

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
November 27, 2023**

The Common Council of the City of Rensselaer met on November 27, 2023 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 Michelle Bartell with First Presbyterian Church and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Answering roll call were: Mayor Stephen Wood; Clerk-Treasurer Shelby Keys; Council Members Russ Overton, Kevin Arnold, Noelle Weishaar, George Cover, Ernest Watson, Jr; Building Commissioner Josh Davis, Park Supt. Joe Effinger; Cemetery Caretaker Tony Baltes, Sargent Dan White, Utility Office Manager Heather Smart, Electric Lead Line Foreman Lenny Larson, Asst. Street Supt. Bryce Black, Project Coordinator Jerry Lockridge, Gas Supt. Carol Lockridge, Harley Tomlinson with the Rensselaer Republican. City Attorney Jacob Ahler, Fire Chief Kenny Haun, and Police Chief Matt Anderson were absent.

Also in attendance were: Robert Schenk with Rensselaer Adventures, Garrett Welker, Jeff Rayburn, and Stace Pickering.

The minutes of the November 13, 2023 regular council meeting were presented. There was a motion by Weishaar, second by Overton, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments and Petitions: There were none.

Ordinance 24-2023, Responsible Bidding Practices: Watson said this ordinance would repeal and replace Ordinance 02-2020. Information regarding apprenticeships has been added. There was a motion by Cover, second by Overton, to approve the ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 47-2023, Transfer of Funds: Keys read requests for transfer of funds. There was a motion made by Arnold, second by Watson, to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 48-2023, 1st Quarter Electric Tracker: Larson said this electric tracker reflects a \$2.48 increase per 1,000 kWh consumed for the 1st quarter of 2024. There was a motion by Weishaar, second by Cover, to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

USDA-RD 2024 Proposed Budget Statement: J. Lockridge said this financial report is due annually. He requested permission for the clerk-treasurer to sign and submit the report. There was a motion by Cover, second by Watson, to allow the clerk-treasurer to sign and submit the report. The motion passed unanimously.

Credit Card Statement: Wood asked for council's permission to sign the credit card activity log. There was a motion by Overton, second by Watson, to allow Wood to sign the credit card activity log. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports - Utility Budget Committee: Arnold said the committee met. The plan is to proceed with budgets, starting with wastewater and using that as a template for the other utilities.

Administrative Comments:

Cover gave appreciation to Black, Lockridge and the Street Department for picking up the leaves around town.

Watson thanked the American Legion for serving over 750 Thanksgiving dinners.

Keys said the 1782 budget notice was sent out today. MVH was cut by \$3,041.00. She will work with the department to determine where to make the cut.

Wood had nothing.

Overton gave his appreciation for the Christmas lights throughout town.

Arnold agreed with Overton's comment about the Christmas lights and said he is looking forward to the utility budget process.

Weishaar gave her appreciation for the Christmas lights throughout town.

Claims Approval: The claims were presented to council for approval. There was a motion by Overton, second by Arnold, to approve the claims. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendents Reports:

Police Dept: Anderson was absent.

Law Dept: Ahler was absent.

Utility Office: Smart reminded everyone about the Christmas party on December 8th. The Christmas parade is Saturday, December 2nd starting at 4:30 PM.

Building Dept: Davis sent letters for property owners and hand delivered letters to businesses regarding limiting alley access, encouraging them to attend the next meeting with concerns.

Fire Dept: Haun was absent.

Electric Dept: Larson had nothing.

Street, Sanitation, Water and Sewage: J. Lockridge said the water service line replacement blacktop patches will be finished by the end of the year.

Cemetery Dept: Baltes had nothing.

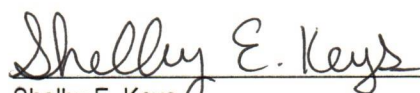
Gas Dept: C. Lockridge had nothing.

Park Dept: Effinger had nothing.

There being nothing more to come before council, there was a motion by Weishaar, second by Watson, to adjourn.
The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.


Stephen A. Wood, Mayor

Attest:


Shelby E. Keys
Clerk-Treasurer