

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

August 2nd, 2016

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Rock Falls, Illinois was called to order at 6:30 p.m. August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 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 Reitzel, Logan, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Kleckler, Folsom and Ebenezer. In addition City Attorney Jim Reese, and City Administrator Robbin Blackert were present.

**Public Hearing**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Alderman Schuneman at 6:30pm to begin a public hearing for written or oral comments from citizens regarding the intent of the City to issue not to exceed \$5,000,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source.) The motion was carried by voice vote. No audience members spoke up concerning the hearing. The City Clerk indicated that there had been no oral or written concerns presented to his office. A motion to close the public hearing was made by Alderman Logan, and second by Alderman Kleckler. The motion was carried by voice vote. The Public Hearing ended at 6:32pm.

**Audience Requests:**

Jonna Surrat stated that she lives at 1400 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street which is next to the Whiteside County Clinic. Mrs. Surrat states that there could be an alternative to the Clinic needing a zoning variance, as she would offer her property to the County for the expansion. The proposed expansion would reduce the visibility of a for sale sign posted in her yard.

**Community Affairs:**

Bethany Bland, President of the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce presented updates to the City Council. Mrs. Bland reported that the Chamber is in the process of hiring a new program coordinator, and making changes to the Facebook page. There will be a 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary lunch and open house on August 28<sup>th</sup>. The fall city-wide garage sales day will be held September 23-25<sup>th</sup>.

**Consent Agenda:**

The Consent agenda was read aloud by Clerk Arduini.

1. Approve the Minutes of the July 19th, 2016 Regular Council Meeting
2. Approval of bills as presented.
3. Approval of "Boot Drive for MDA" on Saturday August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 9am to 1pm at the intersection of First Avenue and Third Street - Rock Falls Firefighters.
4. Approval of **Resolution 2016-745** adopting the Trails Mission / Vision statement.

A motion to approve the consent agenda by omnibus designation was made by Alderman Schuneman and second by Alderman Logan.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

### **Ordinance First Reading:**

Alderman Reitzel recused himself from the vote on the first reading of the ordinances. Clerk Arduini read aloud the two ordinances.

**Ordinance 2016-2279** Repealing Subsection (39) of Section 18-152 of the Municipal Code removing parking restrictions on West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

**Ordinance 2016-2278** An ordinance authorizing and providing for the issue of not to exceed \$2,115,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2016, of the City of Rock Falls, Whiteside County, Illinois, for the purpose of paying the costs of projects within the Downtown Tax Increment Financing District of the City, including, but not limited to, developing public green space and a hiking and biking trail, improving the riverbank, and constructing an outdoor entertainment venue, public restrooms, a water feature and a skateboard park, the pledge of certain revenues to the payment of principal and interest on the bonds, the levy of a direct annual tax to pay such principal and interest if the pledged revenues are insufficient to make such payment, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof.

A motion was made by Alderman Folsom and second by Alderman Snow to approve the first reading of the ordinances.

**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried, Alderman Kleckler voted nay**

### **Ordinance Second Reading/ Adoption:**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Alderman Reitzel for the adoption of **Ordinance 2016-2277** Disposal of surplus property - 1995 Ford F-250 VIN# 1FTHX26H7SKC04972. Alderman Kleckler inquired, and was told that the truck will be sold at the City Auction.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

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

City Administrator Robbin Blackert reminded residents that street resurfacing is underway, and to not park on or near the streets being worked on during the week.

### **Information/Correspondence:**

City Clerk Eric Arduini informed the Council that he had placed IML registrations on their desks for the annual conference being held September 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>.

City Attorney James Reese explained that the Casey's project had taken multiple lots, and is now combining them into one. A motion was made by Alderman Logan and second by Schuneman to approve the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission for the approval of the plat for "Casey's Rock Falls Subdivision".

Attorney Reese explained that the County had went before the Planning and Zoning Commission requesting a variance due to setback requirements for the expansion of the Dental Clinic at the Whiteside County Health Department. The Planning and Zoning Commission has sent a recommendation to the City Council to deny that request. It will take a 2/3 majority to overrule the recommendation. A motion was made by Alderman Logan, and second by

Alderman Schuneman to approve the recommendation. Whiteside County Administrator Joel Horn told the Council that he felt the project met all of the criteria required for a variance to be allowed. He stated that it would not block the street view any more than the Health Department building already does. Adm. Blackert displayed the area on the screen so the Council could view the area in question.

