

**Committee-of-the-Whole Minutes  
March 20, 2018**

**Mayor Prejna called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.**

**COUNCIL IN ATTENDANCE: Aldermen Mike Cannon, Nick Budmats, Laura Majikes, Joe Gallo; Robert Banger, Jr., John D’Astice**

**COUNCIL ABSENT: Tim Veenbaas**

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: City Manager Barry Krumstok, Deputy City Clerk Ginny Cotugno, Assistant to the City Manager Lori Ciezak, Finance Director Melissa Gallagher, Police Chief John Nowacki, Public Works Director Fred Vogt, Assistant Public Works Director Rob Horne, Business Advocate Martha Corner, and City Attorney Jim Macholl**

**1) Community Portal**

Mayor Prejna: Mr. Krumstok, we’re starting out with the Community Portal.

Mr. Krumstok: Sure thing. I’m going to do a very, very brief introduction and actually Don Wenzel and Justin if he comes out of videotaping he’s actually going to be around too, but also Mitch from our GIS Consortium is going to go through the Community Portal and the Map Office a little bit, but it’s been some time since you’ve actually seen this and obviously residents at home have seen this, but staff we’ve been really using a lot more. We’ve been adding more. Obviously Alderman D’Astice and Alderman Majikes knows that we did a very small demonstration of one of the sites on this for vacant property or property for sale and Mitch is going to go over that too, but keeping it very brief here’s Mitch and obviously Don and Justin is around.

Mitch Greenan: Thank you all for having me. My name is Mitch Greenan. As Barry mentioned I’m the GIS Specialist for the City. I’m an employee of MGP. Rolling Meadows is a member of the GIS Consortium which is made up of 34 different communities throughout this area. Tonight I want to give a brief introduction to what GIS is, my role for the City, and then give several demonstrations on projects I’m involved in as well as demoing the Community Portal as Barry mentioned. Just kind of starting off overall what is GIS? GIS stands for Geographic Information Systems so overall the City of Rolling Meadows has a lot of data so it’s essentially my job to pull it all into one location and then visualize it to help staff make important decisions quicker. So tonight I’d like to briefly demonstrate that like I mentioned and then also make sure that it’s communicated to all of you. The GIS resources that are available and that you have access to as City officials, and then also what residents have access to in order to learn more about where they live. So as I mentioned the City has a lot of data they manage and thankfully there is one common denominator to property in the City and that’s the address. So the first product that I’d like to demonstrate tonight is Community Portal which is an address based public and private application that allows for staff to visualize data quicker and then it allows residents to learn more about where they live. So for where this is located I just want to kind of start off as if I was a resident in Rolling Meadows. If I’m on the homepage below quick links, I can scroll down and I can see a box here that says Community Portal. So what I can do is I can type in any address in the City, so let’s say I live at 2612 Rohlwing Road, I can enter that and hit go and as you can see information will come up here that’s specific to that address that I typed in. So in here you have access to information that’s coming from a lot of different sources. So the first one is PIN number. This is also attached to the Cook County Tax Information so it’s essentially a quicker way to get all of this information. So in

addition to that County information, there's local information so let's say I want to know when my garbage comes. You can see it comes on a Wednesday. Same with recycling and there's contact information in case that does not come. So in addition to this information there's tabs on the top specific to the information that is in here. So moving through there's information on the Government Representatives specific to what the address is that you type in. As you can see here, this is great timing, if you want to know where you can vote it will say what precinct you're in and then actually your polling location for where you vote and then kind of moving toward State and County and National information, local officials so you can know what Ward you're in, your Alderman is and then get more information on how to contact people in your Ward, your Alderman, and then moving on your County Officials, State Officials, and US Officials. So the good thing about this is this is all a direct connection to this information so it's not something that we have to continually maintain and it is specific to the address that you type in. So just kind of moving through this, let's say you want to get more information on zoning in your area, so if you're putting in a fencing there's setback information. So all this information will be in here and all this will be specific to the zone you are in and then if you have any questions it has contact information at the bottom for who you can contact at the City and then moving forward this is all tabular based, however, there is a mapping component to this, so for example like I mentioned earlier let's say you want to know, you know when your garbage comes, but you talked to your neighbor across the street and they said well mine comes on Monday. Well you can actually use this to see, oh, well that's because this side of the street your garbage does come on Monday, but on your side of the street it comes on Wednesday. So that's just a quick way to get that information. So in addition to this there's also something called the property tax breakdown so what this is, is this is connecting to the tax roll information specific to the address you put in and it will essentially give you a snapshot of where your tax dollars go depending on where you live. So as you can see here you can see how this breaks down so this goes to the School District, this goes to the Township, and then this goes to the City and then if you keep scrolling down there's a tax bar chart that has another way to visual this data just by how it goes through for different municipalities. So overall this is the information specific to if you're a resident. This is all public information, but something you have the ability to do is if you, this is all through your credentials as City employees, so what you can do is you can hit the login button up in the right hand corner and when you do that you will see new tabs up here and you can see there now a fire incident, police incident, rental information, and utility billing. So essentially what this is doing is this is tying into different systems that we have in our City. So these fire, if you click fire incidents that will connect to our Firehouse database. Same with police incidents, rental information, and billing information. So if you are a police officer and you're out patrolling you can get information specific to the address just by putting this information in and eventually what I'll do is we want this to be a resource for all the different departments so they have all this data, but they can then just have all this information to either provide to the residents or to look up information quicker. Because before Community Portal is was, there's a lot of communication that had to happen to get answers that this can get a lot quicker so I think that's kind of how where GIS is valuable. Like conceptually overall and then with this product as well. So that's essentially a quick overview of Community Portal, where it is, how you can access it and we can get to questions later. I just want to give a couple other examples of other projects that I have been working on for the City. So going back, I'll go to the website, so on the City of Rolling Meadows website below, or above Community Portal there is a tab called interactive maps. So these are also maps that are available to residents and what you can do is you can click on any of these that you're interested in. So Barry mentioned earlier there is an available properties map that I've created and this can be used to see available properties throughout the City. So you can see there's a map on the right and then on the left all the available properties for office, for retail, and then for industrial and then as an example you can click on one of these, you can click on it to get more information, you get like a brief overview of information, and then if you actually want to go

to the pamphlet itself you can do that. So it's just a one stop shop for getting this information a little bit quicker vs. having to go through clicking through the website or clicking through somewhere externally and it's something that we've developed an internal process to make sure this is updated and that its available. So in addition to this I've also created a Ward Boundary Map, as I mentioned, in the Community Portal you can search your address to see who your Alderman is to know what Ward you're in, but this is just like a quick way to have this information or even if you want to create your own map. You can just print this out in a pamphlet and have access to this. So in addition to this we also have our interactive bike path map so I guess this is just an example of how we can take all the data we have in the City and just visualize it for things that are most important for residents in the City. I think the best part of GIS is its continually growing and that we're continually building for what's most important for us, what's most important to residents. And the last thing that I wanted to demo was this is another public facing application that is for residents that will be rolled out soon is our community events map, so essentially what this has is this has all the events that are happening this year and what you can do is you can just go okay I want to know what's going on in May, alright, this is the City Market that's going on and then it's just a brief way to get all this information and then we can tie this and we can update this to the City Website itself and anything that we send out for residents to know what's going on in the City. Just a little bit easier for them to access. So that is all that I have for demonstrations. I would like to use the rest of the time for any questions that you might have or if there's anything that I missed, Barry or Don, that you'd like to cover, but thank you.

Don Wenzel: I would just like to add that on a monthly basis we find this product to be the GIS, to be something City-wide to be used by all of our employees, not just Public Works, not just Community Development and on a monthly basis we hold a monthly GIS planning meeting in which we have representatives from all Departments. They bring their ideas, what their needs are. We started three years ago when MGP came on board. We put together a 5-year plan and with that 5-year plan we had a number of projects. The biggest project that we have going on right now is the integration with the ERP and so getting all the addresses, you couldn't even imagine how many different databases there are in the City, but they have every database has the address and the same format and it is a big task and Mitch has been working on that and as we move forward he'll continue to work on that to make sure that everything matches. We also then as we have these projects, then we have stakeholder meetings and the stakeholders would be if it was the Police Department project it would be Mitch and myself or Rob Horne, and then members of the Police Department and would go through what their needs are and how we can accomplish those needs. So with that being said, we are open to any questions and if there's any further you would like assistance navigating through it, we are available to be able to help you with it. We believe that this is a great tool. It certainly has cut down on the amount of phone calls that we've gotten at Public Works since we rolled it out for people calling about their garbage collection day, what Ward am I in, etc. So I'm sure not only at Public Works, but at the front desk here, but this is a great tool for you that if you got a call from your constituents you can either direct them to it or you can quickly answer their questions.

