10-2018-Regulating Wind Generated Electricity Facilities:** Riley said upon researching, he felt the city could ban the windfarm structures in the city limits and in the two mile buffer zone by using the statute that addresses the public health, safety and welfare of the city. (Council Member Rick Odle came in at this time.) Riley stated that they tried to make it as simple as possible. Cover asked if this ordinance could be passed tonight. Riley said yes. There was a motion by Cover, second by Barton, to approve Ordinance 10-2018. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

**Committee Reports:** Wood asked Haun and Anderson to give an update on the police station project. Haun said progress is going good. Haun said the first coat of paint is on, Eric Allison has all the data cable ran, furnaces are hooked up, electrical work is done. Anderson said all the lighting is in and they are getting ready to put the ceiling tile in and they met today to discuss the locks. Titan is ahead of schedule.

**Administrative Comments:** Odle congratulated the city employees for coming together for the Memorial Wall and Kevin Cochran for doing such a great job putting it together. Barton said it was heartwarming to see how many people showed up to help and the people that companies sent to help set up the wall. Barton said it went so smooth, nice and it was very humbling. Barton thanked all the volunteers. Wood also wanted to thank Joe and the Park Department. Wood also said it wasn't just the city that sponsored it, but the Jasper County Veterans Associated put it on. DeMoss agreed and said she got more out of helping than she gave. Watson said what really hit home was how many nineteen year olds were on the wall. Watson said it makes you know how lucky we are to be here. Cover said it was very impressive, especially the bands that played all the patriotic music.

**Claims Approval:** There was a motion by Barton, second by Odle to approve claims. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

**Superintendents Reports:**

**Police Dept.:** Anderson had nothing.

**Legal Dept.:** Riley had nothing.

**Electric Dept.:** Miller had nothing.

Grow had nothing. Wood asked if they generated all weekend. Grow said yes.

Larson had nothing.

**Utility Office:** Smart had nothing.

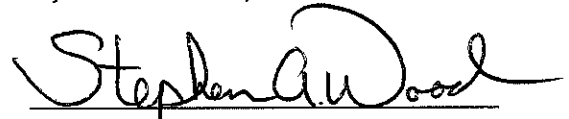
**Park Dept.:** Park Board and Corporation will meet Monday night in the conference room. National Trail Days is Saturday morning at 8:15 a.m. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony at Potawatomi Park.

**Weston Cemetery:** Cochran thanked everyone that helped with the Vietnam Memorial Wall. The entire event was completely run by volunteers, it went really smooth and there was a constant flow of visitors.

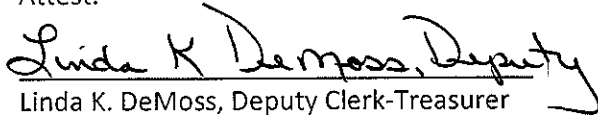
**Building Dept & Fire Dept.:** Haun had nothing.

Bob Schenk with Rensselaer Adventures said he was impressed with all the volunteers.

There being nothing more to come before council, there was a motion by Barton, second by Odle, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

  
Stephen A. Wood, Mayor

Attest:

  
Linda K. DeMoss, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer