

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF  
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS  
April 2, 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 April 2, 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, Folsom and Watts. Ald. Hand was absent. In addition, Administrator Robbin Blackert and City Attorney Jim Reese were present.

**Introduction of New Employee:**

- New Police Officer, Steven D. Garrison was introduced to the Council by Chief Kuelper. He has graduated from the Academy and is currently working on his 14 week field training period.

**Recognition of Service:**

- Mayor Blanton recognized Mr. William Groleau for his service to the City. He has been a member of the Planning & Zoning Commission for 9 years. He was awarded a plaque in recognition of his service.

**Audience Requests:**

- Mr. Michael Hubbard addressed the Council and asked for permission to hold "Take Back the City Revivals" in the Veterans Memorial Park. He is asking for permission for May 11, June 8, July 13, August 10 and September 14 from 12:00 p.m. till 10:00 p.m...Following is request, Clerk Wescott advised the Council that current City Ordinance would prohibit the event going any later than the hour of 8:00 p.m. due to its location in a residential area. Following discussion, **Motion: Ald. Snow; Second: Ald. Kuhlemier to approve the use of Veterans Memorial Park on the dates requested from 12:00 p.m. till 8:00 p.m. only. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.**

**Community Affairs:**

- Adm. Blackert spoke on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, and reminded the Council and residents about the following upcoming events: 4-26 Staff Appreciation Luncheon; 5-3/4 Garage Sales; 5-17 Chamber Golf Outing at Rock River Golf and Pool; 5-30 Meet and Greet at Happy Tails.

**Consent Agenda:**

- **Prior to any action request on the consent agenda, Ald. Reitzel asked that item # 6 be removed for separate actions. Mayor Blanton removed the items.**
1. Approve the Minutes of the March 19, 2013
  2. Approve the bills as presented
  3. Approve periodic estimate No. 1 for partial payment to Fischer Excavating, Inc. of Freeport, Illinois for the Sewerage Improvements at the Dog Pound Lift Station Replacement in the amount of \$213,734.31.
  4. Approve at the request of the Finance/Insurance Committee the 2013-2014 renewal with the IPBC (Intergovernmental Personnel Benefit Cooperative) for Employee Health and Dental Insurance through the NIHII (Northern Illinois Health Insurance Initiative) Sub-Pool. Health increase of (4%) and Dental cost to remain at the same rate; with no Plan changes.
  5. Approve at the request of the Finance/Insurance Committee the renewal of W/C, Property, Liability and Cyber Insurance Coverage with MICA (Municipal Insurance Cooperative Agency) at a total cost of \$252,632 for the 2013-2014 Plan year.
  6. Approve at the request of the Industrial Development Commission that the City of Rock Falls change the current zoning of M-2 and B-2 for the property known as "Reliant Site" to Mu-1, Mixed Use District.
  7. Approve Proclamation declaring April 14-20, 2013 as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.
  8. Approve the bid submitted by Williams Lawn Care, Terry Williams, owner of 405 W. 20<sup>th</sup> St., Rock Falls for the 2013-2014 Lawn Maintenance Program for the City. Williams lawn Care was the only company to submit a bid.

**Motion: Ald. Snow; Second: Ald. Watts to approve the consent agenda as presented, minus items #6. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.**

**Motion: Ald. Snow; Second: Ald. Vandersnick to approve items #6 of the consent agenda. Vote: (6) Ayes, (1) members recuses, motion carried.**

**City Administrator: Robbin D. Blackert**

1. Approve the expenditure of \$11,000 for the purchase of a 2012 Chevrolet Impala (14,000 mi.) for the Police Department and the trade in of a 2006 Dodge Magnum, with Pete Harkness, Sterling, Illinois.  
**Motion: Ald. Reitzel; Second: Ald. Folsom to approve the purchase of the 2012 Chevrolet Impala at a cost of \$11,000 with trade in as indicated. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.**
2. Update on the Fire Department – Adm. Blackert briefed the Council on the ongoing discussion with the City of Sterling in regards to the Administrative restricting of the Departments. In the near future,, Adm. Blackert and Sterling City Manager Shumard will meet to crunch the numbers.
3. 1<sup>st</sup> Draft of the 2013-2014 Municipal Budget- Adm. Blackert went through and presented a review of the 2013-2014 Budget for the members of the Council. The total revenues projected for the year are \$22,130,657 and the Expenditures are \$22,126,952 leaving a surplus of \$3,705.00. Following a short discussion, **Motion: Ald. Kuhlemier; Seconded: Ald. Reitzel to approve the Budget as presented. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.**

**Department Heads:**

- Mr. Simon, Electrical Director for the City of Rock Falls informed the Council and residents of the City, that the City of Rock Falls had been awarded the following two (2) awards by the APPA (American Public Power Association) for the year 2012. The first was the distinguished Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) Award. Rock Falls was one of 184 of the nation's more than 2000 power utilities to receive the award. The award recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four (4) key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce development and system improvement. This marks the third consecutive year for the utility winning the award. Secondly, the Utility was recognized with a National Award for Outstanding Safety practices. Mr. Simon presented two plaques to Mayor Blanton.

**Mayor's Report:**

1. Mayor Blanton requests the passage of **Resolution 2013-653**, authorizing the appointment of Richard F. Simon, Electric Utility Director to the Board of Directors for the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency on behalf of the City of Rock Falls. **Motion: Ald. Snow; Second: Ald. Vandersnick to approve the appointment as presented. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.**

**Executive Session:**

Mayor Blanton requests the Council to enter into executive session for the purpose of:

1. Collective Bargaining-Section 2(c )(2)
2. Litigation – Section 2(c )(11)

***Motion: Ald. Vandersnick; Second: Ald. Snow to enter into executive session as requested by Mayor Blanton.***

***Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried, (IN: 7:25 p.m.)***

***Motion: Ald. Reitzel; Second: Ald Vandersnick to return to regular session. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried. (OUT: 7:45 p.m.)***

Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Blanton calls for a motion to adjourn. ***Motion: Ald. Folsom; Second: Ald. Reitzel to adjourn. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried. (OUT: 7:47 p.m.)***

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William B. Wescott, City Clerk