

Council Rooms, City of Rockford

January 20, 2026

By Alderman Bonne, on behalf of the Code and Regulation Committee:

WHEREAS, ROCKFORD FOR FUN INITIATIVE has been submitted as a request for Special Event Programs and Permits;

WHEREAS, the effort will promote the connection of residents following pandemic separation while supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs throughout the city;

WHEREAS, the program goal is to create/support community events in all 14 wards of the City as part of our pandemic recovery efforts;

WHEREAS, staff reviewed the request and approved the same subject to further administrative approval of each event.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that City Council of City of Rockford, Winnebago County, Illinois approve the request for the Special Event Program and associated events for the Forward for Fun Initiative as follows:

The Forward for Fun Initiative must comply with the Program rules as attached and any conditions of approval placed upon the individual event permits at the time of each event.

That Staff is authorized to administratively issue special event permits consistent with the Forward for Fun Initiative and the Special Events Ordinance.

That \$140,000 shall be allocated and for multiple events throughout the city in partnership with Aldermen and GoRockford for direct event expenses as the fiscal agent for the Forward for Fun Initiative.

For the purposes of insurance, and any event using public property or right-of-way, this approval shall be considered a lease of such facilities for a nominal consideration

Committee action taken: January 12, 2026