The Rushville City Common Council met on the above date and time at 270 West 15th Street, Rushville, Indiana. Mayor Bridges called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m., with Bill Goins, Darrin McGowan, Brian Sheehan, John Byrne and Mike Pavey answering roll call. Also present were City Attorney, Julie Newhouse, Jan Voiles, Rushville Republican, and Scott Murray, WKWH.

MINUTES * * *

Minutes of the January 21, 2003 meeting were presented for approval. Sheehan made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Goins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR’S REPORT * * *

Mayor Bridges reported the following:

- Vickie Kellerman and Connie Combs were in Rushville on January 28th. They toured several local industries and met with representatives of each industry;
- The Rush County Leadership Academy held a dinner meeting at Rush/Shelby Energy. Lucinda Comer gave a PowerPoint presentation to 28 people;
- A pre-bid conference was held on the 28th at City Hall for the Northeast Revitalization Project. Several contractors and prospective bidders were in attendance;
- Attended the quarterly Main Street Community Exchange in Richmond;
- February 11 will be the bid openings for the Northeast Revitalization Project;
- February 20 is the Main Street 101 course in Rushville at Winkerby’s.
- The Board of Works agreed to accept the recommendation of the Pension Board to place Roger Dice on Perf Disability until he is able to return to work.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS * * *

Police – Fudge said he was given permission to begin the hiring process for a new patrolman, since Officer Dice has informed him that he will be retiring June 14. He also passed out a report prepared by the Reserve Officer Coordinator. He mentioned that the Reserves logged a total of 2264 hours worked in 2002 and 9171 miles patrolled.
Park – Mathews invited Council to attend the Valentine’s Dance on February 14 at the Benjamin Rush Middle School from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

CITIZEN’S CONCERNS * * *

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS * * *

Flatrock River Project Legal Drain – Bill Todd asked Council to consider committing Flatrock River Funds to be used to cover the cost of establishing Flatrock River a legal drain. Bridges said there had been a question as to paying for attorney fees. Todd stated that there was no way to know exactly how much attorney fees would be. Goins made a motion to dedicate $10,000.00 of the City’s money that is left in the Flatrock River Fund toward notification and legal fees toward establishing Flatrock River a legal drain. Byrne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS * * *

Fujitsu Ten Tax Abatement – Dick Marks gave a very detailed report on changes that have taken place at Fujitsu. He also showed new products that they are manufacturing. Pavey made a motion to approve the Statement of Benefits for Fujitsu Ten. Goins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Presentation for Outstanding Service – Bridges presented Allen Shelton with a Certificate of Recognition for being awarded the Outstanding Service from the State Fire Inspector’s Association.

Police Radio Replacement or Repair – Fudge said that the police radio which carries the Police Department’s frequency is in desperate need of replacement. The radio was purchased in the early to mid 80’s and is no longer manufactured and they cannot get parts. The system continues to go down. Fudge has received quotes from ERS, who now does their maintenance and one from Tech. The one from ERS was for $4,000.00, and Tech was $3,000.00. Both systems are upgradable. Fudge said he needs to look at the quotes more closely to see what the difference is between the two. Pavey made a motion to allow Fudge to get a temporary system in place until he can talk to Nancy Custer to see if E911
funds are available to help with the purchase and to check out the differences on the two quotes. Byrne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

317 E 10th Street Property/Habitat – Roy Mohr asked the City to consider releasing liens that they have on the property. Habitat has approached the County about forgiving the back taxes and deeding the property over to Habitat for Humanity. He said they were supportive. Goins said he had spoken with the residents in the area and they were also supportive of the idea. The City has a lien on the property for tear down and a weed lien. Sheehan made a motion to release the liens the City has on the property if the County agrees to forgive the back taxes and agrees to deed the land over to Habitat. Pavey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Rush County Fiber Technology Board – The Rush County Fiber Technology Board presented the Council with the following slate of officers for their approval:

Ron Shields, Rush County Citizen - 1 year term to expire July 31, 2003;
Kip Burkett, Rush County Business Owner - 2-year term to expire July 31, 2004;
Chris Seals, Rush County Business Owner - 3 year term to expire July 31, 2005.

Goins made a motion to approve the slate of officers. Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Annexation and Rural Development Loan – Julie Newhouse said that the City will probably get a 67% Rural Development loan for the annexation. But the City needs to send a letter of intent that they are applying for a CFF grant. Pavey made a motion for the City to send the letter of intent. Goins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Insurance Proposals and Bid Specifications – Pavey passed out a Request for Proposal and Formal Bid Specifications that will go out to prospective bidders tomorrow. He went over the package briefly noting the enclosed timetable. Sheehan said that he believed the employer's contribution should be 85% instead of 75% that was in the proposal. Pavey said he would change the 85% to 75%.
Out of School Suspension Program — Bridges said at the next meeting they hope to have an agreement ready for approval on the out of school suspension program.

Claims — McGowan made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Byrne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before Council, Goins made a motion to adjourn. Sheehan seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

ROBERT M. BRIDGES, MAYOR    WILLIAM R. GOINS, MEMBER

DARRIN L. MCGOWAN, MEMBER    BRIAN J. SHEEHAN, MEMBER

JOHN M. BYRNE, MEMBER        MICHAEL P. PAVEY, MEMBER

ATTEST:

ANN L. COPLEY, CLERK-TREASURER