

MINUTES of a regular public meeting of the City Council of the City of Rockford, Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois, held at City Hall, 425 East State Street, in said City at 5:30 o'clock P.M., on the 18th day of May, 2026.

* * *

The Mayor called the meeting to order and directed the Legal Director and ex-officio Keeper of the Records and Seal of the City to call the roll.

Upon the roll being called, Tom McNamara, the Mayor, and the following Aldermen were physically present at said location: _____

The following Aldermen were allowed by a majority of the members of the City Council in accordance with and to the extent allowed by rules adopted by the City Council to attend the meeting by video or audio conference: _____

No Alderman was not permitted to attend the meeting by video or audio conference.

The following Aldermen were absent and did not participate in the meeting in any manner or to any extent whatsoever: _____

The Mayor announced that the City Council would next consider the adoption of an ordinance authorizing the issuance of general obligation alternate bonds to pay the costs of constructing a municipally-owned municipal convention hall, together with all necessary adjuncts thereto, including but not limited to a hotel, and directing the publication of a notice setting forth the determination of the City Council to issue such bonds.

Whereupon the Mayor presented and the Legal Director, as ex-officio Keeper of the Records and Seal of the City read by title an ordinance as follows, a copy of which was provided

to each Alderman prior to said meeting and to everyone in attendance at said meeting who requested a copy:

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE BONDS
AND RIGHT TO FILE PETITIONS**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Ordinance No. _____ adopted by the City Council of the City of Rockford, Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois (the “City”) on May 18, 2026 (the “Ordinance”), the City intends to issue general obligation alternate bonds (the “Bonds”) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$103,000,000 to pay the costs of to pay the costs of constructing a municipally-owned municipal convention hall, together with all necessary adjuncts thereto, including but not limited to a hotel (the “Convention Hall Complex”). The revenue sources that will be pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds will be (i) the net revenues received by the City from the operations of the Convention Hall Complex and (ii) collections distributed to the City from those taxes and fees imposed by the Illinois Gambling Act, as amended, or substitute taxes and fees therefor as provided for by the State of Illinois in the future. If these revenue sources are insufficient to pay the Bonds, ad valorem property taxes upon all taxable property in the City without limitation as to rate or amount are authorized to be extended to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds. A complete copy of the Ordinance follows this notice.

Notice is hereby further given that if a petition signed by 6,973 or more electors of the City (the same being equal to 7.5% of the registered voters of the City) asking that the issuance of the Bonds be submitted to referendum is filed with the Legal Director, as ex-officio Keeper of the Records and Seal of the City (the “Legal Director”), within thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice and the Ordinance, an election on the proposition to issue the Bonds shall be held on the 3rd day of November, 2026. The Circuit Court may declare that an emergency referendum should be held prior to said election date pursuant to the provisions of Section 2A-1.4 of the Election Code of the State of Illinois, as amended. If no such petition is filed with the Legal Director within said 30-day period, the Bonds shall be authorized to be issued.

By order of the City Council of the City.

Dated this 18th day of May, 2026.

/s/ Angela L. Hammer

Legal Director, as ex-officio Keeper of
the Records and Seal of the City of
Rockford, Winnebago and Ogle Counties,
Illinois

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) of the City of Rockford, Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$103,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of constructing a municipally-owned municipal convention hall, together with all necessary adjuncts thereto, including but not limited to a hotel.

* * *

WHEREAS, the City of Rockford, Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois (the “City”), is a duly organized and existing municipality incorporated and existing under the provisions of the laws of the State of Illinois, and is now operating under the provisions of the Illinois Municipal Code, as amended (the “Code”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 11-74 of the Code (the “*Industrial Project Revenue Bond Act*”), every municipality has the power to finance, acquire, construct and improve any “industrial project” (as such term is defined in the Industrial Project Revenue Bond Act); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 11-65 of the Code, every municipality that has a population exceeding 40,000 has the power to acquire, construct, manage, control, maintain and operate within its corporate limits a municipal convention hall or halls, the same being a municipally-owned building or auditorium with all necessary adjuncts thereto, including but not limited to hotels, restaurants and gift shops, that is used, licensed or leased for definite short periods of time for assemblages of people (a “*Municipal Convention Hall*”); and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City (the “*City Council*”) does hereby determine that the City has a population exceeding 40,000 and, therefore, the City is authorized to construct a Municipal Convention Hall within the corporate limits of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council does hereby further determine that it is advisable, necessary and in the best interests of the City to pay the costs of constructing a Municipal Convention Hall within its corporate limits, together with all necessary adjuncts thereto, including but not limited

to a hotel (the “*Convention Hall Complex*” and the construction thereof being referred to herein as the “*Project*”); and

