

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF  
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS  
JANUARY 20, 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 20, 2004 in Rock Falls, Illinois by Mayor Edward M. Mulvaney. The Mayor, Alderman and others in attendance 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, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton. Absent were Alderman Straub and Charnas.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion by** Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Kuhlemier to approve minutes from the regular meeting of January 6, 2004 as presented. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Alderman Folsom abstained. Vote 5 ayes with 1 abstention. **Motion carried.**

**Payment of Bills:**

**Motion by** Alderman Hand and second by Alderman Folsom to approve payment of bills as read:

Tourism \$10,504.50, General Fund \$113,854.14, E.S.D.A. \$32.17, Electric O&M \$364,610.29, Sewer Revenue O&M \$20,621.42, Water Revenue O&M \$21,329.09, Garbage Revenue \$9,063.18, Drug Fund \$160.00, Motor Fuel Tax Fund \$6,496.97, Customer Utility Deposits \$159.74, IMRF/Social Security \$4,072.43, Electronic Utility Collections \$9,637.98.

Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

**Audience Request:**

Representatives of the St. Andrew's Festival Committee requested the placement of a sign promoting Festival Week, May 18-23, 2004 be allowed at the entrance to the City near the Love Light Tree parrell to 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and not hanging over the roadway. They also requested the assistance of the Rock Falls Electric Department with the erection of the signage at the appropriate time. **Motion by** Alderman Hand and second by Alderman Searing to honor the request. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

Request from the Rock Falls American Legion to hold a bucket brigade on May 29, 2004. Application and all support documents in order. **Motion by** Alderman Stachowiak and seconded by Alderman Blanton. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

Request from the Rock Falls Kiwanis Club to hold a bucket brigade on May 29, 2004. Application and all required supporting documents in order. **Motion by** Alderman Stachowiak and second by Alderman Searing. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

Request from the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce (Louie Bellson Committee) to hold a bucket brigade on May 15, 2004. Application and all required supporting documents in order. **Motion by** Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Blanton. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

**Old Business:**

Ordinance creating a storage fee of \$10.00 per day for all vehicles impounded in the City impound facility. Tabled till 02/03/04.

Ordinance creating an increased (graduated) fine for parking of semi trucks/trailers on all City parking lots. Tabled till 02/03/04.

Ordinance creating new language for restrictions on the issue of junk, inoperable vehicles of a chronic nature located on private property. **Motion by** Alderman Hand and second by Alderman Stachowiak. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

The issue of establishing a monthly committee meeting schedule effective February 1, 2004 brought forth by Mayor Mulvaney in an attempt to standardize the random current practice was dismissed due to a lack of a motion.

Ordinances/Resolutions for Approval:

City Clerk Wescott request approval of an Ordinance to transfer Working Cash Fund to the General Fund. **Motion made** by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Searing. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

City Clerk Wescott requests the approval of a Resolution to abolish the Working Cash Fund. **Motion by** Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Searing. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

Consent Agenda:

- 1) Purchase of Utility Poles from North Pacific Lumber (P.O. 1739) in the amount of \$23,022.00 in January 2004 and (P.O. 1747) in the amount of \$22,772.00 in February 2004.
- 2) Purchase of (4) A.E.D.'s (Automatic External Defibrillators) for the Electric Department from Phillips Medical (State Bid) in the amount of \$5,600.00 (\$1,400.00 each).
- 3) Market study for Grocery Stores by Dakota World Wide in the amount of \$5,000.00 to be paid from the enterprise funds (electric 60% - Water and Sewer 20% each)

**Motion by** Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Stachowiak to approve the consent agenda as presented. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

Appointments/Resignations:

Mayor Mulvaney on the recommendation of the Electric committee request Council to approve a search committee for the new Electric Utilities Director composed of the members of the Personnel Committee (Mark Searing, Chairman, Glen Kuhlemier and Mike Straub), Richard Downey City Administrator, Mr. Robert O'Donnell, Electric Utilities Director and Sherry Wind, Secretary, Electric Utilities Department. **Motion by** Alderman Stachowiak and second by Alderman Searing. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

Alderman/Committee Reports:

Alderman Stachowiak (Public Property) – No Report

Alderman Searing (Personnel) – Meeting 29 January 2004 (6:30 p.m. Council Chambers)

Alderman Searing presented a **motion** for the approval of an agreement for sharing of a computer projector between the City of Rock Falls Industrial Development Commission and the Rock Falls Community Development Corporation, motion second by Alderman Kuhlemier. The Viewsonic projector, Model PJ 550 will cost \$1549.00 and will be paid for out of funds of the Industrial Development Commission. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

Alderman Searing made a motion to accept the prepared agreement amending the employment contract of Mr. Robert O'Donnell, Director of the Electric Utilities as presented seconded by Alderman Blanton. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, motion carried.