**Vote 5 aye, 3 nay (Kuhlemier, Folsom, Ebenezer), motion carried**

#### **Department Heads:**

Water Superintendent Ted Padilla requested a change order to the contract for the Well #7 project. He presented the estimates in three parts, and payment for these changes will come from two sources. A motion was made by Alderman Reitzel, and second by Alderman Snow to approve the change order for part 1 (Entrance Addition) to be paid with IEPA grant funds not to exceed \$12,000.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Reitzel, and second by Alderman Snow to approve the change order for part 2 (Road Restoration) and part 3 (Road Widening) with funds coming from the capital improvement fund not to exceed \$18,000.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

Mr. Padilla stated that contract 1 of the Well #7 project is 97% complete, and contract 2 is 65% complete.

Electrical Director Dick Simon requested the approval of the proposal for professional GIS services, three year agreement with Cloudpoint Geographics, Inc. located at 107 West Ann Street, Roanoke, IL in the amount of \$4,888.00/month with the review of the City Attorney. A motion was made by Alderman Schuneman, and second by Alderman Logan. Attorney Reese stated that the contract is for three years, but the city may terminate the agreement at any time with a 30 day notice.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

Tourism Director Janell Loos thanked many of the sponsors, and supporters of the Pink Heals event. Dir. Loos was honored to ride along for the visits. Rhonda Reese was welcomed to the Tourism Department, and has already been a great help.

Touch-a-truck is on August 6<sup>th</sup>, and the first 500 kids will get a cup from the Optimist Club and Rock Falls Tourism.

Customer Service Office Superintendent Diane Hatfield presented a slight revision to the write off policy per the recommendation of the City Attorney. A motion to approve the changes was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Logan.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

A motion to approve the Utility office write-offs with recommendations from the Electric and Finance Committees for in the amount of \$18,294.86 was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Schuneman.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

## **Ward Reports:**

### **Ward 1**

Alderman Reitzel reminded residents about the parking restrictions during the road resurfacing work being done. Mr. Reitzel invited everyone to "Touch -a Truck" on Saturday.

### **Ward 2**

Alderman Glen Kuhlemier reported that the Pink Heals dinner was a nice meal. He also informed the Council of the funeral services for Betty Brown.

## **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Bill Wescott reported that Fire Chief Gary Cook had approached the Police- Fire Committee with the names of two men who would like to join the Fire Department as paid on call. Both men are certified, and will not have to complete the 2-3 years of training now required for all firefighters. A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Folsom to accept the recommendation from the Police Fire Committee for the appointment of two (2) Paid on Call Firefighters.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

Mayor Wescott congratulated Phil Parks, John Paul, and Deena Gallentine for helping the Rock Falls Little League 10U softball team win the State Tournament in Orion. The team had a 9-1 record in tournament play. This team has won 12 Championships since 1997. A victory lap around the town will be held on Thursday at 4:30pm. The team will be at the Council meeting on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

Congressperson Cheri Bustos will be touring the hydroelectric plant on Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm. Mrs. Bustos is on the energy committee. Representatives from IMEA will also be in attendance.

The Sesquicentennial Committee meetings have been changed to the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm.

Thursday August 11<sup>th</sup> is the annual dinner for the Blackhawk Waterways Convention and Visitors Bureau. Mayor Wescott encourages everyone to attend. This year it is being held at Rock River Golf and Pool in Rock Falls.

## **Executive Session**

A motion to enter executive session for personnel section 2(c)(1) personnel - hiring of customer service office employee, and litigation section 2(c)(11) pending, probable or imminent litigation was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Alderman Schuneman.

City Council enters executive session at 7:22pm

City Council enters back into regular session at 7:37pm

## **Actions Taken from Executive Session**

A motion was made by Alderman Reitzel and second by Alderman Logan for the posting of a Customer Service Office clerk position.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Logan and second by Alderman Snow to offer the Customer Service position to Cora Riley if no one from the bargaining unit bids on it.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Folsom to approve **Resolution 2016-746** Authorizing Settlement for Cause of Action with C.R. England.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried**

With nothing else for the good of the Council a motion was made by Alderman Folsom and second by Alderman Reitzel to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm.

**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried**

Meeting is adjourned at 7:40pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'EA', written over a horizontal line.

Eric Arduini, City Clerk