

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS
November 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., November 16, 2004 in Rock Falls, Illinois by Mayor Edward M. Mulvaney.

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

Deputy Clerk Michelle Conklin reported that the canvass of the votes for the Retailer's Occupation Tax Referendum was conducted by the Mayor, City Clerk and City Attorney and there were a total of 3,641 votes cast in 10 precincts, 1,811 yes votes and 1,611 no votes.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Charnas to approve Ordinance No. 2004-2107, An ordinance of the City of Rock Falls, Whiteside County, Illinois imposing a ½ of 1% Non-Home Rule Municipal Retailers' Occupation Tax and a ½ of 1% Non-Home Rule Municipal Service Occupation Tax. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas and Blanton voted aye. Alderman Folsom voted nay. Vote: 5 aye, 1 nay. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Searing to approve Ordinance No. 2004-2108 - repealing Section 13-99 and Ordinance No. 2004-2109 - amending Section 15-266 (c)(3) Basic user rate. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 6 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Stachowiak to approve Consent Agenda items 1 - 7:

1. Approval of regular session minutes from November 2, 2004 and Emergency Meeting minutes from November 4, 2004
2. Payment of bills as presented (Attachment A)
3. Approve Contract with Vandewalle & Associates for Brownfield Consulting Services and Master Sub Contractor Agreement with Terracon, after review from the City Attorney
4. Approve Fiscal Year 2004 Audit (Fiscal Year beginning May 1, 2003 and ending April 30, 2004)

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5. Approval for Mayor to sign the Transfer and Release forms with Rail Property Management for the proposed Bike Path (Administration fee of \$2,500.00 to be paid by the Rock Falls Convention and Visitor's Bureau)
6. Approval for the Sauk Valley Marines to hold a Bucket Brigade on May 21, 2005 at the intersections of 1st Avenue & 2nd Street and 12th Avenue and 2nd Street.
7. Resolution approving the closure of Route 40 for the Hometown Holidays Parade on November 20, 2004 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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

Paul Jakubczak welcomed Anish Kadiwala to the City of Rock Falls.

Richard Downey, City Administrator informed the City Council that the City Clerk had received bids on the sound system in the Chambers, and we will be working towards getting the system upgraded. On November 12, 2004, the City sent three grants to the USEPA, one for the entire riverfront, one for the Reliant site and one for the Parish Alford building. He also thanked the City and the Electric Department for the flowers and teddy bears that were received.

A motion was made by Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Stachowiak to allow the Rock Falls Police Department to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement for Cooperative Police Services, with the understanding that the City of Rock Falls will receive a list of all parties who are entering this agreement. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Charnas and Blanton voted aye. Alderman Kuhlemier and Folsom voted nay. Vote: 4 aye, 2 nay. Motion carried.

Linda Thurm, Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce reminded everyone that the Hometown Holiday's Celebration was starting on Friday, November 19, 2004 and encouraged everyone to participate.

Donna Moody from NICIL, addressed the City Council with plans for a Walk-N-Roll that they are working to put together for the week of the ADA Celebration in July. She would like to have the City's help in getting Route 40 closed for the

event. The beginning will be at 229 1st Avenue and they will be finishing at Centennial Park. They are also holding a Cookie Walk at the Northland Mall on November 26, 2004, and stated that any one interested in making cookies could drop them off at the NICIL office.

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Charnas to recommend that the City of Rock Falls renew the Employee's Health Insurance Plan with the Intergovernmental Benefits Cooperative, with changes to the deductibles increasing to \$500.00 per person / \$1,000.00 per family. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 6 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Stachowiak to approve the electric department purchasing fire retardant uniforms at a cost not to exceed \$5,600.00. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 6 aye. Motion carried.

Alderman Searing reminded the City Council of the Personnel/Safety Committee Meeting to be held Thursday, November 18, 2004 at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Mulvaney stated that he felt the Council Retreat went very well on Saturday, November 13, but due to the City Administrator's absence, they will be reviewing his information at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on November 22, 2004 and the meeting will be starting at 6:00 p.m. The Building Inspector is waiting for the paperwork from the City Attorney for condemnation of the property at 812 Avenue A. Due to a letter that was received from a concerned citizen, he will be having the Building Inspector checking all of the fences on commercial property that is abutting residential property.

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Blanton to approve the Mayor sending a letter to the committee for the Corridor Study regarding the Route 30 Expansion, stating the City of Rock Falls' concern over Option C, which would move Route 30 farther to the west, and stating that the City would like to see the committee stay with Option B. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 6 aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Mulvaney also wanted the Council to be aware that the building permits are 25% higher this year than the total of last year. He also received a letter stating that NICOR has requested of the ICC, a raise in natural gas prices in October of 2005, this will be approximately \$26.00 higher for the average resident.

A motion was made by Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Stachowiak to enter into Executive Session Enter into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing Collective bargaining matters - Section 2 (c)(2) and Threatened / Pending Litigation - Section 2 (c)(11). Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 6 aye. Motion carried. (7:15 p.m.)

A motion was made by Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Kuhlemier to return to regular session. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 6 aye. Motion carried. (7:39 p.m.)

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Searing to ratify the compromise agreement with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, to settle the grievances and the unfair labor practices. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 6 aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Folsom and second by Alderman Searing to adjourn. Upon roll call Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote: 6 aye. Motion carried. (7:41 p.m.)