Mr. Krumstok: The one other thing that I just want to stress, and this goes back into a lot of the stuff that staff has that obviously residents can't see at this point in time, but we've taken a lot of paper, specifically if you look at our water, sewer, and a bunch of different things, it's all accessible now so for the last few years a lot of those watermain breaks are now part of it so now staff can look and see where those breaks were and evaluate it. The other thing with Rob Horne in the back room, just making sure that he's paying attention, we actually utilize it for some of our construction projects, but also for our Capital Improvement Program. And that's actually something that we do a lot of utilizing the GIS, but also graphing how we're doing some of our projects. So a lot more

integration continues going on with all the different pieces, but at the same point in time we continue making more layers of information that we're utilizing and if you ever see Public Works with one of their computers, sometimes they're taking some of that information, inputting it immediately so then it populates into the information that we're actually utilizing. And again, we do a lot of work now with the ERP making sure that handshake is going on so that when ERP goes live a lot of this is also tied with every other piece that we have.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you. I have just a couple comments before we ask for, I just think this is really great. I can remember being with a Citizen's Public Works Academy and I usually try to spend a day like in the summer with different departments when this was just really exciting to go see a watermain and that was the only thing you saw on the computer and I remember Don saying it's going to get better, it's going to get better, because I could see my house and there's the watermain and there's the sewer, so kudos from where you've come so far so I think it's great. Are there any questions for clarification? Ms. Majikes.

Alderman Majikes: Thank you. I think this is wonderful besides for the current residents and the information, but for future new residents that come in and have so many questions. Just curious, do we track at all like how often people are looking at it. Do you have any idea of how many residents look at it? Do we track that in anyway?

Mr. Greenan: Yeah, we can have the number. We can't have specifically who is.....

Alderman Majikes: Yeah, but we know people are using it.

Mr. Greenan: Exactly and we have different pages like I mentioned so we can see how many pages are getting how many hits, so we can get a good idea, because that's the most important part, right. We can build whatever we want but if we can't get it out to the residents, that's what's most important for the development of it.

Alderman Majikes: Wonderful, thank you.

Mayor Prejna: Any other questions for clarification? Okay, is there any discussion on this?

Mr. Wenzel: Thank you for allowing us to update you. You may see us again in a couple of months when the Capital Projects Map, we're working on that now, but when we get the Capital Improvement Project Map put together and after the Capital Improvements Committee sees it, we'd like to bring it back to you and show you how you can access data on that also, because with the Street Program and Sidewalk Programs and Watermain Projects, and so on it would be nice to know what's taking place in your Ward and who it's going to be affecting. Thank you again.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you.

## **2) Restaurant Incentive**

Mayor Prejna: Mr. Krumstok, I guess you're going to lead off the Restaurant Incentive?

Mr. Krumstok: I'm going to do a very brief introduction and then I'm going to, well it's all in the packet, if Alderman D'Astice wants to make any additional comments, but again this was bought up by Alderman D'Astice originally to the City Council. It was given to the Economic Development

Committee and then for five different meetings, November, December, January, February and March we worked on this and it is a Restaurant Incentive Program for the entire City. When you look at some of the information there's really two parts. There's one part that looks like the PowerPoint. That's the discussion about how the program works and then the last three pages are really a sign-up if someone wants to participate and that's the draft item that you see and mostly the information that would be provided to the City is really stuff that banks are asking for and some additional as we evaluate part of it. It's really at this point in time before the City Council for discussion, feedback, so if there's any additional information that needs to be done, then we're asking for a straw vote if you'd like to proceed because now there would have to be some legal wordsmithing by City Attorney Jim Macholl. And then the final part is if we are putting this into an ordinance one thing that the Economic Development Committee really didn't talk about and that's really Council direction if you want to proceed this way is a time limit. Do you want to have a time limit? Do you not want to have a time limit? I go back into a little history with the D-Plan that we did have a time limit and again this is just a Restaurant Incentive Program for different opportunities. I would stress when we did talk about this at Economic Development Committee we would budget for it because obviously a business has to be in place for a period of time so there are parameters that we would actually have in place, so with that, that's my very brief introduction and then what we're looking for, for direction tonight.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you. And as you have pointed out we started this, or Mr. D'Astice started this, 6, 7 months ago.

Alderman D'Astice: In November

Mayor Prejna: November, and it has been through Economic Development five times so if we can come to a consensus to move forward, however, if people have questions and you want to come back to discussion we can do that so are there any questions for clarification to start off? Mr. D'Astice

Alderman D'Astice: Thank you. It's been, the plan, the incentive, has grown and been fine turned by the Economic Development Committee for quite some time. I tried to not be overbearing. I wanted the members of that Committee to look at it and make this a worthwhile plan. It's different than what I first proposed, but I think overall it's a good incentive for both people who are renting space and for those who are purchasing space. It's open for further discussion. We can add or subtract anything we want to and what I would, the only thing I would move that we include on this is that I'd like to see this be in place for a period of 5 years and I say 5 because we did have a consultant that we used for 3 years and we didn't really get anywhere so I think that 5 years is a good timeframe, but I would put the caveat in there that we review this plan annually and update it based on what staff hears, so primarily I think it would probably be Martha. She might say, hear from restaurants saying well it would be nice if the incentive included this or it didn't include that, so I think at least every 12 months we should bring this up at a COW meeting and have Martha, and I'm just using your name Martha, or whomever is getting input on this, bring that input to Council so that we can modify and continue to improve this incentive because if you just write it once and throw it on the shelf its going to collect moss and die. So I think we need to improve, continually improve this. That's all I have Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you Mr. D'Astice. Are there any questions, points of clarification for this? Mr. Banger

Alderman Banger: Thank you. My understanding initially before I started reading this was we kind of wanted to target this mostly on the Kirchoff corridor to attract restaurants to there, which we've been complaining there aren't any and so I was kind of surprised when this was all City. I guess that one of my comments, and we've talked about this before, I think it was Alderman Cannon who said for a startup restaurant its cash heavy at the beginning so rebating them dough at the end of the year, the timing is off. They need that when they start so I guess if I was thinking of how this was going to be most helpful, I would find a way to frontload that with some claw back provision I suppose, if they didn't make it the year, or if they decided to pull up stakes, and then one of other things whenever you start, I hate to say, picking winners, but whenever you start giving discounts to people entering this the people who've either just entered, so this will take several months to fine tune and roll out, and in that time let's say you're a new restaurant and you missed the opportunity because you're no longer a new restaurant, you always find this. I think Wisconsin's finding this out after they gave Foxconn billions of dollars. Other people are coming to the table now with their hands out saying hey wait, that's not fair to give this new guy money and I'm struggling or I missed it by half a year. My question would be do we have something, do we have a script to say too bad, so sad, or do we have something, some response to those folks who are going to feel unfairly acted upon? And all of these questions come up before I even say I'm not a big fan of these types of things because they do tend to pick winners, but those are the questions I immediately thought of when I saw that this wasn't targeted to a certain zone. The last time we had this discussion with the D-Plan, one of my questions was what if a national chain comes and we're giving a national chain that has zillions of dollars in their back pocket, we're giving them a rebate of permit fees. I have a problem with that because they don't need that money. We do. So, before we even do a straw poll on this I just wanted to throw those, my reservations out there and I'm for the most part, and I think this is consistent with my feelings the last time this came in front of us, I don't support this type of plan. I do appreciate us going to bat for trying to get more restaurants if that's what people are asking for. It's just something I probably won't support. Thank you.

Mayor Prejna: So your one question was that I picked up is if this is something that's retroactive, in other words that was one of your concerns. Somebody comes in and says I started 6 months ago?

Alderman Banger: Right

Mayor Prejna: Okay

Mr. Krumstok: So if I can answer a few of those. You're correct, it started as a Kirchoff Road project, so the EDC very quickly decided they wanted to make it all inclusive for the entire City, not just targeting one area because they also looked at some areas that had some vacancies and that might be filled at that point in time, but they felt that is was more make it into an entire incentive for the City, not just targeting Kirchoff Road so that's why that Kirchoff Road section changed pretty quickly in the discussion. The other part is obviously after an ordinance is actually created that would start the clock so it would not be looking back, and again with for instance you are correct, Jersey Mike's is working on Algonquin Road, Golf Road area. That would not be part of this participation, so once that is actually crafted by the City Attorney, that's typically when the clock starts unless the City Council actually makes that decision. So that 5-year clock that Alderman D'Astice has started, once that ordinance would actually be for those new restaurants as they come in to those other pieces. Another question that you had was in regards to national chains, we felt that if more of this is towards those franchisees, I'm saying we, the Economic Development Committee actually felt this was more towards the franchisees and again they looked at some of the numbers when we provided them what a permit actually costs and some of the backfill because we felt again that once that one year is in place, that's where in Finance and Administration we could

see what they would bring in Food & Beverage and that's how those rebates and refunds would actually be done, so trying to keep the City whole but also making sure that Food & Beverage Tax increases. So I think there was.....

Alderman D' Astice: And the frontloading of cash, that would be the permit fees that are reduced by \$5,000? That takes place early in the process.

Alderman Banger: Right, at the end of the one year period. That wad of money was one of the things I would be, I mean again if I was a fan of this I'd say take that money, frontload it, and then have a claw back provision at the end of the year that says when you're, if you do exit you're going to give that money back, but they need it then.

Mr. Krumstok: Right, and part of the idea was even when Economic Development Committee was actually discussing this, they did talk about a few of those restaurants have come and gone. I won't use their name, but you remember the Italian Restaurant that was in the downtown, that was about a year, but first thing that I know and that's part of the City Attorney's realm, claw backs are sometimes very difficult if they go bankrupt and then how do you get that money back and that is something that should be considered.

Mayor Prejna: Mr. Cannon

Alderman Cannon: Thank you Mr. Mayor. Just a couple questions I have. We look like we're a good chance that we're going to approve Video Gaming, so would any of those establishments qualify for this?

Mr. Krumstok: They would if it's a sit down restaurant which is one of those things that they need. They would actually be entitled to this Restaurant Incentive as it's drawn up right now, but if the Council makes a caveat or when the wordsmithing is happening, that's your decision. That discussion never was mentioned when we brought that to Economic Development Committee.

Alderman Cannon: Okay, well to go along with what Mr. Banger says, in general I think we've come really a long way. I complement all the people who helped form this so far. I guess a couple of points I would make to go along with what Rob said is that in my experience in business, we're looking for independent operators who probably have not been in the business before or maybe this is their second location. Usually cash flow is their number one problem no matter whether it's a restaurant or another business so anything we could do to improve their cash flow in the beginning is the more crucial part. If they make it a year they're probably going to make it, so maybe I would suggest as a possibility, maybe we would ask for a Letter of Credit to cover whatever incentive we think we're going to give them. So if the bank would support them with a Letter of Credit, if they went bankrupt maybe that would be a cover for us. I don't know if that's legal or possible, but maybe something we could look into because again I can't reiterate enough, I know friends that have had businesses and the biggest issue they have is cash flow. Even if they're successful. It's just hard in the beginning to get money rolling because you've got money going out for equipment in this case, the buildout of the store, advertising, staff, training, it's just all going one way for a long time so again I compliment everyone for what they've done so far. I think it's a great start. I guess I'd just like to have some more discussions on some of those issues, but thank you very much for doing this.

Mr. Krumstok: I did get a shrug from the City Attorney on the Letter of Credit so I'm making an assumption that was a yes.

Mayor Prejna: That was a yes.

Alderman Cannon: Okay, thank you.

Mayor Prejna: Other questions? Alderman Majikes

Alderman Majikes: Just curious, I don't remember if we discussed this in EDC, but are we aware of any other cities or municipalities that have done any similar type of program and type of results, response that they got or anything?

Alderman D'Astice: I'm not aware of any personally.

Alderman Majikes: Yeah, I don't remember reading....

Mr. Krumstok: The incentives that are most utilized are façade and some of the other pieces but not this kind of one year later we're going to be rebating some of your money. It's two-prong because it's the rebate for the permit, plus later on at the one year, two year, but not this aggressive to this point in time.

Alderman Majikes: I was just curious. Thank you.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you. Mr. Cannon

Alderman Cannon: I guess one of the quick question, does anybody, have we run this by any actual restaurant operator just to see if that's exciting to them or interesting to them?

Mr. Krumstok: No

Alderman Cannon: Okay, maybe it's something, I don't know. I think some people have some friends in the industry. Maybe it might be something just to ask and say would this be interesting enough for you to consider coming to our town or another town, whatever. Just as an idea to see how they feel about it financially. Thank you.

Mayor Prejna: Questions? Further discussion? Yes, Mr. Budmats

Alderman Budmats: When this was originally bought up it was for the Kirchoff Road corridor and that was to satisfy resident demand for, perceived resident demand for that area to have a restaurant. By extending it the whole City I don't know that we actually accomplished that goal which was the original purpose behind doing this, so if we can tier this so that district gets more of an incentive than another district that's what I would recommend that we do because that's our goal is to bring an incentive where we want to begin it and so I'm not against bringing new restaurants to the City. I'd love to see new restaurants all over Rolling Meadows, but downtown is where there's a real perceived need by the residents where they regularly speak on this issue. So I don't understand why we would water that down and not provide an incentive for that area.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you Mr. Budmats. Other discussion or comments? Well several questions have been brought forth so we have two choices. One, there seems to be several questions that need to be answered so I guess the first straw vote is do we want, or Mr. Krumstok, do you have more info you want to give?

Mr. Krumstok: No. I think even from the discussion tonight the discussion items that I mentioned before are really still the main straw votes that need to be done. Do you want to proceed that legal works on it and if there's a time limit, and we only heard one time limit, but I think that's something that can come back and we can also, if you don't want to move that quickly, you can bring it back to another COW and we can talk about tier levels, but that was nothing that was really discussed at Economic Development Committee and as I mentioned before they really wanted this uniform and universal for the City. but again if the Council, because now it's in your hands, wants to have more discussion about tiers that Kirchoff and Plum Grove and have a different value or return than Algonquin/Golf, those are all discussions that were not held, but those are things that the Council still has direction on.

Mayor Prejna: Okay, Mr. D'Astice

Alderman D'Astice: I, again, like I said at the Economic Development I tried to let, to get ideas from everybody and not overexert myself, my opinions, but I would agree with Nick. I think that a lot of what we hear is that people want more restaurants on Kirchoff Road. I think a real easy way to tier it is just leaving the plan in place and offering a higher percentage to any restaurants that go to Kirchoff Road. Leave it at 40 and 20 in the whole City, and then increase it to those who want to come to Kirchoff Road. I mean you could easily go from 40 and call it 50 and from 20 and call it 25 and now it's tiered without, with minimal changes to the entire plan. I'm okay with that. That takes care of the tier part of it. I too know some restaurateurs that I would be happy to run it by and get some opinions on that like Mike said, but I agree with Barry. I think we should, I'd like to see us move, it's taken almost 6 months to get to this point. I'd like to move this forward and not continue to drag this on. We need to have more of a sense of urgency and there's only a few things left, so if we can move this forward and then we could fine tune it the next time it comes to us, I think that's probably the best way to do it. Again, just my opinion.

Mayor Prejna: Okay. Further discussion? Well I think we're going to do two questions. First is as it's presented tonight we'll go for a straw vote of who would like to see it move as presented tonight? So, show of hands as the plan that was presented tonight.

Alderman Cannon: Could you tell me what the second question is going to be?

Mayor Prejna: The second question is that if they don't want to move it forward then we would bring it back because Mr. D'Astice has made the point that we would like to move forward with this so if everyone is happy with.....

Mr. Krumstok: I think the two questions, Mayor, would be A) Does the council want to proceed with this?

Mayor Prejna: Yes

Mr. Krumstok: And the second part is do, the council when it comes back as an ordinance, do you want suggestions, ideas, so it can be refined on the tiers. So I think that's the two questions how I'm understanding it, so if the first one doesn't move then the second one is sort of moot.

Mayor Prejna: Yes.

Alderman Cannon: Thank you.

Mayor Prejna: So the first question is a straw vote to move forward as presented tonight? One, two, three, four. So it will move forward tonight as presented.

Mr. Krumstok: And the second?

Mayor Prejna: The second one, is that when it comes back to us is it a Committee-of-the-Whole or do we want.....

Mr. Krumstok: My feeling is that when it comes back for 1<sup>st</sup> Reading we would have some ideas, thoughts, to try to keep the process moving along.

Mayor Prejna: Okay, so the second one the question is when we bring it back, all in favor of being able to amend it or adjust it when we bring it forward so a straw vote for that. Okay, we're good.

Alderman Cannon: Can I ask another question Mr. Mayor?

Mayor Prejna: Yes

Alderman Cannon: So we talked about a number of things in this discussion so I'm wondering if we can have, Barry how can we have a legal discussion maybe not in session. If we include everyone in an email because there's some questions we've asked tonight as a group that we don't really have a firm answer to right now. Do we have to do that in a COW?

Mr. Krumstok: No, you can actually still do it and what we hope when we write the Council Action Summary, obviously Alderman D'Astice has mentioned that he is going to talk to a few restaurants. That will give me the feedback so I can put that in the Council Action Summary. Obviously the City Attorney said the Letter of Credit we can have that as part. I think again keeping the process moving along that we can have those answers as part of the CAS and if we don't have that then if you need other information either a staff report or something that we can do at a later date just to keep it moving and then if the council says no we want it back at a COW that would give us enough time but we're trying to keep it moving.

Alderman Cannon: Okay, thank you.

Mayor Prejna: Okay, we move on.

### **3) Multi-Family Recycling**

Mayor Prejna: Mr. Krumstok, the Multi-Family Recycling.

Mr. Krumstok: The next two items we will have Public Works Director Fred Vogt up to do most of the discussions on this. Even though we have a GIS system, we still have to do paper issues too. This is actually a discussion that we've had internally as staff. Obviously for the last two years with interns, but it's a discussion that we have to have and the Environmental Committee has been talking about this for years too. We do thank SWANCC Executive Director coming out of few times to actually talk to them, so with that I do turn it over to Public Works Director Fred Vogt.

Mr. Vogt: Thank you Barry. I tried to get this map that I'm handing out tonight into the packet and wasn't successful late last week so I figured I'd just bring large ones and take a look at it. We have been looking at multi-family recycling, as Barry said, for a couple of years now. The Environmental Committee has assisted to a certain extent. We've had a couple of summer interns do some research, doing some outreach to the larger multi-family complexes just to see what interest they have. What concerns that they have. One of the things on the map that I just handed out, if you look at it for a bit, you'll see that there are six different haulers that provide service to the multi-family complexes in the City and through the Environmental Committee's efforts several years ago that we learned generally that the complex management companies don't talk to each other, even if they're right next store to each other. So, that in large part explains why they don't team up like maybe they could to be cost efficient to not only for refuse but if they were to recycle we'd certainly encourage that if we were going to just look at it as a volunteer program rather than a mandated program, but a couple of things that we realized as we were looking at educational materials and a lot of what is in your packet are educational materials that staff has prepared over the last year or two in terms of encouraging multi-family recycling, well even single family recycling. The Environmental Committee distributes materials at Farmers Market events and we've distributed materials at schools, Willow Bend I'll single out for one because they've got a great environmental studies program there for the kids and every year they work to clear out some of the creek that's nearby. They have a couple teachers there that were even in the newspaper recently that do a lot in terms of education at Willow Bend. And maybe there's other schools that do, but we seem to have more in touch and contact with Willow Bend. Questions that we have and not necessarily needing answers tonight, but staff is looking for some parameters from the council, ultimately, with regards to do we want to simply continue with educational programs and hope that complexes take on multi-family recycling? We've had several interested, but when we start to talk to them they obviously have concerns about what it's going to cost. There's no longer recycling incentives that can make it advantageous for haulers to pay them to collect recyclables. In fact it's not even probably a net neutral anymore. It will cost them to provide, or to obtain those services. Locations of where they would put corrals or where they would put recycling containers on their property, a couple of complexes didn't want to put them outside. They wanted to see if they could put them inside their complexes. These are areas that have inside parking. We never really go any further with that because I think there were two different schools of thought with that complex and they stopped talking to us about that, at least for the time being. We'll follow up again. Comingling of materials for those complexes that said they had tried some recycling programs in the past was a problem and then they had to pay for the recycling to be picked up as refuse as opposed to recycling and there was some money in the business so that kind of discouraged them in doing that. Kings Walk and Carriageway are the two complexes that we learned are making some effort with selected materials to do that. I know at least one of them as they recycle their own materials, they bring them to the Public Works, Old Public Works container drop off center on Central Road, so that's fine. We welcome that. We certainly intend to keep that there, but we feel that they could certainly investigate it getting collected at their site. Do we want to as a City look at mandating recycling? Because all the multifamily, or single family homes have that opportunity once a week at curbside. The multi-families generally don't have that as far as the residents having the opportunity to recycle unless they take extreme efforts to take it to the recycling center or other places. Would we want to, if we were interested in mandating it, franchise it so that we either selected one or several vendors in an effort to try to control the programs, control the costs, and if we wanted to do that certainly that's something we should probably consider looking at either with a recycling program renewal, or a contract renewal, for our single family at some point in the future. I do point out that because all the multi-family complexes have different contract terms some we've learned are on a one year basis or a two year basis or a three year basis and others are just unlimited. They can just terminate their service at any point in time and find somebody else to do it if they get a better price or if they

don't like their service. Those are the items that we bring to your attention out there in terms of consideration for if we, as a City, want to pursue this further. As I said I don't need direction necessarily tonight. If there's interest in getting more information on any of this with regards to providing the service we can certainly do that. If there's no interest at all in getting into the multi-family recycling then we would simply stop pursuing it other than educational efforts.

Mayor Prejna: Mr. Krumstok, do you have anything to add?

Mr. Krumstok: No, again, it's just really in more for the information, but direction again you want us to do more education? Do you want to mandate recycling and some of the others pieces? And again this does come up every so often. I do appreciate Alderman Banger who sat through these meetings about recycling at the Environmental Committee, but it's to the point that we need some direction.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you. Mr. Cannon?

Alderman Cannon: Fred, I was wondering if you could tell me with the two units that are doing it right now on a small basis, have they seen a reasonable reduction in garbage. I can just tell you on my block, I wouldn't say I have a standard block or anything, but it just seems like our neighborhood now recycles dramatically more product than we put in garbage. Most families have like a half bag out on Fridays. If that was the case with these big complexes I'm guessing, you would correct me if I'm wrong because you would know a lot more about this than I do, but I would guess that there would be a possibility that they would be shipping less garbage away and they might be able to get a cost reduction from their garbage guy, I'm guessing, but I don't know that.

Mr. Vogt: Absolutely follows logic that that would be true. I did not ask them for information about how they measure savings from their hauler, but certainly if they're diverting from the refuse waste strain there's got to be a savings based on the decrease. It depends on how they negotiate their contract.

Alderman Cannon: I know, I don't know all these complexes, but the ones you go by they have those huge bins out in back. Is it possible that they can make one, I mean I know down in Florida I've seen a lot them where they actually have recycling bins that size for a big complex. Is that the way the big guys do it here also?

Mr. Vogt: Not generally.

Alderman Cannon: How do they do it?

Mr. Vogt: They would put a dumpster out or some sort of container out either 2 yard, 4 yard. It really depends on the size of the complex and what the demand is, but certainly we would expect that they would enclose them and follow City codes with regards to securing the materials in a containment area.

Alderman Cannon: So in light of the fact that we're going to have some more discussion about recycling in our next item, would someone be interested in having a contract for the whole City for recycling, including both, are our people interested in that or is it just they're doing it but it's going to cost.

Mayor Prejna: Mr. Krumstok? I'm going to put it, or....

Mr. Vogt: I was going to say if I understand the question correctly, are we interested?

Mr. Krumstok: You are correct. One hauler would love to have the City of Rolling Meadows and you are correct that the next discussion that we had we did talk about that with Advanced where they love having, and I can tell you that we have someone at Public Works who has to chase to see who's at each location. Bill's just been fantastic, but it's very hard because they change the contracts. They don't tell us, but this way we would know exactly who's hauling in and who's hauling out and then when you have a concern it is, but for them if they're already in a market, they want to get the entire market and that was one thing that Advanced stated to us that they would love, once their truck is in here for the week, picking up a few more loads is not a big issue for them.

Alderman Cannon: So if we included all of these places in our recycling bin and we only had one guy doing it, would it be reasonable to expect our costs to go down at least a small percentage as opposed to keeping it going up?

Mr. Vogt: It's possible. I can't say....

Alderman Cannon: I know you can't speak for them, but I mean if they would get the whole City and they want the business you would expect.....

Mr. Krumstok: If they turn into the exclusive....

Alderman Cannon: Right, that's what I mean.

Mr. Krumstok: Service, that would be a discussion we would have with them.

Mr. Vogt: I think that's certainly something if the council is wanting to consider that to have more discussion with the multi-family vendors, even to the point of getting information on what they're paying. Who their vendor is, how long they've been providing the service, and have some discussions with our current provider. Maybe just a sampling. Maybe just have them look at two or three complexes and see if what they would provide in terms of a service cost. How it compares with what the complex management are paying at this time. Just one suggestion.

Alderman Cannon: I guess the way I'd leave it from my perspective, I'd like to see us pursue this a little bit. I don't like to speak for staff's time because I know you guys have your plate full, but if you're willing to pursue it, see if you could get all these guys to come to a meeting, which I know it would be really difficult, but try and get their opinion. Say listen, here's an opportunity. We think we can lower your garbage cost. We can't tell you exactly how much, but it will go down somewhat if you start a recycling program. I think most managers when you tell them there's a reduction in something, it usually gets their attention because they're all trying to make a living and make a profit. I guess my perspective I'd like to see us pursue it. I'm a big believer in recycling. I think it's really good for everybody so I'd like to see us pursue it but that's just my opinion. Thanks for listening.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you. Questions? Mr. Banger

Alderman Banger: Thank you. I agree with Alderman Cannon about a lot of what he said. I'm such a big believer in recycling. I think it's the right thing to do. I know we don't compel residents to recycle. We give them a sheet and I've got a couple folks on my block who get their recycling

container ticketed occasionally because there's pizza boxes and garbage sticking out of it. So and in those cases I'm not sure any amount of education is going to work. This is one of those things that I'm not a big fan of government reaching their hands in other people's business, but I would seriously consider just compelling multi-family residences to offer their residents recycling. Also to mitigate that cost, because it is going to be cost, and if you noticed Fred mentioned we used to break even with recycling because there's a big after market for recycling. That doesn't happen anymore. It's fairly worthless. So there's much more of a cost than there used to be here. To mitigate that cost I think the City would be helpful using our powers to get a single vendor to do hauling for the apartment complexes. So my thoughts on this overall are make it happen. I mean literally make people offer recycling to those residents, but help them as much as we can in terms of getting aggregating contracts together. The next topic we're going to consider is our recycling costs and I would never say to save the City residents money I want to compel these guys to recycle so we can drive our costs down. That would certainly not be my thinking. It's the reverse in fact. When we're negotiating we can tell our recycler hey it would be nice if when you get into the City limits there are other accounts we'd like to coordinate once we pass an ordinance that compels apartment complexes to add recycling containers. The biggest thing for these apartment complexes, if I'm not mistaken, is they don't want to sacrifice parking lot spots. That's a biggie for them. My view driving past the ones that we're all familiar with is the garbage dumpsters are always overflowing and they have an occasional mattress in them. So offering and educating about recycling will siphon off material that would go under the garbage dumpster into the recycling and hopefully it would balance out in terms of just the unsightly factor. But like I said I would go big on this and I would encourage us to pass an ordinance saying you have to offer this to your residents because we offer it to all the other City residents and I think recycling is the right thing to do. Thank you.

Mayor Prejna: Fred do you have a follow up?

Mr. Vogt: Yes Mayor just to address one of Alderman Banger's comments in regards to parking concerns, we've already talked a little bit at the staff level about yeah, what will we need to do in terms of apartment complexes, condo complexes that are tight on parking if we pursue this and have to take 6 or 8 parking places away and they become non-compliant with the parking requirements. There's other options such as looking for places that aren't taking parking places away if they've got some open space and the like, or just if they have to take a few away and they're agreeable to it, we'd need to just amend their conditions to do that. So just something to consider, but something that can be handled.

