

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF  
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS  
September 21, 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., September 21, 2004 in Rock Falls, Illinois by Mayor Edward M. Mulvaney.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Hand and second by Alderman Searing to approve request of Newman High School students to collect food for local food pantries in our community on the morning of September 29, 2004. Upon roll call Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 7 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Folsom to approve the request of Rock Falls High School Student Council to hold their annual Homecoming Parade on Thursday, October 7, 2004. Upon roll call Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 7 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Folsom to allow citizens of our community to form a Life Chain on Sunday October 3, 2004, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on First Avenue, extending from the north to the south end of the First Avenue Bridge. Upon roll call Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 7 aye. Motion carried.

Steve Stoudt, addressed the City Council regarding the volunteer crossing guard issue. They have a list of 7 parent volunteers who have had a background check through the Police Department, they have a schedule set up, and they have made a phone tree. Mr. Stoudt also questioned if the Police Department had any extra equipment that they could use. Chief Perez stated that there may be a sign, but that was all. Mr. Stoudt asked if the ordered equipment, could the volunteers reimburse the City with donations that they have collected. The City Council did not see any problems with that. Mr. Stout also questioned if there was any type of special training that the volunteers needed. Chief Perez stated that there was not.

Alderman Charnas stated that even if there was no special training that was needed, he would like to see if the volunteers could talk to an existing crossing guard to see if they had any input into the best way to handle situations and see if they had any tips for the volunteers.

Attorney Reese stated that he has looked at the City's liability insurance premium, and he believes that the insurance will cover volunteers but he has not been able to speak with the insurance company directly.

A motion was made by Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Blanton to allow citizens to act as volunteer crossing guards, provided that the City of Rock Falls' liability insurance would cover any claims of liability against the City or the volunteer. Upon roll call Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 7 aye. Motion carried.

Helen Bennett addressed the Council and stated that she did not have any children attending school, but she did have grandchildren and that there needed to be something done to insure the safety of the children walking to school.

Mary Rodriguez, from the Military Support Group, requested that the City of Rock Falls post signs showing support for our troops in Iraq. Mayor Mulvaney stated that if they wished to put signs in yards of private residences, that would be fine, but the City has an ordinance that prohibits the posting of signs on telephone poles.

Brian Snow, 604 Avenue A, stated that he was upset with the decision of the Building Department and the City Council in regards to issuing him a variance for an addition to his garage. Mayor Mulvaney stated that the City Council had decided to leave the ordinance the way it is written, and if a request or petition is presented at another time, the City Council will deal with it at that time.

Mr. Snow questioned if the tar and chip that was being laid on Avenue A was a permanent or temporary fix for the road. Mayor Mulvaney stated that this was just temporary, the road will not be permanently repaired until the issue of the storm sewer is taken care of.

Mr. Snow had contacted the electric department about the cost to move the electricity to the garage if he gets to build it, and he has not received any information back yet. Mayor Mulvaney stated that this was not an issue with the City Council, Mr. Snow will have to contact the electric department.

Melissa Aldridge, representing Culver's, informed the City Council that on --- 10% of sales will be donated to the CERT program.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Searing to approve Consent Agenda items 1 through 6 and item 8, and remove item 7.

1. Approval of Regular Session Minutes September 7, 2004
2. Payment of bills as printed (Attachment A)
3. Approve Ordinance No. 2004-2104 amending Section 16-362. Public Hearing to be held and Section 16-341. Applications and appeals (Second Reading)
4. Approve Ordinance No. 2004-2105 amending Section 15-275. Dumping contents of private septic system (Second Reading)
5. Approve Ordinance No. 2004-2106 amending Section 8-626 License - Required; qualification (Second Reading)
6. Approve Ordinance No. 2004-2107 amending Section 8-846. License - Required (Second Reading)
8. Resolution No. R-2004-468 ratifying collective bargaining agreement with the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police - Telecommunicators

Upon roll call Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 7 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Folsom to table Consent Agenda item 7. Approval of final drafts of contracts for Department Heads, Assistants, Commanders and Deputy Fire Chief for Fiscal Year May 1, 2004 through April 30, 2005. Upon roll call Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 7 aye. Motion carried.

Building Inspector, Pete Whiting, stated that there was two abandoned dwellings in Rock Falls that was being purchased and remodeled, also stated that he was disappointed that the owner of a commercial building in the City had not voluntarily responded and cleaned up his property, so Mr. Whiting will be contacting him.

Electrical Director, Paul Jakubczak, informed the City Council that October 3 -9, 2004 was Public Power Week.

Chief Larson informed the City Council that October 3 - 9, 2004 is Fire Prevention Week, he also invited the Council and public to stop and see the new hazardous materials equipment in the Special Ops Trailer.

Ted Padilla stated that the water department would be starting work on Avenue D between E 7<sup>th</sup> Street and E 8<sup>th</sup> Street.

Mike Heilsburg, City Engineer informed the City Council that the road repaving on Flock Avenue, 5<sup>th</sup> Street and the alley's has been completed.

Linda Thurm from the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce reminded the City Council that the Carson and Barnes Circus will be in Rock Falls on September 25, 2004, and Fall Fest on the Rock will be September 25 and 26, 2004. The Chamber will be hosting a Meet the Candidates Night on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2004 for candidates in the November elections.

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Blanton to approve Amendment # 4 to the Plan Document - Employee Group Health Insurance. Upon roll call Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 7 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Hand and second by Alderman Blanton to approve Resolution No. 2004-467, A Resolution of the City of Rock Falls requesting the assistance and participation of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency in Identifying Condition on Certain Properties (addition of 100 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue). Upon roll call Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 7 aye. Motion carried.

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A motion was made by Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Kuhlemier to approve the Letter of Intent from U.S. Cellular, for the option to lease land from the City of Rock Falls for the purpose of erecting a wireless communications tower. Upon roll call Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 7 aye. Motion carried.

Alderman Kuhlemier stated that he had been in attendance at the meeting regarding Amendment #4 to the City of Rock Falls Employee Group Health Insurance, and this is a great opportunity for the City to save money. He has also had the opportunity to speak to the Chamber about the 1/2 ¢ sales tax.

Alderman Hand announced that there will be a License/Ordinance Committee Meeting on September 23, 2004 at 6:30 p.m.

Alderman Blanton announced that there will be a Public Utilities Meeting on October 4, 2004 at 6:00 p.m.

Alderman Blanton also commended Stan Conboy and Richard Simon for their quick action on restoring power to the High Rise on Saturday, September 18, 2004, and Richard Downey and Alderman Kuhlemier on the Informational Public Meetings that were held.

Alderman Searing announced that the Personnel Committee will be holding interviews for the Electric Engineer position on September 29, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m., also the Personnel/Public Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2004 at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Mulvaney announced that the Ad Hock Committee for the Brownsfield Grant will be interviewing four engineering firms starting at 4:00 p.m. on September 30, 2004.

Mayor Mulvaney informed the City Council that he was in receipt of a letter requesting that the City change the number of Class C liquor licenses for a prospective business that would like to open a restaurant in the City of Rock Falls.

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Blanton to send the issue of adding an addition Class C Liquor License to the existing ordinance, to the Ordinance Committee. Upon roll call Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 7 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Folsom and second by Alderman Blanton to adjourn. Upon roll call Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Straub, Charnas, Hand, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 7 aye. Motion carried (7:34 p.m.).