Alderman Kuhlemier (Finance/Safety) – No Report

Alderman Hand (Ordinance/License) – Ordinance Committee Meeting 22 January 2004, 6:30 p.m.

Alderman Folsom (Insurance) – No Report

Alderman Blanton (Electric) – On behalf of Alderman Straub and the Public Works Committee, request that all Aldermen look at the roads within their Wards and prepare a listing of the surfaces that are in need of repair. They will then be given to the City Engineer and Mr. White, Street Department Supt. to prioritize them and a report will then be forth coming to the Council in the near future.

Alderman Blanton made a **motion** and was second by Alderman Searing to instruct the City Attorney to draft amended changes to Section 15-78 Fire Services by adding additional charges for ¾", 5/8", 1", 1 ½" and 2" meter sizes. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

Alderman Blanton made a **motion** and second by Alderman Hand to refund Utility Deposits for a period of December 2001- December 2003. The refunds total \$3,060.00 for

all the utilities. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

#### Administrators Report:

Mr. Downey talked to the Council members about the current manner in which purchase requests are currently processed. He is requesting the Council approve the purchase of MSI Purchase Order software from Municipal Software, Inc., at an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00. This price will include the software program, a 10 user set up, installation and training, as well as license. **Motion made** by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Folsom. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried.**

A brief review of the rest of Mr. Downey's report is presented as Attachment A to these minutes.

#### Information and Updates:

City Clerk Wescott introduced a Resolution to approve the amendments to the Employee Contract of the Electric Utilities Department Head. **Motion by** Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Searing to approve Resolution. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, motion carried.

#### Department Head Reports:

Chief Police Beto Perez informed the Council that a recent tobacco enforcement sweep conducted at local establishments in Rock Falls yielded 100 % compliance on no-sale of Tobacco products to minors.

**On a sad note, Chief Perez informed the Council of the passing of James McKee at his home on January 19, 2004. "Jimmy" was a retired member of the Rock Falls Police Department having served the City faithfully for 38 years. He began his service with the Police Department in 1961 as a radio dispatcher and records officer. In 1977, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant; in 1987 he was appointed interim Chief of Police and then went on to become the first Administrative Commander. He retired in 1999 to his home in Rock Falls with his wife Nancy and there children. Speaking on behalf of the Police Department, Chief Perez said that "words can not express what Jim McKee had meant to the Rock Falls Police Depart during his years of service." There were two things that Jim would be most remembered for two things. The first was his love of the job and secondly, the friendships that Jim had made over his 38 years of dedicated service to this community and Police Departments throughout Northwest Illinois. He truly will be missed.**

The Council members expressed their condolences to Jim's family during this time of there loss.

Electric Department – Mr. O'Donnell report on the progress of the new street light being installed along south Route 40 near the new Prescott Restraint. Work is proceeding on schedule and is infact just about completed. The new lighting should enhance the area served.

#### Community Affairs:

Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Linda Thrum spoke to the Council about the success of this years Hometown Holidays. At the same time she highlighted the outpouring support to the Love light Tree, which is making possible the purchase of an

additional 40 Christmas Wreaths to be placed on the Cities utility poles to the south starting next year. Additionally she spoke about the upcoming Chamber Annual Dinner, to be held on February 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Rock Falls Country Club. She encourages those who had not yet signed up to do so soon, as they will continue to take reservations until January 26<sup>th</sup>. She also spoke of the need for nominations to this years Shoulder of the Wheel Awards, and encouraged those present to think of possible nominations and get them turned in.

Rock Falls Community Development Corporation Executive Director, Christian Tscheschlok addressed the Council on projects that are being worked on by the RFCDC and that there would be an upcoming announcement concerning Project Popular in the very near future.

#### Mayors Report:

Mayor Mulvaney had intended to make a recommendation to the Council for the City Attorney to draft an ordinance amending the license fee/hours for Class D Licenses. During the course of discussion it was recommended, due to the perception of possible conflict of interest, that this recommendation be directed to the Ordinance Committee for review and presentation at the next Council Meeting. The provisions of the suggested changes concerns Section 8-289(a) (5) and 8-289 (a) (9) which changes the license fee from \$750.00 to \$1,000.00 and eliminates the maximum number of Sundays that the Clubs can be open.

Mayor Mulvaney then presented his State of the City Report for Year 2003. A copy of that document is included as Attachment B.

#### Executive Session:

Mayor Mulvaney entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session for purposes of addressing (2) specific issues:

1. Collective negotiating matters and deliberations Section 2 (c) (3)
2. Pending litigation Section 2 (C) (11)

**Motion** by Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Blanton. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, motion **carried**.

**A motion** by Alderman Stachowiak and second by Alderman Searing to return to regular session. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, motion carried.

**A motion** to adjourn was made by Alderman Folsom and second by Alderman Hand. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **motion carried**.

Approved February 3, 2004

---

William B. Wescott, City Clerk