Mayor Prejna: Mr. Gallo?

Alderman Gallo: Have we started any dialogue or at least reached out to our neighbors or other folks in the nation and what they're doing to address these problems similarly other complexes across the country or even locally?

Mr. Vogt: I've only had discussions with two nearby communities that are kind of frustrated like we are. They've made some efforts, I think in one case a number of years ago, and just got not a whole lot of interest. You come to them and say hey if we all banded together they're might be a means to save money, but they just kind of fell on deaf ears.

Alderman Gallo: Yeah, and not even so much for financial savings at first, but just solution exploration or talk to some national waste and recycling associations, the trade industry.

Mr. Vogt: We certainly can. We have so far leaned and relied on Dave Van Vorren with SWANCC as Barry mentioned earlier and they've got great resources and that would be the first place I'd start if you or the council wants more information on that. We could look at that.

Alderman Gallo: Okay

Mayor Prejna: Thank you. Mr. D'Astice

Alderman D'Astice: So I made a few notes here. Who, what communities around this area are doing this? How are they doing this? I'm absolutely opposed to making somebody do this. And then my favorite group here, we can't get Brookwood to talk to us about fixing floods and storm sewers and everything else. How are we ever going to get them to talk about this subject? I think we're trying to bite off more than we can chew. Continue educating them and let them do their own thing, unless you've got some better answers. I can't see this and I'm not going to force people to do this. It's a great idea, but like you said government is putting our hands in somebody else's pockets and forcing them to do unfunded mandates. I'm opposed to that.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you Mr. D'Astice. Questions, discussion? Mr. Budmats

Alderman Budmats: Yeah, I agree with Mr. D'Astice about forcing a mandate. However, it would be nice to find out what the benefits would be and offer them an incentive. So I'm not about, against offering people financial incentive. If they choose to take it that's wonderful. If they don't that's their choice, but I agree that we should not force a mandate on them and tell them what they have to do.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you. Further discussion? Mr. Banger

Alderman Banger: Just to clarify, if you're calling that forcing that upon them, then having residents park a recycling container next to their house is a mandate, it's just that residents don't have to fill it if they don't want to. My suggestion is make the same type of setup for multi-family housing. They have to have a container and their residents in these apartment complexes can use them if they want to, but they have to have a container. So again, it's not a mandate unless you're calling what we do for the 6500 households in the City a mandate by making them, putting a line item on their bill to pay for recycling and have a container in their garage or next to their house.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you Mr. Banger. Further discussion? So you bought this forth for discussion. You would like some direction, but from what I'm hearing....

Mr. Vogt: At this point if there's interest on part of the council members to continue looking at this, we'd be glad to look at this taking into account the comments that have been provided tonight and do some additional investigation. Do some additional research in house. Some others have done it successfully.

Mr. Krumstok: And I think that's, again we've got enough information that we can go back to SWANCC regarding the questions about who's doing it. How are they doing it? If there's any other additional, but I think what we're saying is if you give us enough direction about the education we would actually come back regarding a staff report with some of these other answers.

Mayor Prejna: Ok, so a straw vote asking for more information in a staff report on how to move forward. All in favor? That's five – you have your mandate.

Mr. Vogt: Thank you.

#### **4) Recycling Contract Renewal**

Mayor Prejna: Fred, you're up for the next part, the recycling contract.

Mr. Vogt: Thank you Mayor. Our existing 5 ½ year contract with Advanced Disposal that we entered into in December 2012 is scheduled to expire at the end of June of this year. Staff has had several discussions with Advanced in the last few months in regards to their level of interest if we were to pose of them a 1 or 2 year contract extension in part because of the pervious item that we just discussed and we did add some of those discussions on the multi-family recycling to them. That could be advantageous if we want to seriously pursue some of the multi-family options at some point in the near future, say in the next year or two. The current price for single family recycle in the final year of the contract is \$3.91 per single family home, per month. Based on initial discussions with Advanced, and again a lot of it is market driven, there will be some increase if we have a contract extension. We don't know what it is yet. We've kind of been in and around the dollar per home, per month, but these have been just preliminary discussions. We certainly would want to wrap this up in the next 30 to 60 days in terms of getting this completed if we are going to do an extension before the June expiry. One thing to point out, we started it about a year and a half ago what we call a waste swap with Advanced Disposal so that the City is allowed to tip its refuse materials at our Berdnick Street station and in return Advanced was to divert some of its materials, or at least an equivalent amount, to the SWANCC facility. They report to us that while they're happy to continue doing it, they have found that there is a cost to them to do that so our negotiations with them certainly would continue with their proposing that. That doesn't mean we have to commit to that, but they've bought that up. They also have bought up that the rebate incentive program they would prefer to go away, again market driven at this point. So those are the issues that we have in talking with Advanced. I think the advantage, if we are able to successfully negotiate a contract extension of a year or two years, is to roll into it some of the multi-family matters which could, could get the price down in that regard, but we would want more information from Advanced and certainly at least the direction that the council has given us tonight, we can have more specific discussion knowing that there is at least some interest in pursuing that. The other option is to simply move forward soon with putting bids out, advertising for that with the intent of changing, either retaining the vendor at the bid price or considering a different vendor based on other bids coming in. We would, if that's the direction of the council, we would likely just use the 2012 bid proposals. Dust those off, update them, and move forward with that in the next 30 to 60 days. We have good service from our vendor. I would just point out that we've learned two things. One, don't change vendors in the winter. We did. It was difficult. Secondly, there is a value as we found out by having a good vendor that provides reliable service and when we changed vendors in 2012 it was for the sake of saving a couple of cents. Ultimately it worked out well compared to the previous vendor, but there were certainly a lot of growing pains when we changed vendors. That's all I have.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you. Questions for clarification? Mr. Cannon

Alderman Cannon: So Fred, maybe you could make me understand a little bit. So what you're saying is our cost for recycling if we stay where we're at is going up a dollar a house, per month.

Mr. Vogt: We're saying that's the initial indication based on proposals that they've given us and what they've come to the table with.

Alderman Cannon: In conjunction with that they want to raise the fee because of the garbage swap thing.

Mr. Vogt: Correct

Alderman Cannon: And how much do you perceive that's going to be on a yearly basis, per house or a monthly basis, one or the other? I know you had some numbers in here, but I'm not sure where you're heading with that.

Mr. Vogt: As indicated in the report, based on the numbers that we've been talking, probably 30 to 50 cents per home, per month.

Alderman Cannon: Per month. Okay, so in light of the fact that we have some of the highest garbage costs in our area, I would suggest we re-look at the way we have employees paid through the Garbage Fund and have that refigured for actual time they spend in here. We made some dramatic changes in the way we handle garbage in the City and to my knowledge I don't recall seeing anything in our budgets that show any reduction on our costs for all those good things we accomplished last year by getting, for a year and half having Advanced take all that stuff in and I for one will not support any increase in our garbage cost to our residents when we have the highest garbage cost around by far. So I appreciate you handing the information to us. I think Advanced must feel like they have us by the throat because I think that it seems like when we went with them they weren't that much cheaper than anybody else so maybe it's time we take a look and see what other people are offering and maybe I'll have to eat my words later, but it just seems like we weren't that far, I mean if I remember the second person in line was only like 25 cents.....

Mr. Vogt: I believe it was even 5 or 10 cents....

Alderman Cannon: Okay, so it's pretty close

Mr. Vogt: It was pennies I believe.

Alderman Cannon: I know the business has changed so I'm not naive to think that I know the recycling business has gotten really tough, but I guess I'd like to see us pursue some of those ideas before we ask the residents for any more money for garbage. Thank you.

Mayor Prejna: For recycling

Alderman Cannon: And garbage

Mr. Krumstok: Because they're all tied together.

Mayor Prejna: Right, but what we're discussing is recycling at the moment.

Alderman Cannon: But garbage too.

Mayor Prejna: I understand. Yes, Mr. D'Astice

Alderman D'Astice: Thank you. A dollar a month, 50 cents a month, 38% increase. I'm sorry, take out your dust bunny and start dusting off that proposal. You need to, this is absolutely ridiculous. You have to put this out for proposal. And I would put out the prices that we're getting right now, not that anybody couldn't get those, and say we're looking at, we want prices that are at or below. I get bids every day from customers who say I want a price that is at or below what I'm getting. We can ask. We may get, we may not get, but 38% no way. I would never support that.

Mayor Prejna: Mr. Banger

Alderman Banger: I guess just to note while we're reviewing numbers, Fred also made mention in here that we're most likely going to lose the several tens of thousands of dollars in rebates, so if you're adding costs, add that in too. Now I will have to say I'm sure everybody is doing that like I said before. Recyclables are fairly worthless right now, so we're going to be starting from a negative standpoint from the rebates program. I'm sure they're all like that, but I see no problem with if it's not going to be too much trouble with staff sending this out for bids, just so we know, because we might be shocked that they've all risen. I'm not sure, but we won't know unless we have staff look for some new contractors. Thanks.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you. Yes, Fred or Mr. Krumstok because it states here that it's what, June 30, 2018 it expires?

