

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS
March 16, 2004**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Rock Falls was called to order at the hour of 6:30 p.m., March 16, 2004 in Rock Falls, Illinois by Mayor Edward M. Mulvaney.

Deputy Clerk, Michelle Conklin, called the roll, present were Mayor Mulvaney, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Searing to approve the minutes of March 2, 2004, with the correction on page 5 being made. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 8 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Hand and second by Alderman Folsom to approve the following bills for payment:

Tourism \$1,325.00, General Fund \$103,210.78, Electric O & M \$129,046.52, Sewer Revenue/ O & M \$ 32,244.82, Water Revenue/O & M \$79,380.21, Garbage Revenue \$303.77, Drug Fund \$26.86, Tobacco Grant \$ 253.50, Electronic Utility Collections \$11,212.56, Customer Utility Deposits \$62.02, IMRF/Social Security \$4,123.44

Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 8 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Hand and second by Alderman Stachowiak to approve the Bucket Brigade for the Sterling-Rock Falls Jaycees, to be held on Saturday, June 26, 2004 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm to raise funds for their 2004 fireworks. No one was present from the Sterling-Rock Falls Jaycees so motion was tabled. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 8 aye. Motion carried.

Brian Tribley addressed the Council informing them of the Community Emergency Response Team program. The Federal Emergency Management Agency and Homeland Security are really pushing to get this program implemented. The purpose of this program is not to replace first responders, just to train citizens in needed life saving skills in order to better care for themselves

or others in emergency situations until first responders are able to arrive at the scene. Mr. Tribley is not asking the City Council for any decision on this at this time, just for permission to inform the community of this program, and see if it is a program that will have interest for the Citizens of Rock Falls.

The City Council agreed to allow Mr. Tribley to inform the citizens that this program is available and allow him the use of the City Council Chambers to hold informational meetings.

Discussion was held on a letter received from the Whiteside County Highway & Public Works Department, regarding the Petition for Aid that was submitted for the repairs to the Dixon Avenue Bridge. At this time the current federal fund balances reflect that Whiteside County has a surplus of only \$64,000.00, at the current yearly allotment of \$47,000.00 it will take approximately four years to bank enough funds to proceed with the construction, it will be necessary to shelve this project until 2008. There has been concern over the last two years on the structure of the bridge. Mike Heilsburg from Willett, Hofmann & Associates has informed the Public Works Committee that structurally the bridge is okay, it is just the center line joint of the deck that is deteriorating. The bridge should be okay for another 4 years.

Mayor Mulvaney read a letter received from Country Inn & Suites, requesting that the City of Rock Falls join them in asking the Illinois Department of Transportation to lower the speed limit on Route 40, north of the Canal from 50 miles per hour to 40 miles per hour. They feel that when the new restaurant opens, there will be 500 to 700 additional cars per day seeking ingress and egress from this property.

A motion was made by Alderman Stachowiak and second by Alderman Folsom to direct the Mayor and City Council to send a letter to the Illinois Department of Transportation, requesting that the speed limit on Route 40 north of the Canal to Route 30 be lowered from 50 miles per hour to 40 miles per hour. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 8 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Searing to refer the Riverfront Development Plan to the Plan Commission to hold a public hearing to amend the Comprehensive Plan of the City of Rock Falls. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 8 aye. Motion carried.

The resolution approving the Second Revised Intergovernmental Benefit Cooperative Contract will be held until the Council Meeting of April 6, 2004, so that the Insurance Committee may review the contract at their meeting to be held on March 18, 2004.

A motion was made by Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Kuhlemier to approve items 1 and 2 on the consent agenda. After discussion item 3 was removed from the consent agenda. Attorney Reese advised that there should be wording added to the contract in order to indemnify the City for any damages or loss, and the language should include an agreement to pay for any attorney or engineering fees.

1. Approval to purchase a High Voltage Tester from Hughes Supply in the amount of \$11,600.00
2. Approval to purchase (90) Residential Electric Meters from National Waterworks, Inc. in the amount of \$11,040.00

Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 8 aye. Motion carried.

City Administrator, Richard Downey passed out copies of the general fund budgets to all the council members, these included, Administration, City Administrator, Building, Fire, Police, Public Property and Street. He asked all council members to review these budgets, and if there were any questions or feedback, they would be discussing them at the Committee of the Whole meeting on March 22, 2004.

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Hand to approve the Municipal Software, Inc. Software Service Agreement in the amount of \$3,815.00 for the time period of May 1, 2004 through April 30, 2005. During discussion it was stated that the Purchase Order program was not included in this agreement, because upon purchase of this software a one year service agreement was included. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 8 aye. Motion carried.

Christian Tscheschlok informed the Council that the Rock Falls Community Development Corporation was nearing completion for the gathering and updating of information regarding the State's new database system. The State will allow us to use the portion of the data pertaining to the City of Rock Falls on our local website, until we get our full Community Management System up and running. He thanked both Richard Downey and Pete Whiting for their help on the Walgreen's project, there has been activity on the site and should be seeing

construction in the near future. He also thanked the committee members for their help in getting citizens involved in the Riverfront Development Project informational meeting.

Mayor Mulvaney questioned the parking on Avenue A, there have been semi's parking along there, and the issue was brought up that this should be made no parking. Alderman Hand stated that the Ordinance Committee felt that since there was only one complaint made about that, they did not feel that this was a problem. Mayor Mulvaney also asked the City Administrator to find out if Avenue A is an 80,000 pound road, it was just resurfaced and we do not want to put that road under stress if we don't need to.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Kuhlemier to instruct the City Administrator to amend Section 8-298 (5), changing the Sunday hours of sale from 12:00 noon to 10:00 p.m., to 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. for Class E license holders. The reason of the request is that the Holiday Inn would like to be able to serve a Champagne Breakfast on Sundays, starting at 10:30 a.m. After discussion it was decided that the City Administrator will make these changes and take the amended ordinance to the Ordinance Committee for approval before the next Council Meeting. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Alderman Hand voted nay. Vote 7 aye, 1 nay. Motion carried.

Mayor Mulvaney asked the Council to consider his idea for the Committee and Appointments for the Fiscal Year commencing on May 1, 2004. After speaking with the City Administrator, he would like to restructure the committees as follows: Public Works/Utilities Committee (which would include Sewer, Water, Street, Electric and Public Property), Finance/Insurance Committee, Ordinance/License Committee and a Personnel/Public Safety Committee (which would include personnel, police, fire and safety). Mayor Mulvaney would like the Council members to voluntarily submit themselves for one or more of these four committees, he will then make the appointments, still reserving the right to appoint the Chairmen for these committees as has been done in the past, with the understanding that there will be no more than four aldermen per committee.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Stachowiak to enter into executive session for the purposes of discussing Collective Bargaining Matters - Section 2 (c)(2) and Pending Litigation - Section 2 (c)(11). Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 8 aye. Motion carried. (7:27 p.m.)

A motion was made by Alderman Charnas and second by Alderman Hand to return to regular session. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 8 aye. Motion carried. (8:39 p.m.)

A motion was made by Alderman Folsom and second by Alderman Stachowiak to adjourn. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 8 aye. Motion carried. (8:39 p.m.)

Approved: April 6, 2004

Michelle K. Conklin, Deputy Clerk