

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

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

Audience Requests: None

Correspondence/Resolutions:

Received a formal request from the Planning & Zoning Commission, for them to hold a Public Hearing. The Hearing would be for consideration of change to the current City Ordinance, (Section 16-75; 16-103, 16-123, 16-143) Accessory Buildings in residence districts. Current height limited to 15 feet, change being requested is to limit at 20 feet. **Motion** made by Alderman Searing and second by Alderman Stachowiak to authorize Public Hearing on the issue presented. Upon roll call, Alderman Stachowiak, Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **Motion carried.**

Ordinances:

Motion by Alderman Stachowiak and second by Alderman Blanton to authorize Ordinance approving the Fiber Lease Participation Agreement with Illinois Municipal Broadband Communications Association. Upon roll call, Alderman Blanton, Folsom, Charnas, Kuhlemier, Searing and Stachowiak voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **Motion carried.**

Motion by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Blanton to approve Ordinance changes to Section 15-50- Water Utility Department Created and Section 15-223- Superintendent Appointment- Duties Generally. Upon roll call, Alderman Charnas, Folsom, Blanton, Stachowiak, Searing and Kuhlemier voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **Motion carried.**

Consent Agenda:

A **motion** by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Searing to approve Consent Agenda items 1-4.

1. Approval of Regular Session Minutes from December 7, 2004
2. Payment of Bills as printed.
3. Approve Pay Estimate No. 2 and final for Bob Propheter Construction, L.L.C. for Section 04-00000-01-GM in the amount of \$8,650.09.
4. Approve Pay Estimate No. 2 and final for Northwest Illinois Construction Co. for Section 04-00000-02-GM in the amount of \$1,865.99.

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

Department Head Reports:

Building Department- Mr. Whiting spoke briefly about attempts to contact the residence at 812 Avenue A. There was no response to attempts to communicate directly with the occupants via knocking on the door. The necessary reports have been forwarded to City Attorney Reese, and he will take the actions necessary to make the legal notification required and keep Mr. Whiting notified. Mayor Mulvaney inquired of Mr. Whiting about the property at 1601 3rd Ave... Mr. Whiting has not re-checked the property this week as of yet. He also reported that he will have a report concerning the Business locations along Rt. 30 in regards to separation fences by the end of January.

Electric – Mr. Jakubczak reported on the progress of repairs to the Hydro Generation Plant. Things are going well with repairs and it is his hopes that the system is back up and running around the first week in January.

Additionally, Mr. Jakubczak requested the Council authorize the distribution of Applications at the local High School for a \$500 Scholarship being offered by the Illinois Municipal Utilities Association. This is an annual project of the Association. It was noted by Mayor Mulvaney, that two years ago, a Rock Falls High School student was the recipient of the scholarship. **Motion** made by Alderman Blanton and second by Alderman Searing to approve the request. Upon roll call, Alderman Kuhlemier, Searing, Stachowiak, Blanton, Folsom and Charnas voted aye. Vote, 6 ayes, **Motion carried.**

Wastewater- Mr. Cox reported that the sanitary line project from the Rock River Christian Center to the Antec property is progressing, only about 60 linear feet left to put in the ground. It is hoped that the project will be completed within the next 2 weeks.

Administrators Report:

Mr. Downey reported on numerous projects, which are covered on Attachment A.

Information and Updates:

City Clerk Wescott presented the 2005 Meeting dates for the Mayor and Alderman of the City of Rock Falls. Motion made by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Stachowiak to approve presented meeting dates. Alderman Kuhlemier noted that April 5th is Election Day, should consideration be given to changing the date. Following discussion roll call, Alderman Searing, Stachowiak, Blanton, Folsom, Charnas and Kuhlemier voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **Motion carried.**

Community Affairs:

Linda Thurm, Executive Director of the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce addressed the Council. This is the last meeting that Linda will be at as the Executive Director of the Chamber. After 22 years at the helm she is retiring. She talked briefly about the many positive programs and yearly Community events that she has seen over her years.

On January 7, 2005 from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Community Building, the Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a retirement party to honor Linda for her many years of service. Members of the Council are invited to join in the celebration.

Council Committee Reports/Members Requests:

Public Utilities/Public Property - Alderman Blanton called for a Committee Meeting, January 11, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Complex.

Finance/Insurance – Alderman Kuhlemier reported on the Tax Levy Ordinance. It was originally thought that the Levy would exceed the 5% limit and require a Public Hearing. However, following several line item adjustments the Levy came in at 1.499 % with a total dollar value of \$738,039.73. **Motion** made by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Blanton to approve the Tax Levy for 2005. Upon roll call, Alderman Blanton, Folsom, Charnas, Kuhlemier, Searing and Stachowiak voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **Motion carried.**

Motion made by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Searing to approve an Ordinance Abating the Tax levied for \$1,520,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2001 (Water and Sewer portion only). Upon roll call, Alderman Blanton, Folsom, Charnas, Stachowiak, Searing and Kuhlemier voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **Motion carried.**

Motion made by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Blanton to approve an Ordinance Abating the Tax Levied for \$1,500,000 General Obligation Alternate Bonds, Motor Fuel Tax. Upon roll call, Alderman Kuhlemier, Searing, Stachowiak, Charnas, Folsom and Blanton voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **Motion carried.**

Motion made by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Searing to approve Obligation Retirement Resolution for use of Motor Fuel Tax Funds to retire the indebtedness with funds allotted to the Municipality under the Motor Fuel Tax Law. Upon roll call, Alderman Charnas, Folsom, Blanton, Kuhlemier, Searing and Stachowiak voted aye. Vote, 6 ayes **Motion carried.**

Motion made by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Blanton to precede with the Refunding Bond proposal for the City's Series 1999 Bonds as suggested by Speer Financial Consultants. Upon roll call, Alderman Kuhlemier, Searing, Stachowiak, Blanton, Folsom and Charnas voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **Motion carried.**

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Mulvaney addressed the Council requesting that the Finance Committee look hard all of the possible avenues for increasing the Revenues of the City for the Fiscal year 2005-06. Many options were discussed at the November Committee of the Whole Meeting and it is his hopes that these revenue sources are all considered at the next finance meeting scheduled for 30 December 2004 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Complex.

Mayor Mulvaney reported that he had contact with the Attorney representing the Municipalities in the case of Prime Co. vs. I.C.C. in regards to the Infrastructure Maintenance Fee. A judgment was returned against the Municipalities in the case, which included the City of Rock Falls. At this time there is no specific order been rendered calling for payment due to appeal. However, the City of Rock Falls would be responsible for a total of only \$33.00 should the judgment come to pass. This is good news in spite of the judgment, as it was anticipated that the finding may be much higher. Mayor Mulvaney will keep the Council apprised of the findings as we are notified.

Executive Session:

Motion by Alderman Blanton and seconded by Alderman Folsom to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective bargaining matters – Section 2 (C) (2). Upon roll call, Alderman Blanton, Folsom, Charnas, Kuhlemier, Searing and Stachowiak voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **Motion carried**. The Council entered into Executive Session at 7:14 p.m...

Motion made by Alderman Searing and seconded by Alderman Stachowiak to return to open session at 7:54p.m... Upon roll call, Alderman Blanton, Folsom, Charnas, Searing, Stachowiak and Kuhlemier voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **Motion carried**.

Motion made by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Searing to accept the tentative agreement with the I.A.F.F. for a (4) four year contract pending the final draft for ratification. Upon roll call, Alderman Searing, Kuhlemier, Charnas, Folsom, Blanton and Stachowiak voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **Motion carried**.

Motion made by Alderman Folsom and seconded by Alderman Blanton to adjourn. Upon roll call, Alderman Blanton, Folsom, Charnas, Kuhlemier, Searing and Stachowiak voted aye. Vote 6 ayes, **Motion carried**. (8:13 p.m.)

William B. Wescott, City Clerk