Mr. Krumstok: Right, and as we said in the write-up, and again it will take about 90 days, but we already, the City Attorney Jim Macholl is going to laugh at this, but we can take it off the shelf, dust it off, and put it back out there. So, but again it goes back into if that's the direction that we'll do, but I guess that the other thing is when we put it out there we will put it in and that will be a further discussion if the straw vote is to put this out to bid, is do you want us to look at 2, 4, or 5 years like what we've done in the past just so we have some parameters when we put that out there because the last one was obviously for 5.5 years.

Mr. Vogt: And a question that I would have too, I guess in consideration of Barry's question with regards to the multi-family matters is we could certainly go back to Advanced shortly and say make us your final offer, but it needs to be net neutral or no increase because that's the direction we got. Take it or leave it. If council is comfortable with Advanced service at current rates, we could make one last attempt before we go out to bid, or we can run them simultaneously. Get the bid materials ready and continue discussion with them.

Mayor Prejna: Okay. Any further discussion? So the two questions are one, we can ask for you to go back to Advanced and say it has to be neutral. If it's not neutral then we want, per council's direction, that you're going out to bid.

Mr. Vogt: That's what I'm understanding.

Mayor Prejna: Those are the two questions. So, first question is if we want to go back to Advanced and.....

Mr. Krumstok: Both at the same time.

Mayor Prejna: Yes, both at the same time. In other words...

Mr. Krumstok: Ask them and....

Mayor Prejna: In other words we would ask them if you can't keep like you suggested what's your best shot. What's your best offer? It doesn't come back with what council has directed at the same time we go out to bid. So, yes Mr. D'Astice.

Alderman D'Astice: I have a question legally if we can do that.

Mr. Macholl: I don't think there's a problem with that. I think, as I understand the discussion, the question is to go to Advanced and in the meantime prepare the documents necessary to get other proposals so that if that is not successful those proposals, or requests for proposals can go out.

Mr. Vogt: Only after we complete discussions and negotiations with Advanced, correct?

Mr. Macholl: Correct

Mayor Prejna: So in other words if it takes a week to have the discussion with Advanced and at the end of the week it doesn't work, hello US Post Office, here's our proposals. Mr. D'Astice

Alderman D'Astice: So, if it's legal I'm fine with that, but I think you bring up a good point Mayor, there needs to be a time limit put on them so they don't drag this out for a month or two and all of a sudden our contract is over and now they just say well you're on a month to month and we're going to jack it up 50% now. I'm fine with you want to try and negotiate a deal with them that stays net neutral on everything, or we go out to bid. I'm fine with that but you've got to put a time limit on and say you've got a week to make a decision because we're preparing our RFP.

Mayor Prejna: I'm not sure if it's Barry or Fred?

Mr. Vogt: I agree

Mayor Prejna: How quickly could you get to Advanced and say get an answer from them?

Mr. Vogt: I would say with the holidays coming up, I wouldn't want to give it more than two weeks. I'll try to have a discussion with them this week, next week, or the first week of April and that still gives us time to, if we get proposal materials prepared simultaneously with that, we could certainly have the bid documents out about mid-April.

Mayor Prejna: So two weeks from today?

Mr. Vogt: Two weeks from today.

Mayor Prejna: They have to come back, otherwise....

Mr. Krumstok: Otherwise the proposals are going out.

Mayor Prejna: Correct. So, that's what staff has and that's what we have proposed. Do we have a straw vote to do exactly that? Two weeks from today its either net neutral or else we go out to bid. All in favor? That's unanimous.

Mr. Vogt: Thank you.

## 5) Emails

Mayor Prejna: Mr. Krumstok, we now go to emails.

Mr. Krumstok: It's going to be a tag team on this one too, but obviously from time to time we hear from Aldermen they didn't receive an email. I was told that I got an email and we figured it's about time even though we've discussed this with aldermen when they ask us to actually put it out there. So the first step obviously with any email, even if it's coming through the web, is that our email firewall actually the application takes that email and obviously like most firewalls it has, and it's looking through its filter for what kind of information is actually coming in there and I can tell you that it is a very aggressive filter, not everything gets through it, but at the same point in time that's why like most municipalities and government agencies, people are always trying to hack into us. But if it makes it through, and we get regular updates from it because it's a major company that we use for our firewall, but the inappropriate sources are typically stopped at that point and obviously there's reasons why they're stopped. Some are quarantined because it's questionable for one thing and sometimes it's just non-existent at all. Sometime we do have people when they're on the web they might actually have, they don't go through the full process and they hit all the way through and don't send it through to us at all. However, if something does get through the filter the first place that it's going to go to is the Deputy City Clerk, sitting on the left-hand side of the Mayor and obviously one thing is now it has a human process that it's actually looking at what came through the filter and I will tell you even with the filter there is sometimes inappropriate information that is being sent. We actually have one Ward it seems every so often we do get stuff that is completely inappropriate. But again it's made it through the filter. It's uncalled for and it does not get forwarded, but all information, all emails that are appropriate make it to the Deputy City Clerk and get funneled to the City Council. That's the full City Council. So when someone says hey I didn't receive it, it either got stopped by the filter or we never got it. Nothing ever stops at the Deputy City Clerk. Now, when an email does come in, let's say it's sent late on Friday, you might not see it until Monday or Tuesday depending on when emails are checked, but it is going through the entire process. Why is this discussion also very important? Because obviously we're trying to protect the City, but we are also per Open Meetings and per Record Retention, all those emails are documents that we need to keep and again very briefly for people at home emails are local records. We are following the Local Records Act and there's obviously certain things that we have to keep. Why you have to keep it, communications, discussions, pertinent information, how its managed by the source, or what is actually being discussed so there's legally why we have to have it so if you're having a discussion that's why we've said in the past, if you're responding to something please put the Deputy City Clerk on it so that record continues and we understand that sometimes people might not remember to do it, but you should follow up the next day responding to that email so those can be retained. The other thing that we want to stress, and I know when City Attorney Jim Macholl was actually doing his basic training for elected officials, please remember that personal emails, especially if you're doing it during a correspondence at a business meeting like this or anything else, are foiable and if you say oh I didn't do it and it comes back later oh you did do it, remember the City doesn't have a record on it, you're on the issue with the States Attorney and that is a violation, so again we do remind you that private emails, and if you watch the courts for the last few months, the last few years, doesn't matter what level of government and private emails are being scrutinized for open communication. And we felt that it was important to mention what goes on here at the City of Rolling Meadows, but if you had any more discussions to understand how our filter works, how Ginny actually forwards emails, but also we do have one human who actually receives that and does look for what is. Doesn't change any part of the email, doesn't filter it, it's just making sure that what is sent, if it made it through the filter, is appropriate, not shocking, but

that is the really brief discussion unless Ginny wants to add more, that is my update just how emails and proposals and the filters actually work here in the City of Rolling Meadows and then obviously what we mentioned just the caveat and the caution about what emails are and what are business and what could be foiable and what the courts are really looking at right now.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you Mr. Krumstok. One question you brought up, you mentioned parameters. Who sets the parameters for the filter?

Mr. Krumstok: So typically.....

Mayor Prejna: I mean, and let me follow up a little bit, in other words if we have a business that has a name that may not get through the filter, or a company or somebody inquiring, so.....

Mr. Krumstok: So typically a lot of those protocols are set up by the firewall companies and then you can actually ask and obviously our IT Department can also utilize and say this email address is correct. Anything coming from this area is a known professional email that we can take any information, so the first idea is here's the stringency of the firewall company and then we might change a few of those pieces just to make it more open. And we do have that. There's certain things that people, the firewall does look for different addresses and it might be a known address that has been used or hacked in the past, but maybe it has a small change in it, that small change might be enough for us to open it back up, so when I talked about quarantined that's sometimes what happens with certain quarantines. Even with our filters when people try to send emails that are extremely large our parameter is that we do not accept emails to a certain size because that has been known to sometimes have worms or viruses or something else. So we have some rule that we allow certain things up to a certain point. So again, you have that filter company, also known as the email, and then we will open up when we do know an address is okay or a business.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you. Questions for clarification? Alderman Gallo

Alderman Gallo: I have a question about after it makes it through the firewall, then it goes to human eyes which are not the intended recipient's eyes for the intended recipient's protection, I guess, for lack of a better term. If it's inappropriate or some other reason in content, is that true? The reason that it goes to Ginny is to protect the aldermen, the elected officials, from seeing something that may be inappropriate.

Mr. Krumstok: Just the source information. So let's say the caveat that I've been talking about is sometimes people send an email that says per your request and Ginny opens up the attachment and after her eyes water and everything else, she has to close it down. So we do get every so often some pornography that does get through the filter, but that's it. But someone sends you an email that says hey Alderman Gallo, blah, blah, blah, blah, that's going right to you. So nothing is being filtered if that's your thing, but all that the human is looking for, Ginny, is just making sure that nothing got past any of those other things, but nothing that someone is saying to you and nothing that someone is alluding to, or something else, is being changed or held.