WHEREAS, the City Council does hereby further determine that the Project is an “industrial project” (as such term is defined in the Industrial Project Revenue Bond Act) and is in furtherance of the purposes of the Industrial Project Revenue Bond Act by creating and preserving jobs and employment opportunities and encouraging commerce within the City; and

WHEREAS, the estimated costs of the Project, including legal, financial, bond discount, printing and publication costs, and other expenses, is not less than \$103,000,000 and there are insufficient funds on hand and lawfully available to pay such costs; and

WHEREAS, the City Council does hereby further determine that it is advisable, necessary and in the best interests of the City that the Project be constructed and, in order to finance a portion of the costs of the Project, it is advisable, necessary and in the best interests of the City for the City to issue up to \$103,000,000 of alternate bonds (the “*Bonds*”), as authorized to be issued at this time pursuant to the Local Government Debt Reform Act of the State of Illinois, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the principal of and interest on the Bonds will be payable from (i) the net revenues received by the City from the operation of the Convention Hall Complex and (ii) collections distributed to the City from those taxes and fees imposed by the Illinois Gambling Act, as amended, or substitute taxes and fees therefor as provided for by the State of Illinois in the future; and

WHEREAS, if the above-mentioned revenue sources are insufficient to pay the Bonds, ad valorem property taxes upon all taxable property in the City without limitation as to rate or amount are authorized to be extended to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds:

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Ordained by the City Council of the City of Rockford, Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1. Incorporation of Preambles. The City Council hereby finds that all of the recitals contained in the preambles to this Ordinance are full, true and correct and does incorporate them into this Ordinance by this reference.

Section 2. Determination to Issue Bonds. It is advisable, necessary and in the best interests of the City to pay the costs of the Project, and there are hereby authorized to be issued and sold the Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$103,000,000 for such purpose.

Section 3. Publication. This Ordinance, together with a notice in the statutory form (the “Notice”), shall be published once within ten (10) days after passage hereof by the City Council in the *Rockford Register-Star*, the same being a newspaper of general circulation in the City. If no petition, signed by 6,973 or more electors, the same being equal to 7.5% of the number of registered voters in the City, asking that the issuance of the Bonds be submitted to referendum, is filed with the Legal Director, as ex-officio Keeper of the Records and Seal of the City (the “Legal Director”) within thirty (30) days after the date of the publication of this Ordinance and the Notice, then the Bonds shall be authorized to be issued. Petition forms shall be provided to any individual requesting one by the Legal Director.

Section 4. Additional Ordinances. If no petition with respect to any purpose of the Bonds and meeting the requirements of applicable law is filed during the petition period hereinabove referred to, then the City Council may adopt additional ordinances or proceedings supplementing or amending this Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of the Bonds and prescribing all the details of the Bonds, so long as the maximum aggregate principal amount of the Bonds as set forth in this Ordinance is not exceeded and there is no material change in the Project. Such additional ordinances or proceedings shall in all instances become effective in accordance with applicable law. This Ordinance, together with such additional ordinances or proceedings, shall constitute complete authority for the issuance of the Bonds, under applicable law.

Section 6. Reimbursement. None of the proceeds of the Bonds will be used to pay, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, for an expenditure that has been paid by the City prior to the date hereof except architectural or engineering costs incurred prior to commencement of the Project.

Section 7. Severability. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the other provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 8. Repealer. All ordinances, resolutions or orders, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are to the extent of such conflict hereby repealed.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City on May 18, 2026.

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSENT: _____

APPROVED on May 18, 2026.

Mayor, City of Rockford,
Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois

PUBLISHED in *Rockford Register-Star* on _____, 2026.

RECORDED in the City Records on May 18, 2026.

ATTEST:

Legal Director, as ex-officio Keeper of the Records
and Seal of the City of Rockford,
Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois

Alderman _____ moved and Alderman _____ seconded the motion that said ordinance as presented and read by title by the Legal Director, as ex-officio Keeper of the Records and Seal of the City (the "*Legal Director*") be adopted.

After a full and complete discussion thereof, the Mayor directed that the roll be called for a vote upon the motion to adopt the ordinance as read by title.

Upon the roll being called, the following Aldermen voted AYE: _____

NAY: _____

Whereupon the Mayor declared the motion carried and the ordinance adopted, and henceforth did approve and sign the same in open meeting and did direct the Legal Director to record the same in full in the records of the City Council of the City of Rockford, Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois, which was done.

Other business not pertinent to the adoption of said ordinance was duly transacted at said meeting.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Legal Director, as ex-officio Keeper of the
Records and Seal of the City of Rockford,
Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF WINNEBAGO)

CERTIFICATION OF ORDINANCE AND MINUTES

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting Legal Director, as ex-officio Keeper of the Records and Seal of the City (the “*Legal Director*”) of the City of Rockford, Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois (the “*City*”), and as such officer I am the keeper of the books, records, files, and journal of proceedings of the City Council of the City (the “*City Council*”).

I do further certify that the foregoing constitutes a full, true and complete transcript of the minutes of the meeting of the City Council held on the 18th day of May, 2026, insofar as same relates to the adoption of Ordinance No. _____ entitled:

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) of the City of Rockford, Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$103,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of constructing a municipally-owned municipal convention hall, together with all necessary adjuncts thereto, including but not limited to a hotel.

a true, correct and complete copy of which said ordinance as adopted at said meeting appears in the foregoing transcript of the minutes of said meeting.

I do further certify that the deliberations of the City Council on the adoption of said ordinance were taken openly, that the vote on the adoption of said ordinance was taken openly, that said meeting was held at a specified time and place convenient to the public, that notice of said meeting was duly given to all of the news media requesting such notice, that an agenda for said meeting was posted at the location where said meeting was held and at the principal office of the City Council at least 72 hours in advance of the holding of said meeting, that a true, correct and complete copy of said agenda as so posted is attached hereto as *Exhibit A*, that at least one copy of said agenda was continuously available for public review during the entire 72-hour period preceding said meeting, that said meeting was called and held in strict accordance with the provisions of the Illinois Municipal Code, as amended, the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois, as amended, and the Local Government Debt Reform Act of the State of Illinois, as amended, and that the City Council has complied with all of the applicable provisions of said Code and said Acts and its procedural rules in the adoption of said ordinance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto affix my official signature and the seal of the City, this
18th day of May, 2026.

Legal Director and ex-officio
Keeper of the Records and Seal,
City of Rockford,
Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois

[SEAL]

EXHIBIT A

PETITION

To the Legal Director, as ex-officio Keeper of the Records and Seal of the City of Rockford, Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois:

We, the undersigned, being registered voters of the City of Rockford, Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois, do hereby petition you to cause the following question to be certified to the Board of Election Commissioners of the City of Rockford, and submitted to the electors of said City at the next election at which such proposition may lawfully be submitted:

“Shall the City of Rockford, Winnebago and Ogle Counties, Illinois, pay the costs of constructing a municipally-owned municipal convention hall, together with all necessary adjuncts thereto, including but not limited to a hotel, and issue its general obligation alternate bonds to the amount not to exceed \$103,000,000 (said bonds being general obligation bonds for which real property taxes, unlimited as to rate or amount, may be levied, but which are expected to be paid from the net revenues received by the City from the operations of said municipal convention hall and the adjuncts thereto and collections distributed to the City from those taxes and fees imposed by the Illinois Gambling Act, as amended, or substitute taxes and fees therefor as provided for by the State of Illinois in the future) therefor?”

SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	STREET ADDRESS OR RURAL ROUTE NUMBER	CITY, CITY OR TOWN	COUNTY
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____ County
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____ County
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____ County
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____ County
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____ County
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____ County
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____ County
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____ County
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____ County
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____ County

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, deposes and certifies that he or she is at least 18 years of age, his or her residence address is _____ (Street Address), _____ (City, City or Town), _____ County, _____ (State), that he or she is a citizen of the United States of America, that the signatures on the foregoing petition were signed in his or her presence and are genuine, that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief the persons so signing were at the time of signing said petition registered voters of said City and that their respective residences are correctly stated therein.

Signed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Notary Public

My commission expires _____

(NOTARY SEAL)