

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND
ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS

December 17th, 2013

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Rock Falls, Illinois was called to order at 6:30 p.m. December 3rd, 2013 in the Council Chambers of Rock Falls by Mayor William B. Wescott.

City Clerk Eric Arduini called the roll following the pledge of allegiance. A quorum was present including Mayor William B. Wescott, Aldermen Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Hand, and Watts. Alderman Folsom was absent. In addition City Attorney Jim Reese, and City Administrator Blackert were also present.

Special Recognition

Retiring Sergeant Herb Hall was recognized by Mayor Wescott, and was presented a plaque. Mr. Hall served 11 years for the Rock Falls Police, he was a Sergeant, and training officer. Adm. Blackert commented that she may have known him longer than anyone in the city, and she would describe him as “steady”. Mr. Hall thanked the city employees for working with him.

Community Affairs

Alderman Kuhlemier informed the council that Tim Wilson from the Rock Falls Tourism Office worked with Sterling in the sponsorship of the Farm Show at Westwood. Video will be playing on the website after the 1st of the year.

Ordinance: Second Reading / Adoption

1. Adopt Ordinance 2013-2140 amending Sec. 7-78 of the Rock Falls municipal code for employees appointed by the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners. A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Vandersnick, and second by Alderman Kuhlemier.

Vote 7 ayes, motion carried

2. Adopt Ordinance 2013-2141 amending Sec. 8-870 of the Rock Falls municipal code concerning rules for bucket brigades. A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Watts, and second by Vandersnick.

Vote 7 ayes, motion carried

3. Adopt Ordinance 2013-2142 approving a contract for the sale of renewable energy credits to Element Markets LLC of Houston Texas subject to final approval by the city attorney. A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Kuhlemier.
Vote 7 ayes, motion carried
4. Adopt Ordinance 2013-2143 2014 Tax Levy A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Shuneman. Mayor Wescott thanked the city employees for all of their hard work on the levy.
Vote 7 ayes, motion carried
5. Adopt Ordinance 2013-2144 Ordinance Abating the Tax heretofore levied for the Year 2013 to pay Debt Service on \$1,555,000 General Obligation Bonds (Electric System Alternate Revenue Sources), Series 2010 of the City of Rock Falls Whiteside County, Illinois. A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Hand. Mayor Wescott explained that this is required by state statute, and keeps these bonds off of the tax rolls.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried
6. Adopt Ordinance 2013-2145 Ordinance Abating the Tax heretofore levied for the Year 2013 to pay Debt Service on \$720,000 General Obligation Alternate Bonds (Motor Fuel Tax Alternate Revenue Sources), Series 2012 of the City of Rock Falls Whiteside County, Illinois a motion to adopt was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Hand.
Vote 7 Aye, motion carried
7. Adopt Ordinance 2013-2146 approving the lease of motor vehicles with Ford Motor Credit Company LLC, Dearborn Michigan for 4 Police Interceptors - 4 payments of \$40,960.99 a motion to adopt was made by Alderman Watts, and second by Schuneman. Mayor Wescott stated that these payments are being made using money from video gaming revenues.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried
8. Adopt Ordinance 2013-2138 amending Rock Falls Municipal Code Section 13-305 to add a new subsection (a)(15) to comply with the "Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act". A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Vandersnick, and second by Watts. Mayor Wescott explained that this ordinance went through the Planning and Zoning Committee, and they recommended it to the council.
Vote 7 ayes, motion carried

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Watts to accept the consent agenda by omnibus designation.

1. Approve the Minutes of the December 3rd, 2013 Council Meeting
2. Approve the bills as presented
3. Allow the application of a SEDAC Energy Efficiency grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.
4. Approve Resolution 2013-673; Obligation Retirement Resolution for the 2012 General Obligation Bonds. Payback section #12-00003-00-GB in the amount of \$113,780.00 from MFT funds
5. Approve the purchase of a New Holland L225 Skid Loader from Peabody's, 2900 Polo Road Sterling, IL. for \$15,950 and trade of our current unit.
6. Approve the purchase of a 38kv recloser for Meter Point 3 from Midwest Electric Sales 220 Robert Street Waterloo, WI 53098 for \$17,994.00

Vote 7 ayes, motion carried

City Administrator: Robbin D. Blackert

Administrator Blackert reported that the Utility Reimbursement Grant brochures have been printed and have been distributed to the realty companies along with the grant applications. Adm. Blackert informed the council that she will be on vacation from 12-21-13 to 1-6-14. She also wanted to inform everyone about the large amount of eagles hunting along the river by the limestone building, wishes everyone a Merry Christmas.

Department Heads

Mayor Wescott wanted to congratulate Fire Chief Gary Cook for 35 years with the city's Fire Department

Building Inspector Searing reported that the Building Code Committee recommends that we authorize our attorney to produce an instrument of assignment to convey the contract with Richard Finnicum to Michael Sterba for the property located at 812 Avenue A. A motion was made by Alderman Reitzel, and second by Vandersnick to authorize the conveyance instrument.

Vote 7 ayes, motion carried

Ward Reports

Alderman Mark Vandersnick thanked the city crews for their good job in snow removal, and wishes everyone a Merry Christmas.

Alderman Reitzel thanks the electric department for their work installing the new lights along the 12th Avenue Bridge.

Alderman Kuhlemier sends his condolences to Rick Zigler on the loss of his wife Marjorie Zigler, who was the sister of former Mayor Dave Blanton. He also wanted to thank everyone who helped with the Rock Falls Christmas party and the Days Inn for hosting it.

Alderman Snow reported on a “Toys for Tots” drive that he hosted at his auction house recently. He stated that he was impressed by such great generosity the people of Rock Falls have. He wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.

Alderman Hand thanked the Street Department for their recent snow removal.

Alderman Schuneman wished everyone a Merry Christmas, and asked that everyone not bother Adm. Blackert during her vacation.

Alderman Watts urges all able residents to help keep the sidewalks clear of snow for the citizens who cannot clear the paths themselves also for seniors, and disabled people who need to use the sidewalks. He wishes everyone a Happy Holidays, Christmas, and New Year.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Wescott also gives his condolences to the family of former Mayor Blanton on the loss of his sister. He stated that he would also like residents to help their neighbors with snow removal.

He informed the council that a magazine called “The Source” had an article about the state of Illinois’ Debt Recovery Program, and that the city of Rock Falls was mentioned several times in the article as being leaders in the state for this new program.

He shared a letter from the 14th District Domestic Violence council thanking Rock Falls Police Chief Mike Kuelper for his help in designing the program, and teaching others in the state about domestic violence. He states that it is good to have the great experienced city employees that we do.

He shared his experience of watching such a large amount of eagles feeding at the lower dam. It is such a benefit to the community to have the river running through here. Bill and Linda Wescott wish everyone a Happy and safe Holiday Season.

Adjournment

With nothing else for the good of the council a motion was made by Alderman Watts to adjourn, and second by Reitzel at 7:05 p.m.

Viva Voce Vote, motion carried

Eric Arduini, City Clerk