Alderman Gallo: Because, I've been here newly elected for less than a year now, coming up on a year, and I can count five incidents where I've been told by my residents that they have sent me emails and I haven't received them and then I've had them forward to what I have is a dedicated email address all City business so I get a direct email and that's foiable because if anybody wanted to FOIA a subject out of those emails they can have at it and you guys can have the account after my four year tenure is up, however when they forward it to me, I mean I'm not a firewall filter so I

couldn't see what the firewall may have perceived as a threat, but nothing on there seems to be a threat and I can understand one time or two times that a firewall has detected something and then maybe after that it got clogged or it never made it to Ginny to then forward thereafter, but other times I do receive emails, again the sender is guilty of sending it at maybe 3:00, 4:00 in the afternoon on a Thursday or a Friday, and then I'll receive it by Monday morning or Tuesday morning and followed up by Sunday I'm already getting a phone call from a crabby resident saying that I haven't responded to their message and I explain to them that its intercepted before it comes to me and should I see it, I will go ahead and respond back and then I say if you want to send it to me immediately feel free to send it to this email address and I'll respond appropriately, but there's been times when it hasn't come through and I don't know what the explanation is for that and I'm not accusing you, Ginny, in any way of not forwarding them.

Ms. Cotugno: Those emails, because I've gotten, they've actually talked to me and say that they've sent an email. It has never made it here. We check our filter and they can check that person's email address. It never made it, it didn't even make it through our filter. It never even got here. So I know those people that you're talking about.

Alderman Gallo: Well just on February 22<sup>nd</sup> I received another one, which was addressed to all of us on the Council and we all were supposed to receive it and none of us received it.

Ms. Cotugno: That one didn't come in.

Alderman Gallo: It wasn't forwarded to me.

Ms. Cotugno: And I asked him to send it to me personally and then I forwarded it out to you guys. So it never even got here. It didn't even get blocked by a filter.

Alderman Gallo: It's difficult for me to understand that. In 1997 I would understand if people don't know how to email or there's a problem with the chain, but now its difficult for me to continue to comprehend that after so many times, so I want to know if we need to address our firewall settings or another solution to not occupy your time with screening our emails because we don't get that many emails.

Ms. Cotugno: They're also the emails that come to the wards. The emails that are addressed to your email, your private email address, like [galloj@cityrm.org](mailto:galloj@cityrm.org), I never see those.

Alderman Gallo: Correct

Ms. Cotugno: Those go directly to you. The ones that come to the Wards have blown up people's emails before I was looking at them. It's so much, you wouldn't believe the amount of garbage that comes in here.

Alderman Gallo: Which is no different than a typical day.

Ms. Cotugno: And that's why we started doing that because some people's email accounts shut down because those were also being forwarded to your regular email address, so you had tons of garbage in there and we don't want that to happen. We don't want your email account shut down because it's so full it won't take anymore.

Alderman Gallo: I think a solution for that, I mean we can worry about ourselves in that regard, but I think a solution for that is after it makes it through the firewall, if you still want to have a physical set of eyes screen whatever emails we received as councilmen and women, that's fine. You can set up an auto forward, but we should receive, if you're going to put an address on a public page, the City's page, that says this is going to go to Alderman Joe Gallo of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward, that that will go directly to Alderman Joe Gallo of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward regardless if it goes in tangent, simultaneously, to Ginny, Deputy Clerk, but its misleading to the residents that think that's it's going to me when it doesn't go to me without going somewhere first and then it's just not, I don't think its full transparency.

Ms. Cotugno: Well it will always go somewhere first because it will go through the filter.

Alderman Gallo: The firewall, yeah, it's not someone. It's a firewall.

Ms. Cotugno: And then it would come to me.

Alderman Gallo: Right, my wife's a teacher in a school district and the District owns the email much like the City does, but they come directly here.

Mayor Prejna: Just so we focus it on the City is, what other....

Alderman Gallo: I think the City is wasting its time reading emails. There's better mechanisms to not to have redundant human beings misleading the residents.

Mayor Prejna: Or having a discussion with IT about, is it IT that set up the firewall, I guess my question is.

Alderman Gallo: They can adjust it.

Mr. Krumstok: The same thing that we feel, and again that's why we're having the discussion, we feel the parameters that have been set up, they do work. We do make sure what is being, but again, even when certain people and I know which email you're talking about, because we've had that discussion, we know....

Mayor Prejna: Mr. Gallo, let him please, go ahead.

Mr. Krumstok: But the same thing is again did it ever get to us. No, the filter is saying it never got to us. Now I can tell you sometimes people feel that they sent it and it didn't go and I can also tell you that it also goes on the other side. Most recently I know the City Attorney Jim Macholl was trying to send me an email and it took four times for him to even get it to me. So is it on his side, is it on the provider of that email, potentially. And again cyber space is cyber space, but protecting the City and making sure what is getting through still needs those eyes.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you. Further discussion? Mr. Budmats

Alderman Budmats: I've worked construction. I'm not really afraid of opening up the wrong email and seeing a four letter word. It's going to be okay for me so if more stuff comes through I'd rather have it that way then to miss an email from a resident who really wants to get it to me.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you. Any other further discussion? Mr. D'Astice

Alderman D'Astice: If I'm not mistaken there are also phone numbers so if somebody can't send you an email or it doesn't get, they can always pick up a phone and just call you. That's my opinion.

Alderman Gallo: So sometimes a paper trail is preferable.

Mayor Prejna: Mr. Gallo

Alderman Gallo: Sometimes a paper trail is preferable.

Mayor Prejna: Okay, Mr. Macholl, any comments you'd like to add to this since you're the one who gives the training to all of us?

Mr. Macholl: No, I would just like to say I don't think there's anything misleading about the way the system currently operates. I wouldn't classify it as misleading. Other than that I don't have anything to say.

Mayor Prejna: Okay. Thank you. Any further discussion?

## **6) Cardinal Drive Church of Christ**

Mayor Prejna: Okay, Mr. Krumstok let's move on to Cardinal Drive.

Mr. Krumstok: Sure thing. Obviously this is in for discussion before the City Council for two things. Obviously it's informational and it's also to have a discussion that potentially the City Council will allow for an ordinance to come. Obviously we had a very nice February 24<sup>th</sup> Community Prayer Breakfast that was held at the Community Church of Rolling Meadows. Right after the event Alderman Gallo and I were approached by Elder Wes Cunningham from Cardinal Drive Church of Christ and after talking to him briefly I asked him to send a letter pertaining to the issue at hand. He did do that and that's why we have a Committee-of-the-Whole discussion in front of you. So obviously after I received a letter I've driven by that location ten times and I did witness some residents and some cars in that parking lot utilizing obviously the park. What I have before you is actually a request for the City Council to consider waiving and we would need an ordinance on this because obviously the rules that we have in place I can't just do, but it's going to waive the permit fees, construction fees, and services for this parking lot project for the Cardinal Drive Church of Christ. I think that if we were having a request from Community Church I would be having a completely different discussion with you obviously waiving permits, but we utilize, meaning the City of Rolling Meadows, utilizes the Community Church parking lot. We have special events, we have block parties, we have other things that we are already utilizing that parking lot. With Cardinal Drive Church of Christ I can't find a direct correlation to help them out with making a recommendation to the City Council to allocate some money for them to do that. In my heart I would love to, but without a direct correlation I just cannot. But what I'm in front of you asking is please consider the request that I have before you and then my second part is I hope that the Council will allow for a future discussion at a Committee-of-the-Whole dealing with houses of worship and building permits. For parking lots I really see that's a very nominal part. If you're doing major construction or even minor construction at a house of worship, yes I understand that there are more inspections and other pieces, but I think for parking lots there's a positive that most people see and I think that's another one. My final comment that I say before we actually have the

open discussion is that I did give a copy of this letter to the Park District Executive Director. I don't speak for the Park District. They're a completely different taxing body. I hope that they would see that allocating some money is in their benefit too, just like how they utilize this, but at the same point in time I feel it's a discussion that we should have. I haven't run any numbers because I don't know if they're doing the full parking lot or the half parking lot as they've mentioned, but I do believe that this is a benefit and just like how we did with the Library and just like I would do if someone else came up. The direct benefit is not there, but I do think that it does have a benefit to the community and that's why I'm coming to all of you for those two questions. Would you allow an ordinance to come and then the second thing for future COW that we talk about houses of worship and the permits? And with that I know that Alderman Gallo heard the same conversation before I got the letter.

Mayor Prejna: Well, I thank you. We've had a conversation because Clearbrook has also come forward on several occasions and they've been here for 50 years so if we're going to go forward with a future discussion I would like to see that we do the same thing for Clearbrook because they've had several parking lot construction and when I bought it forth we had nothing as an ordinance that we could help them at this time, so questions as we go forward? Mr. Cannon

Alderman Cannon: Thank you Mr. Mayor. Barry could you just give me a ballpark idea of what kind of money we're talking about? Just a high and a low. \$2,000, \$10,000 is it \$500?

Mr. Krumstok: I think that's a good parameter depending on what they actually do. It could be between the 2 and 10,000 dollars because if they do the full 100+ thousand dollar project, it's not really per se our permit fees. It's going to be the construction engineer....

Alderman Cannon: I understand

Mr. Krumstok: But we would be doing that, but I think that 2 to 10 is a good number. But it goes back into what project are they going to be doing.

Alderman Cannon: So my reaction when I read this the other day is I was kind of confused as to why we even got this because it's not our property for one. The Park District is a direct beneficiary of them being able to use the parking lot to access the park and I think, correct me if I'm wrong, I think that I read that there's a little hunk of that park that's actually in their parking lot.

