

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF  
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS  
February 19, 2013

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Alderman of the City of Rock Falls was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on February 19, 2013 in Rock Falls, Illinois by Mayor David Blanton, City Clerk, William Wescott, called the roll following the pledge of allegiance, present was Ald. Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Hand, and Watts. Absent was Ald. Folsom. In addition, Attorney Tom Saunders and Administrator Robbin Blackert were present.

**AUDIENCE REQUEST:**

- Mr. Allen Boseneiler, 802 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Rock Falls; requested to address the Council. He voiced his concern to the Council and the residents for Rock Falls, on the money being expended by the City of Rock Falls in regards to the Electoral Board Hearings and appeals.

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:**

- Mr. Keith Grell, a member of the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce Board was present to inform the Council of some upcoming events. On February 21<sup>st</sup> a new event "Mix and Mingle" will be held at Harold's Furniture on W. Route 30; and on February 23<sup>rd</sup> the Annual Basket Bingo event will be held at the Community Building.

**Ordinance: Reading and Adoption**

1. Ordinance 2013-2094; Ordinance to approve for the disposal of 1984 Pelican Street Sweeper, no longer functional or utilized by the City of Rock Falls and is determined to be surplus, Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to dispose of the same by scraping the vehicle out.

**Motion Ald. Vandersnick; Second: Ald. Kuhlemier to approve the Ordinance as presented for adoption.**

**Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.**

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Approve the Minutes of the January 15, 2013 and Special Council Meeting Minutes January 28, 2013.
2. Approve the bills as presented
3. Approve Resolution: 2013 649; Resolution to void the recapture agreement between Karolyn Mager and the City of Rock Falls and execute a release of lien in favor of the City of Rock Falls provided under the Single Family Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Grant (SFOOR) Recapture Agreement Program #HO-2840, Activity # 9118 for the property located at 706 Avenue A, Rock Falls, Whiteside County, Illinois due to the death of Ms. Mager.
4. Approve the renewal of Lease Agreement No. 3146 between the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the City of Rock Falls. The Lease is for land located in Centennial Park which is used for operating and maintaining a public storm water drainage facility. The Lease is for five (5) years beginning on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2013 and ending on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018. Lease fee is \$200 per year for a total of \$1,000.00.
5. Approve a three (3) year contract with CGI Communications, Inc., Rochester, New York for a Community Video Tour Agreement for viewing on the City of Rock Falls Website, at no cost or liability to the City.
6. Approve the Planning & Zoning Commission request for the Rezoning of the property identified at 600 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Street from AG-1 to AG-1; Special Use. Owner Brent Porter has made this request for the purpose of constructing a recreational vehicle trailer park in the near future.

7. Approve the low bid of Badger Truck Center, Milwaukee, Wis. For the 2013 Ford F250 4X4 regular cab vehicle for the Water Department Supt. at a cost of \$22,015.00. This vehicle was budgeted for in the 2012-2013 budget.

**Motion: Ald. Hand; Second: Ald. Reitzel to approve the Convent Agenda as presented for adoption.**

**Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.**

**City Administrator: Robbin D. Blackert**

1. Leaf Burning Survey Results- A total of 1068 surveys, 20% of the Utility customers of the City were returned in regards to the Leaf Burning survey that the City sent out to its residents via utility billing. The results were received in regards to the individual questions asked:
2. Emerald Ash Borer Public Information Meeting - March 21, 2013 @ 1000/Community Building
3. Terracon Agreement - Spoke to the recent meetings with Terracon Consultants, Inc. who has stood by Rock Falls and been active participants in formulating the remediation of the Reliant Site including the P.A. Site through multiple USEPA Assessment and cleanup grants. Know we are turning the attention to the Limestone Building and seeking additional grants to remediate the eyesore. In the past steps were taken to get this area cleaned up, however, for various reasons it did not occur. The last phase I/II was completed in 1984. With the assistance of the Terracon Grant Manager, Linda Yang, grants from both the State and Federal Brownfield programs will be sought. Terracon estimated cost is nearly \$15,000.00; however, they are going to complete the work for \$6,000.00 and due much of the activities pro bono to help the City complete this last major cleanup of the Riverfront.

**Motion: Ald. Kuhlemier; Second: Ald. Hand to approve the hiring of Terracon to assist with the 2013 Environmental Grant Application process at a cost of \$6,000.00. Vote: (6) Ayes; (1) Recusal-Ald. Reitzel. Motion carried.**

**Information/Correspondence:**

William B. Wescott, City Clerk

- Letters – St. Marys' Grade School students sent letters to Mayor Blanton, Police Chief Kuelper and the Rock Falls Fire Department, as part of the students recognizing community efforts during Catholic Schools Week.

**Department Heads:**

Electric- Mr. Simon updated the Council on the work at the hydroelectric plant. Unit #1 work is complete and running at 100%. Work will begin on Unit #2 very soon. All is progressing very well.

Water/Street- Mr. Padilla informed the Council and residents of the City concerning the Winter Storm projected to hit our area on Thursday afternoon into Friday. A Snow emergency will be declared and will be announced officially tomorrow through the media.

Social Media – Chairman Watts

1. Request approval at the recommendation of the Social Media Committee to establish an active **FACEBOOK** page for the City of Rock Falls following the completion of administrative training and education for the Department Heads and their assistants on March 19, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. at the Electric Dept.

**Motion: Ald. Reitzel; Second: Ald. Snow to approve the application of the City to FACEBOOK Media following the training session for Department Heads and assistants on March 19, 2013. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.**

**Ward Reports:**

Ward 2- Ald. Kuhlemier announced that he will be attending the upcoming Governor’s Conference on Tourism at the Rosemont Horizon Convention Center later this month as the Council representative to the Convention and Tourism Board.

Ward 2- Ald. Snow extended congrandulations to all of the area wrestlers who completed in the IHSA State Tournament over the weekend.

Ward 3 – Ald. Schuneman echoed the sediments of Ald. Snow and also wanted to mention the IHSA State swimming meet this week with local participants as well.

Ward 4 – Ald. Watts thanked the Firehouse of God for the program they have developed in teaching Fire Safety through the various educational displays at the renovated Firehouse property in downtown Rock Falls. In addition he encouraged people to stop and visit the center.

**Mayor’s Report:**

1. Reported that he accepted with regret, the resignation of William Groleau from the Planning & Zoning Commission effective immediately due to health reasons. Mr. Groleau has served on the Commission since 2004.

**Adjournment:**

**With no other business to come before the Council, Mayor Blanton called for a motion to adjourn. Motion: Ald. Watts; Second: Ald. Reitzel to adjourn the meeting. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.**

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William B. Wescott, City Clerk