

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF  
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS**

**JANUARY 6, 2004**

**Call to Order:**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Alderman of the City of Rock Falls was called to order at the hour of 6:30 p.m., January 6, 2004 in Rock Falls, Illinois by Mayor Edward M. Mulvaney. The Mayor, Alderman and all other parties stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Roll Call:**

City Clerk, William Wescott called the roll, Present were Mayor Mulvaney, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Charnas, Hand and Blanton. Alderman Kuhlemier, Straub and Folsom being absent.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**A motion** by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Charnas to approve minutes from the regular meeting of December 16, 2003. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **motion carried.**

**Payment of Bills:**

**A motion** by Alderman Hand and second by Alderman Searing to approve the payment of bills as read:

Tourism \$6,132.92, General Fund \$167,457.72, E.S.D.A. \$9.92, Electric O & M \$317,060.43, Sewer Revenue O & M \$34,186.08, Water Revenue O & M \$39,964.19, Garbage Revenue \$48,262.20, Drug Fund \$43.74, Tobacco Fund \$150.00, Industrial Development Fund \$110.00, Employee Group Health Insurance \$134,721.70, Motor Fuel Tax Fund \$9,838.92, Customer Utility Deposits \$169.46, IMRF/Social Security \$3,735.84, Payroll Clearing \$76,922.09, Electronic Utility Collections \$107,258.64, 2003 Working Cash Bond \$700.00.

Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **motion carried.**

**Correspondence/Proclamation:**

**A motion** was made by Alderman Hand and second by Alderman Stachowiak to approve a Proclamation designating National Mentoring Month/ Big Brothers Big Sisters Day in Rock Falls on January 14, 2004. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **motion carried.**

**A motion** was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Stachowiak to approve a Proclamation proclaiming January 19, 2004 as Martin Luther King Day in Rock Falls. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **motion carried.**

Mayor Mulvaney informed the Council of a letter from the Rock Falls American Legion, requesting a change in the Liquor License of Service clubs. The change being requested is for the service clubs to have the (7) additional days currently allowed for Sunday service made available at no additional costs. Currently Clubs are required to make application for these days and pay a fee of \$40.00 for each

of the (7) additional days. No action was requested at this time; Mayor Mulvaney will bring back a proposal at the next Council meeting. **No action taken**

Old Business:

The following items of Old Business were all carried over to the January 20<sup>th</sup> meeting without any action taken:

1. Ordinance creating a Storage Fee (\$10.00 per day) for all vehicles rowed to the City impound facility.
2. Ordinance creating an increased fine (graduated) for the parking of semis on all City Parking Lots.
3. Ordinance creating new language to handle the chronic issue of junk, inoperable motor vehicles, etc. located on private property.

All items carried over to the next regular meeting of the Council. **No action taken**

### **Ordinances for Approval:**

Mayor Mulvaney presented and Ordinance amending Section 2-400: Mayor's Salary. Following a discussion by Council members and the Mayor over the necessity for passage of this amendment at this time, given the time remaining for implementation under State statute, the request failed for lack of a motion being made. Council members wish to postpone action on this item until all other elected Officials positions are addressed. The minimum time frame is 6 months prior to the election of the position that the changes would affect. **No action taken**

City Clerk Wescott requested a motion authorizing the passage of an Ordinance which would annex certain territories, known as East Coloma School District # 12 and Harvest Time Bible Church of Rock Falls, Illinois into the City of Rock Falls. This is in conjunction with the City having extended Water services to both of these properties over the past year. **Motion made** by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Searing. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **motion carried.**

### **Alderman / Committee Reports:**

Ordinance/ License Committee: Alderman Hand made a **Motion** on the recommendation of his committee, to add \$.50 fee (new line item) to wastewater portion of the utility bill for the purpose of establishing a fund for plant replacement, second by Alderman Stachowiak. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **motion carried.**

Personnel Committee: Alderman Searing reminded the Council and Committee members of the Personnel Committee meeting scheduled for January 8, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Complex.

Electric Committee: Alderman Blanton informed the Council and members of the Electric Committee of a meeting on January 14, 2004 at 6:00 p.m., at the Electric Department Complex in the Industrial Park.

### **Administrators Report**

Mr. Richard Downey, City Administrator reported on a variety of items, sees attachment (A) for a condensed report on the items presented.

### **Information and Updates**

City Clerk Wescott asked the Council to request the City Attorney, Mr. Reese to draft two (2) Ordinances relating to the Working Cash Fund. Following a short discussion and information session, **a motion** was made by Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Blanton to direct the City Attorney to draft Ordinances which will allow the transferring of the Working Cash Fund to the General Fund and a second Ordinance to close out the Working Cash Fund. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **motion carried.**

### **Department Head Reports**

Street Department: Street Supt. Jim White reported on the snow removal performed recently. He thanked the other Departments for their assistance in the timely removal of snow and making the streets safe for all residents. The Mayor and Council verbalized their appreciation for an outstanding job done by all.

Police Chief: Chief Beto Perez postponed his report on Racial Profiling Laws which became effective January 1, 2004.

He informed the Mayor and Council of the Promotion of Officer Mark Davis to the position of Sergeant, and the hiring of Jeremy Vodra as a new Patrol Officer.

### **Mayor's Report**

The Mayor spoke to the Council on several issues. The first was that he would like to see the establishment of a monthly meeting calendar to facilitate better coordination of City business. Following a discussion on this issue, many of the Council members verbalized the need for more time to consider this matter.

The second item, was his recommendation to establish an AD Hoc Committee consisting of (1) Alderman from each Ward and the City Administrator to facilitate the process of searching for and recommending to the Council for approval a new Director of the Electric Utility Department to replace Mr. O'Donnell who will be retiring at the end of June 2004. **No action taken.**

The Mayor postponed his State of the City Report until the January 20, 2004 Council Meeting.

### **Executive Session**

Mayor Mulvaney requested a motion to enter into Executive Session for purposes of addressing (3) separate issues:

1. Personnel matters pertaining to Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance. Mr. Bob O'Donnell, Director of the Electric Utilities was requested to attend this session. (Personnel-Section2(c) (1)
2. Discussion of Collective Bargaining – Section 2 (c) (2)
3. Pending, probable or imminent litigation – Section 2 (c)(6)

**A motion** was made by Alderman Charnas and second by Alderman Stachowiak to enter into Executive Session for the above listed purposes. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **motion carried.**

**A motion** was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Charnas to return to regular session. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **motion carried.**

A **motion** to adjourn was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Stachowiak. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Charnas, Blanton and Hand voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **motion carried**.

Approved January 20, 2004

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William B. Wescott, City Clerk