

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

January 17th, 2017

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Rock Falls, Illinois was called to order by Mayor William B. Wescott at 6:30 p.m. January 17th, 2017 in the Council Chambers of Rock Falls.

City Clerk Eric Arduini called the roll following the pledge of allegiance. A quorum was present including Aldermen Reitzel, Logan, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Kleckler, and Folsom. In addition City Attorney Jim Reese was present.

Proclamation:

A motion was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Alderman Logan to proclaim February 2017 "Mentoring Month" in the City of Rock Falls. District 13 Superintendent Dan Arickx and Kamren Shuman from "Big Brothers Big Sisters" accepted the proclamation from Mayor Wescott.

Viva Voce Vote, motion carried

Presentation:

Adam Chandler from Retail Attractions gave the Council a presentation for the areas of development over the next 5-20 years. The overlay that was presented should be revisited every three years as the areas progress. The overlay is to help the City determine infrastructure needs in the future.

The riverfront is in its first stages of development, and Mr. Chandler has divided it into 2 areas. East of Rt. 40 is the "New River District", and West of Rt. 40 is the "Historic River District". Growth has already begun in both areas, and he sees the Mazel property as a site with a lot of potential. Parking and traffic will be a concern for both areas in the future.

The "Interstate Retail Zone" represents a major opportunity for retail between Chicagoland and Moline. Once this area begins development, things will move quickly. It will be a power center with many retailers.

First Avenue from the interstate to the riverfront is considered the "Uptown Gateway". This area will be the most difficult to develop. The current buildings would need to be remodeled or demolished. This area is the artery into the heart of Rock Falls. The sooner the riverfront or interstate areas develop, the sooner the infill will come along 1st Avenue.

Mr. Chandler stated that light industrial should stay in the areas currently available in the Industrial Parks.

A secondary commercial area is Route 30. There are more properties available on Route 30 that would require less work to develop than on Rt. 40.

The "New River District" is poised to see an increase in home values, new construction, and remodeling. Weekend rentals could be possible with the good access to the uptown area.

The "Historic River District" may see more multi-family housing along the river. With proper lighting and sidewalks it will be a place where people want to be in 5-10 years. New housing will be a premium soon.

Alderman Kuhlemier asked if Retail Attraction had looked at 12th Avenue. Mr. Chandler did look at it, but it is not a focal point at this time.

Alderman Schuneman asked what type of things would the City have to be looking at for the First Avenue Gateway? Mr. Chandler spoke about the retail space south of Save-A- Lot that is leased and Wal-Mart's expansion plans in the near future.

Consent Agenda:

The Consent agenda was read aloud by Clerk Arduini. A motion to approve the consent agenda by omnibus designation was made by Alderman Schuneman, and second by Alderman Folsom.

1. Approve the Minutes of the January 3rd, 2017 Regular Council Meeting.
2. Approval of bills as presented.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried

City Administrator Robbin D. Blackert:

City Administrator Robbin Blackert wished City Attorney Jim Reese a happy belated birthday.

Administrator Blackert informed the Council that the Vactor went in for maintenance, and will need \$31,700 of repairs. The shop it is currently at is the only place certified to repair it.

The IMEA Newsletter had an article about Rock Falls being named Municipality of the Year.

Administrator Blackert gave the Council an update about the consolidated dispatch. A draft copy of the intergovernmental agreement was given to the Aldermen. Adm. Blackert hopes to call this for a vote at the first meeting in February. Whiteside County will be the employing agency for the dispatchers, with the facility being housed in the Coliseum in Sterling. An advisory committee will be set up to review the agreement after 6 months, and once a year after that. The group is seeking employment of a Dispatch Coordinator. Funding the dispatch center will be based by call volume beginning at 40% Sterling, 30% Rock Falls, and 30% Whiteside. The State has mandated that this be done by July 1st, 2017.

The Rock Falls Police Department will continue to be staffed at all times. It should provide better service to residents because 911 calls will no longer be transferred.

Alderman Kleckler asked what Sterling gets out of hosting the facility. Alderman Kuhlemier commented that our telecommunicators should be commended on the job they have done. Administrator Blackert informed the FOP units about the changes, and those contracts will be expired at the end of April.

Adm. Blackert announced that The IMUA Scholarship is available online now.

She will be meeting with the Aldermen soon about municipal fiber, and Magellan will be giving a presentation at the January 24th Committee of the Whole meeting.

Department Heads:

Water Reclamation- Ed Cox

A motion was made by Alderman Reitzel, and second by Alderman Logan for the purchase of UV lamps and ballasts from Peterson and Matz Inc. 2250 Point Blvd. #300 Elgin, IL.

60123 in the amount of \$21,730.57. Superintendent Cox explained that these are used in the tertiary building for disinfecting, and they lose their strength over time.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried

Water – Ted Padilla

Water Superintendent Ted Padilla and Attorney Reese explained that the contract for fire alarm services with ADS in Aurora, IL gave no benefit to the city for the service. Alarm services will be re-evaluated and brought back to council at a later time.

A motion was made by Alderman Schuneman, and second by Alderman Logan for emergency repairs to Filter #2 by Loescher Heating and Air Conditioning 907 East 17th Street in the amount of \$16,910.00. Attorney Reese reminded Clerk Arduini to have the prevailing wage addendum signed with the contract.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried

Tourism – Janell Loos

A motion was made by Alderman Logan and second by Alderman Kuhlemier for the approval of the agreement with Ken Freeman Outdoor Promotions 16 Sedgewick Cove, Jackson, Tennessee. The amount of \$10,000 for the 2017 Bass Pro Shop's Big Cat Quest on June 24th – 25th, 2017 will be split into two payments. Alderman Kleckler inquired if the fishing boundaries will be the same. They will be from Rockton to Rock Island again.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried

Director Loos informed the Council that Rock Falls is on the official Pink Heals tour this year. They will be in town September 23rd and 24th.

Memorial or Commemorative benches and trees in the RB&W District are now available at the Tourism website.

Ward Reports:

Ward 2:

Alderman Kuhlemier informed the Council of the passing of Angie Springer a long time secretary in Rock Falls. He also gave congratulations to the Lauts family and Margie Sommers on the birth of a new grandchild.

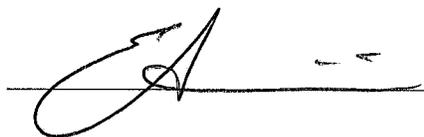
Mayor's Report:

Mayor Wescott reminded the Council that Magellan and GVI will be giving presentations at the Committee of the Whole meeting on January 24th at 6:00pm.

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 7:41pm.

Viva Voce Vote, motion carried

Meeting is adjourned at 7:41pm



Eric Arduini, City Clerk