

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS
JULY 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., July 6, 2004 in Rock Falls, Illinois by Mayor Edward M. Mulvaney.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/PAYMENT OF BILLS:

A motion was made by Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Folsom to approve Regular session minutes from June 15, 2004 and payment of bills as follows:

Tourism \$5,640.05, General Fund \$249,832.70, ESDA \$390.00, Electric Revenue/O&M \$334,388.50, Sewer Revenue/O&M \$35,585.52, Water Revenue/O&M \$27,581.33, Garbage Revenue \$34,538.08, Customer Service Center \$7,085.70, Industrial Development \$110.00, Customer Utility Deposits \$229.26, Employee Group Insurance \$61,734.71, IMRF /Social Security \$3,829.63.

Upon roll call Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **Motion Carried.**

AUDIENCE REQUESTS:

Mr. Ron Hammer representing the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce spoke to the Council reference to the many activities scheduled for July 9-10-11, in regards to the Louie Bellson Happy 80th Birthday Celebration. He encouraged all residence of our community to turnout and supports the many events which are scheduled.

ORDINANCES:

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and seconded by Alderman Searing to approve **Ordinance 2004-2097** authorizing a public auction for the sale of surplus, abandoned and confiscated personal property items, scheduled for August 14, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. at 1109 Industrial Park Road, as well as, Ordinance 2004-2098 authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sell on behalf of the City (3) three vehicles no longer necessary or utilized. Upon roll call vote, Alderman Blanton, Folsom, Hand, Kuhlemier and Searing voted aye. Vote 5 ayes. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Searing to approve **Ordinance 2004-2099** adding to Chapter 5 Building and Construction, Section 5-130. Plan Review Cost. Upon roll call, Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes. **Motion carried.**

Council referred back to the Ordinance Committee the review of the Fire Prevention Code portion of the International Building Code. Ordinance committee will bring a recommendation to the August 3, 2004 meeting of the Council.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Mulvaney requested approval of a Proclamation honoring the 20th Anniversary of Culver's Restaurant chain. **Motion** by Alderman Searing and seconded by Alderman Folsom. Upon roll call, Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes. **Motion Carried.**

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Building Department – Pete Whiting reported on the progress being made by the Walgreen's Development and commented on a new subdivision which is going to be underway in the near future.

Electric – Paul Jakubczak asked the Council for approval to proceed with the hiring of an electrical engineer for his Department. This hiring has cleared both the Personnel and Public Utilities Committee's. **Motion** by Alderman Blanton and seconded by Alderman Searing to approve the hiring process. Upon roll call, Alderman Blanton, Hand, Folsom, Kuhlemier and Searing voted aye. Vote 5 ayes. **Motion carried.**

Fire Chief – J.W. Larson No Report
Police Chief – Beto Perez No Report
Street - Jim White No Report

Wastewater Treatment – Ed Cox reported to the Council that both the North and South PBR's have had repairs completed and that both came in under budget. These repairs put us back into compliance with our permits.

Water – Ted Padilla reported that the repairs on the water tower currently underway are on schedule. Sand blasting has been completed on the inside.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Mr. Downey reported to the Council that they are working on streets that will be repaired soon. It is his plan to make contact with those residents living in the areas that will be having the work done, so that they are aware of the dates that construction and or repair will be taking place.

He also commented on possible future economic development that is looming for the City, unfortunately none of which can be addressed to the confidentiality of the work underway. The City will be seeing some good news in the near future.

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:

Mayor Mulvaney requests the appointment of Karen Reynolds to the Industrial Development Commission, replacing Brandon Wyatt and serving out the remainder of his appointment (04/30/07). **Motion** made by Alderman Folsom and seconded by Alderman Hand to approve the appointment. Upon roll call, Alderman Hand, Folsom, Blanton, Searing and Kuhlemier voted aye. Vote 5 ayes. **Motion carried.**

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS/MEMBER REQUESTS:

Public Utilities/ Public Property – Next committee meeting scheduled for August 5, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Complex. Chairman Blanton requested that the Council approve Ted Padilla, Water Supt. attendance at the IPWSOA conference Dec. 22-24 in Springfield, Illinois with reasonable expenses. **Motion** made by Alderman Blanton seconded by Alderman Searing. Upon roll call, Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Blanton, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 5 ayes. **Motion carried.**

Finance/Insurance – Committee meeting scheduled for July 8, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. in the Mayors Administrative area.

Ordinance/License – Committee meeting scheduled for July 15, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Complex. Alderman hand made **a motion** that was seconded by Alderman Searing to approve the raffle license for the Rock Falls Rotary Club. Upon roll call, Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes. **Motion carried.**

Personnel/Public Safety - Committee meeting scheduled for July 21, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal complex.

