

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS
June 15, 2004**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Rock Falls was called to order at the hour of 6:00 p.m., June 15, 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, Charnas, Hand and Blanton.

A motion was made by Alderman Hand and second by Alderman Charnas to approve Regular Session Minutes from June 1, 2004 and payment of bills as follows:

Tourism \$6,078.52, General Fund \$125,686.04, 2001 Alternate Refunding Bond \$1,009.50, E.S.D.A. \$41.54, Electric O & M \$59,905.65, Sewer Revenue/O & M \$41,916.77, Sewer 2001 Alternate Refunding Bond \$16,989.00, Water Revenue/O & M \$25,521.33, Water 2001 Alternate Refunding Bond \$9,659.00, Garbage Revenue \$249.15, Customer Service Center \$3,038.38, Industrial Development \$174.00, DUI Fund \$285.00, Drug Fund \$558.75, Customer Utility Deposits \$244.09, IMRF/Social Security \$4,213.60, Motor Fuel Tax Bond \$35,030.65

Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Stachowiak to refer to the Planning Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals, a request from Whiteside County Health Department for zoning change from R-2 to B-1 (1306 W 2nd Street and 1308 W 2nd Street). Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 aye. Motion carried.

City Administrator Richard Downey stated to the City Council that after speaking with an individual who owns some property in the Rock Falls Industrial Park about swapping land with the Illinois National Guard, the owners of the property do not want to swap, they want to sell. When more information on this becomes available, Mr. Downey will inform the Council.

A motion was made by Alderman Stachowiak and second by Alderman Searing to approve Ordinance No. 2004-2095, amending the Comprehensive Plan of the City of Rock Falls by addition of the River Front Redevelopment Plan. Upon roll

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call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Searing to approve Ordinance No. 2004-2096, amending the Zoning Map of the City of Rock Falls. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Stachowiak to approve and ordinance amending Section 15-159, 15-166, 15-183, 15-184, 15-185 and 15-185.5. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Blanton to approve Consent Agenda items 1 -2:

1. Proclamation approving June 8, 2004 as Rock Falls Lady Rockets Softball Day in Rock Falls
2. Proclamation designating June 2004 as National Homeownership Month in Rock Falls

Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 aye. Motion carried.

Building Inspector Pete Whiting informed the City Council that the Candlelight 2 Restaurant is complete and they will be open to the public on Monday June 21, 2004.

Electrical Director Robert O'Donnell asked the City Council for the Approval of the IMBCA "Fiber Lease Participation Agreement".

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Searing to approve the Fiber Lease Participation Agreement with the Illinois Municipal Broadband Communications Association. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Searing to allow the Police Department to receive grant money from the State of Illinois for City Council Meeting

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the Tobacco Grant. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Hand and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 aye. Motion carried.

Ed Cox, Wastewater Superintendent, informed the City Council that the annual Illinois Environmental Protection Agency inspection would be held on June 16, 2004, and that the second phase of the PBR repairs are complete and they were under budget.

Alderman Folsom joined the Council Meeting at 6:21 p.m.

Alderman Kuhlemier and Richard Downey discussed with the City Council the possibility of new revenues for Fiscal Year 2005-2006. Early projections show that the General Fund will be approximately \$211,836.96 short of expenses, we need to start considering ways to make up this amount. A few of the suggestions are to raise the Simplified Telecommunications Tax from 3% to 5%, which will bring in approximately \$76,000.00, increase the Natural Gas Tax from 3% to 5%, which will be approximately an additional \$50,600.00 or possibly add a ½% sales tax which will be restricted to infrastructure improvements. No one likes to raise taxes, but we are at a point where it is a matter of survival. The ½% sales tax issue will be discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting on June 28, 2004, and the Simplified Telecommunications Tax and Natural Gas Tax will be placed on the agenda for the July 6, 2004 Council Meeting for recommendation to the Finance Committee.

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Charnas to refer to the Ordinance Committee, the possibility of waving license fees for local, cultural, civic and religious organizations. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Hand and second by Alderman Stachowiak to approve an Itinerant Merchant license for P & D Sales, pending the receipt of their sales tax number. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 aye. Motion carried.

Alderman Blanton thanked Robert O'Donnell for his many years of service and dedication to the City of Rock Falls, and invited the City Council to attend his retirement party on June 29, 2004 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Rock Falls Electric Department.

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Alderman Blanton scheduled a Public Utilities Meeting on July 1, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Alderman Searing reminded the Council of the Personnel/Public Safety Meeting to be held on June 24, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Mayor Mulvaney informed the City Council that the list of 12 properties that the City had complaints on was down to 6, but there were 19 additional properties to add to the list. He also thanked the Personnel/Public Safety Committee for their initial work on the Safety Manual. Mayor Mulvaney also encouraged the Council to read the 2003-2004 Police Departments annual report, and congratulated City Attorney James Reese for his appointment to the Board of Directors at Sauk Valley Bank.

A motion was made by Alderman Stachowiak and second by Alderman Charnas to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Collective Bargaining Matters Section 2 (c)(2) and Personnel Section 2 (c) (1). Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 aye. Motion carried. (7:01 p.m.)

A motion was made by Alderman Hand and second by Alderman Blanton to return to Regular Session. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 7 aye. Motion carried. (8:15 p.m.)

A motion was made by Alderman Folsom and second by Alderman Hand to adjourn. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier voted nay, Alderman Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 3 nay, 4 aye. Motion carried.

Approved: July 6, 2004

Michelle K. Conklin, Deputy City Clerk