

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF  
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS  
APRIL 6, 2004**

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., April 6, 2004 in Rock Falls, Illinois by Mayor Edward M. Mulvaney.

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

**Special Recognitions:**

Mr. Dwight Lockwood from the Illinois Department of Transportation was present to present DUI Enforcement Awards to Rock Falls Police Officers Charles Bowman and James Hollaway. Mr. Lockwood spoke on the important role that all Police Officers play in helping to lower the number of deaths on a yearly basis as a result of taking drunk drivers from behind the wheel and off the roads in our communities. Their actions literally "save lives". Since 2001 the (2) officers have facilitated 163 DUI arrest in our community. Officer Hollaway has 101 arrests and Officer Bowman 62. The Council salutes the efforts of these and all of our officers for the work that they do in regards to DUI arrest yearly.

**Approval of Minutes/Payment of Bills:**

Mayor Mulvaney requested a joint motion to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2004 meeting and the Payment of Bills as presented:

Tourism \$9,326.68, General Fund \$266,962.11, ESDA \$14.18, Electric O&M \$358,876.89, Sewer Revenue O&M & \$37,921.64, Water Revenue O&M \$50,149.79, Garbage Revenue \$33,983.43, Drug Fund \$412.27, Employee Group insurance \$63,580.56, Industrial Development \$110.00, Customer Utility Deposits \$85.21, IMRF/Social Security \$8,397.60.

**Motion by** Alderman Blanton and seconded by Alderman Stachowiak. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted Aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried.**

**Audience Requests:**

**Motion by** Alderman Blanton and seconded by Alderman Stachowiak to approve the following Bucket Brigades to be held within the City of Rock Falls:

- 1) Sauk Valley Marines, Saturday June 12, 2004 from 8:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the intersections of 2<sup>nd</sup> street & 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street & 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- 2) Sterling-Rock Falls Jaycees, Saturday June 26, 2004 from 8:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the intersections of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street & 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street & 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried.**

City Council Minutes

Members of the St. Andrew's Spring Festival Committee requested additional area for there Festival previously approved. The request is due to the Reliant Parking Lot no longer being available. The additional area requested would be the closing of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street at the intersection of Avenue A and going ½ blocks east to the entrance of Rock River Tool & Die and closing Avenue A between 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> street, next to IFH Group parking lot. The original request of Avenue A between 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Street would be in effect from Friday May 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. till Monday May 24<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m... Both the Fire Department and Police Department have reviewed the request and have no problems with the proposal, but will make site visits to ensure accessibility during the event. **Motion by** Alderman Charnas and seconded by Alderman Kuhlemier to approve the new request as made to the Council. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried.**

#### **Executive Session:**

Mayor Mulvaney requested a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of:

#### **Collective Bargaining Matters – Section 2 (c) (2)**

**Motion by** Alderman Stachowiak and seconded by Alderman Kuhlemeir to enter into Executive Session. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried. Into session at 6:46 p.m...**

**Motion by** Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Charnas to return to regular session. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried. Out of Closed session at 7:15 p.m..**

#### **Old Business:**

Mayor request a motion to approve the collective barging agreement between the City of Rock Falls and IBEW Local 196 for both clerical and utilities, with side letter pending notification of ratification by Local 196 and to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign such documents when completed. **Motion by** Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Blanton. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried.**

#### **Correspondence/Proclamation**

Approval of Resolution requesting the State of Illinois to maintain the current Tourism funding level presently enjoyed by Convention and Visitor's Bureaus across the State of Illinois. **Motion by** Alderman Stachowiak and seconded by Alderman Blanton to approve resolution. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried.**

Mayor request approval of Proclamation in recognition of Self Help Enterprises 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and designating April 15<sup>th</sup> yearly as Rock River Self Help Enterprise Day in the Rock Falls. **Motion by** Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Charnas. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried.**

Mayor request a motion to **approve the 2004-2005 Operating Budgets for the General and Enterprise Funds** as presented. **Motion by** Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Charnas. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried.**

#### **Ordinances/Resolutions for Approval:**

Approval of Resolution authorizing License Agreement with Angelo's Pizzeria, 608 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, for placement of business signage on a part of the City right of way. **Motion by** Alderman Searing and seconded by Alderman Stachowiak. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried.**

Mayor request approval of an Ordinance amending Section 8-289 Subparagraph (5) – change in start time from 1200 p.m. to 10:00 p.m... **Motion by** Alderman Blanton and seconded by Alderman Straub. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas and Blanton voted aye. Alderman Hand vote nay. Vote 6 ayes, 1 nay, **motion carried.**

**Mayor request approval of Resolution authorizing layoffs in the General Fund of the City of Rock Falls, specifically 1) Full-time records secretary in the Police Department 2) Clerk/Receptionist Accounts Payable in the City Clerk's Office. Motion by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Charnas. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, motion carried.**

**Mayor request approval of Resolution authorizing layoffs in the General Fund of the City of Rock Falls, specifically 1) One Police/Patrol Officer in the Police Department 2) One Firefighter in the Fire Department. Motion by Alderman Blanton and seconded by Alderman Stachowiak. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, motion carried.**

#### **Department Head Reports:**

Building Department – Mr. Whiting request the Ordinance Committee in the near future hear proposals from his Department of needed changes to current Ordinances, as well as, some new Ordinances necessary to keep up with changes in the Building industry.

Electric Department – Mr. O’Donnell request the Council approval to seek complete bids for (1) one 34.5KV Circuit Breaker and (1) one 15KV ampere Outdoor Switchgear Lineup. Bids will be received in the office of the Engineering firm of Barnes, Henery, Meisenheimer and Gende until 2:00 p.m. May 7, 2004. A copy of the bid specifications is on file in the City Clerks Office for viewing purposes. **Motion by Alderman Blanton and seconded by Alderman Searing.** Upon roll call, Alderman Searing, Stachowiak, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried.**

Police Chief – Chief Perez offered information regarding the written report in the Council packets regarding the activities of the K-9 Officer in his Department. Reports will be furnished on a regular basis to keep the Council abreast of activities of the K-9.

Wastewater Treatment – Mr. Cox presented the First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Section 15-159, 15-166, 15-198, 15-183, 15-185, and 15-158.5. The Ordinance will be presented at the April 20<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting for approval.

**Administrative Report:**

Mr. Downey had no specific items for reporting.

**Information and Updates:**

City Clerk request approval to extended License Agreement No. 3089 with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$325.00 (5year agreement July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2009). **Motion by Alderman Blanton and seconded by Alderman Searing .** Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Reese, City Attorney gave a brief report, that litigation which has been previously discussed in the last couple of meetings as seen some actions taken place. However, with those actions additional items have arisen and a report on the matter will be forth coming at a future meeting.

**Community Affairs:**

Linda Thurm, Executive Director of the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce reported on various items coming up on the Chambers calendar for the upcoming month. She encouraged all that can to attend these events.

**Alderman/Committee Reports:**

Alderman Blanton (Electric Chairman) – Offered congratulations to Mr. Charnas and the local Culvers Restaurant for there recent awards. Additionally, he reminded the Council members that the AAPA meeting is upcoming and if anyone wants to attend, they should let Mr. O’Donnell know by the next Council meeting scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Alderman Searing (Personnel Committee) – Reported on the joint work being done between the Personnel Committee and the Electric Committee in regards to the hiring of a new Electric Utilities Director. A total of (7) seven candidates will be going through the interviews, which will be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of April. The Interviews will be held in the Council Chambers.

Alderman Straub (Public Works) – **Motion by** Alderman Straub for the approval of the proposal from Northern Illinois Environmental Applications, Inc to provide all labor and transportation for subsurface injection of Biosolids from the City of Rock Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant at a cost of \$.031 per gallon and the Hold Harmless Agreement as well, seconded by Alderman Blanton. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried.**

Alderman Straub announced a Public Works Committee meeting for April 14, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. at the Water Department Offices.

Alderman Charnas – Inquired as to whether or not Ice Cream vendors which sell in the neighborhoods are required to be licensed. He was informed that yes, licensing is required.

Alderman Hand – **Motion to** approve Annual Raffle License for the Rock Falls American Legion Post 902, seconded by Alderman Stachowiak. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried.**

Alderman Hand made reference to a letter from City Attorney Reese that he would like to see referred to the Public Works Committee and then back to the Ordinance Committee for actions if necessary. An Ordinance Committee meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

### **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Mulvaney addressed the Council on his request proposed last month to amend the existing ordinances regarding the standing committees of the City Council, in particular Ord. 2-76 and 2-78. A discussion ensued with, several Alderman suggesting that the Electric Committee remain a separate standing committee instead of it being included in the Public Utilities Committee being suggested. It was also discussed to possibly establish specific monthly meeting dates and times, so that Committees could meet on a regular basis and Alderman could better plan for meetings. The scheduled meeting dates and times idea was set aside at this time. **A Motion** was made by Alderman Charnas and seconded by Alderman Stachowiak to have City Administrator Downey prepare an amended ordinance as follows for presentation at the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the council:

Amend 2-76 to read as follows:

- a. The following shall be the Standing Committees of the Council: **Electric Committee** (electric utilities) **Public Utilities Committee** (street, sewer, water and public property), **Finance Committee** (finances/insurance), **Personnel/Public Safety** (personnel, police-fire, grievance and safety), **Ordinance/License and Committee of the Whole.**

Amend 2-78 to read as follows:

- c. Each committee of the City Council shall consists of, **at least**, three (3) members including the chairman, except the Committee of the Whole shall consist of all members of the City Council.

Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Charnas and Blanton voted aye, Alderman Kuhlemier, Straub and Hand voted nay. **Vote 4 ayes, 3 nay motion carried.**

Mayor Mulvaney informed the Council members of a Public Hearing which is scheduled for April 27<sup>th</sup> from 1-6 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 200 East Lincolnway, Morrison, Illinois. This Hearing will be in regards to the Route 30 corridor being proposed.

Mayor Mulvaney also reported to the Council on a recent report from the Whiteside County Public Health concerning the homes previously identified within the City that may be condemnable. It was reported that (3) three of the homes are definitely condemnable. However, one will be removed from the list due to it being sold recently. The other (2) two will require contact with family members due to the homeowners being deceased. Mr. Pete Whiting, Building Inspector will be making a report at a later date.

Motion to adjourn by Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Straub. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried.**

Approved: April 20, 2004

---

William B. Wescott, City Clerk