INFORMATION AND UPDATES:

Mike Heilsburg, City Engineer reported on bid process for IDOT in regards to maintenance with seal coats and overlays. Looking to place bids around the 1st week of August 2004.

Bill Wescott, City Clerk presented to the Council an informational brochure on Consent Agenda. He reported that he would like to see the Council adopt a policy resolution which would implement the consent agenda concept into the agenda of the Council for conduct of the meetings. It is an effective procedure to handle routine matters that appear on the agenda in an expeditious fashion. City Clerk requested that the Council members review the information and get back to him with there comments and or concerns in this matter.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. Advised the Council of the upcoming IML Conference. No monies have been budgeted to attend this year. However, any Alderman wishing to attend should contact the City Clerk no later than July 20, 2004 so that his office can secure room reservations.
2. Raised a question about the apparent inconsistency of the policy regarding utilities RE: annexations. The procedures for water and sewer are consistent, however, electrical is different and should be addressed. It is requested that the Ordinance Committee review this issue and report back to the Council.
3. During the discussion of the above item, a question was raised about the County's responsibility in regards to handling of zoning and other issues within the 1.5 mile radius of the City limits. A recent variance for the installation of a septic sewer was awarded by the County Health Department for a property in the 1400 block of Buell Rd. The property without a doubt is contiguous with the City limits and as such should have connected to the City Sewer services which are available to the property. The County apparently granted the variance without any communication with the City Planning and Zoning Committee at all. The home owner at that location is choosing to build the house some 200 feet off the contiguous connection of his property to the City Sewer, and by such is skirting the letter of the current Ordinances which govern such connection. Following a lengthy discussion, **a motion** by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Searing to have the City Attorney study the situation and communicate with the County reference to procedures which should be taken in these matters and report back to the Council. Upon roll call, Alderman Blanton, Folsom, Hand, Kuhlemier and Searing voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **motion carried.**
4. Reported to the Council that the Scanlon Annexation which was signed on June 16, 1999 contains provisions which directed the property owner to complete the roadways within a 5 year period of the signing. To date the provisions have not been met and exceed the 5 year allowance. Following a discussion, Mr. Downey, City Administrator was directed to contact the property owners and work towards resolving of this issue. If there is resistance, the Council will at that time pursue legal actions necessary.
5. Mayor Mulvaney reported to the Council on (7) seven new properties which have been added to the listing of those in the City that are either vacant or abandoned and fall under the nuisance classification. The Police will be ticketing the properties, and if the properties are not cleaned up the City will seek to place a lien against the properties for the cost involved with the clean up.
6. Mayor Mulvaney asked the Ordinance Committee to place the question of Impound Fees – Section 10-300 on there next agenda and bring back a recommendation to the Council.
7. Mayor Mulvaney asked Fiancé Chairman Kuhlemier to add the issue of Sales Tax to the agenda of the next Committee meeting. Discussions have been had concerning the issuance of a ½ cent sales tax in Rock Falls, Sterling and Dixon. The moneys could be earmarked for either property tax relief, but would be better served going to work on the infrastructure.
8. The Mayor addressed the Council concerning the lowering of the salary for the office of Mayor from its current \$12,000 to \$6,000 annually. He had brought this issue forward before and it was tabled. He reminded the Council that action would need to be taken in advance of the next election.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Mulvaney requested a motion to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing the following:

1. Personnel Matters – Section 2 (c)(1)
2. Collective Bargaining Matters – Section 2 (c) (2)
3. Threatened/Pending Litigation – Section 2 (c) (11)

Motion was made by Alderman Searing and seconded by Alderman Blanton to enter into Executive Session. Upon roll call. Alderman Folsom, Blanton, Searing, Kuhlemier and Hand voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **motion carried**. Closed session entered into at 7:35 p.m.

Council returned to Regular session at 7:46 p.m... No actions were taken in association with any items of the executive session.

Alderman Kuhlemier addressed the Council about the economic impact of the Louie Bellson Celebration, as well as, the recognition and publicity that the City of Rock Falls has been receiving. The importance of participation in these events that are scheduled are crucial to keeping our community in the forefront and utilizing the recognition for the good of the community.

Motion to adjourn made by Alderman Blanton and seconded by Alderman Folsom. Upon roll call, Alderman Folsom, Hand, Kuhlemier, Searing and Blanton voted aye. Vote 5 ayes, **motion carried**. (7:58 p.m.)

William B. Wescott, City Clerk

Approved July 20, 2004