Mr. Krumstok: In their letter from the Cardinal Drive Church of Christ, they do say 5% roughly is in there and to answer your question, I felt there was enough of a benefit for the community to bring this before the City Council for the permit.

Alderman Cannon: Well I guess my only personal suggestion would be we should turn this over to the Park District and let them make the decision because it's their property in essence. I'm not against, trying to be mean to them, but I mean I for one don't want to set a precedence that we're going to start giving everybody a free parking lot if they decide to redo it. I just don't know if that's the way we want to go with non-profits because if it's a church okay, so how about a non-profit who's not a church. Do we help them also? I just think you open up a Pandora's Box. I'm not against any church. I'm a church going person myself. I just think this is an area I don't want to go down. So I would not be for putting this forward. Thank you.

Mayor Prejna: Mr. D'Astice

Alderman D'Astice: I thought at one point in time we had this conversation about permits and houses of worship and I thought we said we would waive fees that are not direct fees that we pay. Didn't we? If it costs the City something, then we pass that cost along. If it did not cost us then we waived it. So, as the term was net neutral, so if it cost us 2 to 10,000, if it cost the City 5 and we charge 10, we charge the 5 and waive the other 5. I thought we had already established that a long time ago.

Mr. Krumstok: We had discussion about it, but it was at that point in time it was each one had to come back. So, yes you are correct. We did have some of that discussion in the past, but each one has to come back because the ordinance doesn't give, it was for that specific point in time. So each ordinance that we've actually done was for each item. So,

Alderman D'Astice: So, the guys in the back are shaking their heads yes to you and to me so I don't understand what that means.

Mayor Prejna: Bring Fred up because Fred would have experience over the years or just get your comment. I know you're pointing to your brain, the most powerful computer in the room right now, yes.

Mr. Vogt: Maybe I shouldn't draw attention to me nodding my head, but what Barry is indicating is my recollection over the years of what the City Council did in terms of wanting to see each requestor each time and taking action on that rather than approving something that was across the board for each non-for-profit. That goes back at least 10 years to my recollection, so the City Manager is correct I believe.

Alderman D'Astice: So in this case what would we be doing? Would we be, we say yes bring it to us and then we can determine what our out of pocket is going to be and then pass an ordinance based on that?

Mr. Krumstok: What I'm asking for is the ordinance that would waive the fees.

Alderman D'Astice: Entirely.

Mr. Krumstok: Yes

Alderman D'Astice: Okay, then I have to go say that's establishing a precedent in my eyes and I'm good for doing what we've done. I also think that Mr. Cannon brings up a point. The Park District needs to get involved. The people who are using it with the purpose of going to the park, then I think the Park District needs to be part, but I'm fine doing what we have always done as opposed to setting a new precedent.

Mayor Prejna: So as a clarification, as long as the City goes forward and its net neutral for us you're good with that.

Alderman D'Astice: I'm fine doing what we've always done in the past.

Mr. Krumstok: Yeah, what Alderman D'Astice is stating, so the City amount would be, but outside contractors would actually be passed right through.

Mr. Vogt: That's what we've done in the past.

Mayor Prejna: Further discussion? Mr. Banger

Alderman Banger: I agree with the two gentlemen that have spoken already and I wouldn't be in favor of establishing an ordinance that covers these going forward just because of the doctrine of fairness would say it applies to them and then other non-profits and then I know a couple of house churches in town too, so those are personal driveways, but they're getting beat up so I just think, I think as Alderman Cannon said we'd be opening up a can of worms here, so I wouldn't agree for an actual law on the books for this. If we want to evaluate these one by one, which I think is quite inefficient, but if we've done it in the past we can continue doing it. In-house costs we could waive, but anytime we're writing a check to someone outside the City we should be covering those costs at least. Thanks.

Mayor Prejna: Further discussion. So the direction we have Mr. Krumstok is we'll ask staff that we're going to do this case by case from what I've heard tonight so tonight for this we're bringing this forward for this specific case for the Cardinal Drive Church of Christ, so correct?

Mr. Krumstok: Yeah, so again we're still each one will be coming, but what I heard and I guess I would need a straw vote because I've heard two, but it would just continue the past practice of City costs waived, but outside consultant/additional would be passed straight through to the petitioner.

Mayor Prejna: So straw vote to go forward? Mr. Cannon

Alderman Cannon: So would it be reasonable to find out what this is actually going to cost us before we vote on it? I mean because.....

Mr. Krumstok: Without them submitting a permit, again are they doing the 54 or are they doing 110, it's kind of hard. We can give an idea and I think we can ask.....

Mr. Vogt: We can put an estimate together within a few days or several days and report back on what the estimate is, or at the time of the ordinance for 1<sup>st</sup> Reading.

Alderman Cannon: Would it be reasonable for us to suggest maybe we postpone this until we get an answer back from the Park District because it's basically their property.

Mayor Prejna: Is it a combination of....

Alderman Cannon: It's not City property, its Park District property.

Mayor Prejna: Right

Mr. Krumstok: I guess if you're asking me my recommendation is obviously this ordinance is not next week on March 27<sup>th</sup>. The earliest that it would even be shown is in April, so hopefully by that time before we put the ordinance, we would know if the Park District is going to discuss this or they're going to do this and again referring back to the letter, they're looking at doing this spring/summer so we're still within that thing and they might actually have a permit ready, but at least if we told them hey your overall permit fees might not be as high, I think that goes a long way too.

Alderman Cannon: Okay, so would we offer the same thing to a church that's brand new in town that wanted to build a brand new building? Would we pay for their parking lot too, or part of it?

Mr. Krumstok: I'm not paying for the parking lot.

Alderman Cannon: Or pay for the permits for the parking lot for a brand new building?

Mr. Krumstok: I'd be bringing it back, but I would not see the direct benefit for the City of Rolling Meadows for a new thing. Like I said, if Community Church came to us and said we're doing our parking lot, I would have a Committee-of-the-Whole with the City Council because again we are using their parking lot for Markets, the additional festivals.....

Alderman Cannon: That's a different situation.

Mr. Krumstok: I'm just saying. That's what I would be bringing back, but at this point in time when I was approached and what I'm seeing, I do see an indirect that's why I'm bringing back the permit.

Alderman Cannon: So I guess the other thing I would point out again is we have people that do wonderful things for society like Clearbrook, like Little City. We might have a non-profit hospital come here and do a building. I'm just concerned about how far people who are doing good, how much are we going to help out and maybe hurt ourselves a little bit financially because we still have to do the work. So it's just a question I bring up. It's rhetorical, but there's an awful lot of non-profits out there that do a lot of nice things and I just wonder where we say okay, that's as far as we go.

Mr. Krumstok: And I think that you've known me enough times, I don't bring everything to you. This one I felt comfortable after talking to them and actually doing the driveby's to bring this back and again we don't have an ordinance. That's why we have to bring each one back. The comfort level was there to actually make this request to the Council.

Alderman Cannon: Fair enough.

Mayor Prejna: Further discussion? Mr. Budmats

Alderman Budmats: Actually just a question. I'm assuming that a general contractor, a paving contractor actually applies for this permit and that the Church is not doing this work themselves?

Mr. Krumstok: That is correct

Alderman Budmats: So how does this work? Do we rebate to that paving contractor? Do we rebate to the Church directly? Because I'm assuming the paving contractor just marks this up being America.

Mr. Krumstok: So what actually happens is if we pass the ordinance when that contractor would be coming in to Community Development, when they're filling out the permit they would see where the reductions were so what is actually the outside consultant and which one is actually the City so they would see the zero out and see this is per ordinance whatever and what they're going to have to actually pay for the pass through for the engineer. So then we can also notify at that point in time the church to let them know so if they were receiving a quote from that contractor that said okay

permit fee is going to be this, we can actually tell them okay the permit fee was actually that, but it's the contractor that actually pays for the permit.

Mr. Vogt: The not-for-profit has to be part of that permit process in those cases. Absolutely.

Mayor Prejna: Okay, further discussion? So we're back to looking for a straw vote to move forward. It's going to be on a case by case so this is the case tonight.

Mr. Krumstok: This is the case.

Mayor Prejna: Tonight.

Mr. Krumstok: So going back into the comfort level is in City cost waived, outside passed through.

Mayor Prejna: Okay, can we have a straw vote in favor? One, two, I'm sorry, go ahead.

Alderman Budmats: I'm just, we're waiving the outside fees or just the City's fees?

Mr. Krumstok: Inside, only the City of Rolling Meadows so our inspectors, our review, but when we send this out to another engineer to look at the drainage and how it's actually done, that is a pass through because that's an outside consultant.

Alderman Budmats: But you're staff is recommending this to us, is that correct?

Mr. Krumstok: I'm recommending this to you.

Mayor Prejna: Further discussion before we try for a straw vote again? Okay, straw vote to move forward with Mr. Krumtok's request? All in favor?

Mr. Krumstok: It's the request....

Mayor Prejna: Okay, we have five for and one against.

Alderman Cannon: You never even asked for a vote, you just asked for votes for yes. You didn't ask for no's.

Mayor Prejna: No's? All against? Thank you, Mr. Cannon

Alderman Cannon: I appreciate you counting my vote.

Mayor Prejna: Thank you.

Mr. Krumstok: And I think that we've heard that no one is interested in a Committee-of-the-Whole on this. So that question is out there.

Mayor Prejna: Okay, do we have a motion to adjourn? A second? All in favor?

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm