

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

April 15th, 2014

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Rock Falls, Illinois was called to order at 6:30 p.m. April 15th, 2014 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, Folsom, and Watts. In addition City Attorney Jim Reese, and City Administrator Blackert were also present.

City Clerk Eric Arduini read aloud the proclamation of National Public Safety Telecommunications Week being April 13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> 2014 in the City of Rock Falls. Mayor Wescott presented proclamations to Ryan Venema, Amy Stoeckel, Joy Wilstead, and Gina Reitzel. Mayor Wescott reminded everyone that telecommunicators do an outstanding job 365 days a year. Their job is stressful, and they must be good at multitasking. The City Council gave them a round of applause. Certificates of the proclamation will be given to the Sterling telecommunicators, and the Whiteside County Sherriff telecommunicators. A motion to approve the proclamation was made by Alderman Folsom, and second by Snow

**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried**

**Community Affairs:**

Randy Balk was introduced by Mayor Wescott as the new Executive Director of the Rock Falls Community Development Corporation. Mr. Balk is the former City Administrator of Fulton, IL. and he stated that he enjoys economic development. He praises the city for all of the work that has been done with the new Sewer Plant, and Riverfront Brownfields.

Mayor Wescott asked that Ordinance 2014 - 2153 be removed from first reading, and brought up for adoption after executive session.

**Ordinance First Reading:**

A motion was made Alderman Vandersnick, and second by Watts to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2014-2154 - Amending Municipal code Section 1-7(b) 1. Penalties, and Section 1-29 Ordinance violation citation; fees and penalties.

**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Vandersnick and second by Schuneman to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2014-2155 - Division 1.9 Downtown Business Design Guide. The motion was amended by the request of Alderman Kuhlemier that the title of the ordinance be changed to Uptown Business Design Guide. Alderman Reitzel recused himself from this vote.

**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried**

## **Consent Agenda:**

Mayor Wescott asked that the council that item number 6 be removed for consideration from the consent agenda.

A motion was made by alderman Hand, and second by Folsom to approve the consent agenda by omnibus designation. Included in the consent agenda was:

1. Approve the Minutes of the April 1st, 2014 Council Meeting
2. Approve the bills as presented
3. Approval upon drafting of documents and City Attorney review for a two (2) year contract for the sale of Renewable Energy Credits with Marex Spectron – 360 Madison Avenue, New York NY 10017
4. Approval of Utility Office Write Offs for March 2011 through February 2013 – Electric \$15,272.41, Sewer \$6,753.94, Water \$4,103.94, Garbage \$1,063.78
5. Approval to have the City of Rock Falls' Non-dedicated Generation units placed in the PJM Demand Response Program

Administer Blackert commented that the write-offs had not been done for two years due to the city of Rock Falls using the i-drop program.

Attorney Reese remarked that item #3 concerning the energy credit sale is awaiting confirmation from the end buyer, and item #5 PJM has answered all of the attorney's questions satisfactorily.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

## **City Administrator: Robbin D. Blackert**

Administrator Blackert spoke briefly about the mass shootings at Fort Hood. Adm. Blackert stated that her brother is the Mayor in Killeen, Texas. Adm. Blackert thanks everyone for their thoughts and prayers concerning her brother who graduated from Lyndon High School.

## **Ward Reports**

Alderman Brian Snow reported that he lost a nephew recently, and he would like to thank all of the people and businesses from Rock Falls, Sterling, and Dixon that showed their support and generosity. The Benefit was a wonderful event, and a celebration of his life.

Alderman Dave Hand stated that he is glad to see the weather changing.

Alderman Jim Schuneman gave congratulations to YWCA Women of the year recipients Sandy Henrekin, and Commander Tammy Nelson.

## **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Wescott gave his recommendation for the appointment of Terry Gisi to the Police Pension Board for a (2) two year term. A motion to accept the appointment was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Vandersnick.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

Mayor Wescott gave his recommendation for the appointment of Mr. Randy Balk, Executive Director of the Rock Falls Community Development Corporation to the Whiteside Carroll County Enterprise Zone Maintenance Organization #8, effective immediately through the year 2015, to fill the vacancy created with the retirement of Sandy Henrekin. A motion to accept the appointment was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Folsom.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

Mayor Wescott gave his recommendation for the appointment of Rich Fassig to the Planning and Zoning Committee for a four (4) year term, effective May 1, 2014. Mayor Wescott commented that Rich is a pastor, and he had formerly served in planning and zoning in DeKalb County. A motion to accept the appointment was made by Alderman Folsom, and second by Vandersnick.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

**Executive Session:**

A motion was made by Alderman Shuneman, and second by Snow to enter into executive session at 6:52 for Collective Bargaining Section 2(c)(2), Personnel Section 2(c)(1), Real Estate sale or lease Section 2(c)(6), and Purchase or lease of Real Estate Section 2(c)(5).

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

**Action taken after returning to regular session:**

A motion was made by Alderman Vandersnick, and second by Snow to adopt Ordinance 2014-2153 - Authorizing the execution of a collective bargaining agreement with the Fire Fighters.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Reitzel to approve the department heads, and at will employees pay adjustments for FY 2014-2015.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

**Adjournment**

With nothing else for the good of the council a motion to adjourn was made at 7:44p.m. by Alderman Folsom, and second by Snow.

**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried**