

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS
April 18, 2006**

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., in Rock Falls, Illinois by Mayor David H. Blanton.

City Clerk, William B. Wescott, called the roll, present were Mayor Blanton, Alderman Vandersnick, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm. Additionally, City Administrator Richard Downey and City Attorney Jin Reese were also present.

Community Affairs:

Rock Falls Community Development Executive Director, Christian Tscheschlok spoke to the Council about the events surrounding the Open House that was held in the old Eagle Store by the new Grocery Store, Rock Falls Country Market. It is estimated that close to 250 people were in attendance for the festivities including area and regional press. It was a joint opportunity for the Community to see the before of the store prior to remodeling and it also provided a chance for community members to speak with the new owners that were present and serving food to those that were in attendance.

Additionally, the RFCDC wanted to remind the Council of the upcoming April 25, 2006 Luncheon to be held at the Rock River Country Club. This will be the 4th Annual Luncheon held by the RFCDC beginning at 11:30 a.m., with this year's presentation being an Update on the Brownfield Grant. The presenters' will be representatives from Vandewalle & Associates.

Mr. Doug Wiersema, Director of the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce provided the following dates and information for the Mayor and Alderman:

1. April 28, 2006 – Annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon to be held at the KAPP's Banquet Facility beginning at 11:30 a.m. at a cost of \$17.00 per person.
2. Remind the Council about the upcoming Job Fest at Sauk Valley Community College.
3. City Wide Garage Sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 6th.
4. The Annual Chamber sponsored Circus will be in town on June 26, 2006.

Ordinances: Second Reading/Adoption

Ord. No. 2006-2176 Amendment of Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map.

Motion: Hand Second: Thurm Vote: 7 ayes, Motion carried.

Ord. No. 2006-2177 Amendment to Water Rates

Motion: Hand Second: Snow Vote: 6 ayes, 1 nay, Motion carried.

Ord. No. 2006-2178 Amendment to Sewer Rates

Motion: Hand Second: Thurm Vote: 6 ayes, 1 nay, Motion carried.

Ord. No. 2006-2179 Amendment to Electric-Water re-hooks: connection fee.

Motion: Hand Second: Vandersnick Vote: 7 ayes, Motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of April 4, 2006 Council Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of Bill as Printed
3. Proclamation – proclaiming April 30, 2006 through May 6, 2006 as Municipal Clerks Week in Rock Falls.

Motion: Kuhlemier Second: Snow Vote: 7 ayes, Motion carried.

Department Heads:

Electric – Mr. Jakubczak requested a Broadband Committee Meeting for April 26, 2006 at 8:00 a.m. at the Electric Department Building on Industrial Park Drive.

Mr. Jakubczak requested a motion for approval of write offs from the Utility Department Ledgers (Electric-Water-Sewer-Garbage) for a period from May, 2005 – April 30, 2006. The Utility Write-off's total \$27,548.29.

Motion: Hand Second: Folsom Vote: 7 ayes, Motion Carried

Water- Mr. Padilla requests the City Council accept the low bidder, Layne-Western for Waterworks Improvements: Well Rehabilitation- Well Nos. 4 and 5. The following bids were received for this project: Layne-Western, \$17,132.00; Meadow Equipment Sales & Service, \$18,700.00; Municipal Well & Pump, \$22,765.00.

Motion: Kuhlemier Second: Thurm Vote: 7 ayes, Motion carried.

Mr. Padilla asks the Council to approve Layne-Western, for the repairs of booster pump # 2. Recent problems have developed and it has been 8 years since its last rehabilitation. Cost for the repairs is not to exceed \$2,200.00.

Motion: Arduini Second: Hand Vote: 7 ayes, Motion carried.

Administrators Report:

Mr. Downey presented an update on the Housing grant. Applications are being taken in the City Clerks office for consideration of monies. Additionally, Mr. Downey reported on a recent presentation on our Casselle Utility Billing program. He requests the Council approve a Casselle software update to the program at a cost not to exceed \$35,000.

Motion: Hand Second: Thurm Vote: 7 ayes, Motion carried.

Information and Updates:

City Attorney, Mr. Reese and Mayor Blanton spoke to the Council concerning the need to amend **Section 7-121. Created; Membership** in the Municipal Ordinance. Recent changes in the Illinois Statutes of change the composition of the Board of Trustees of the Firefighters pension fund. Mr. Reese stated that the Board know needs to be composed of the following: a total of 5 (5) members, two (2) of whom shall be active firefighters, one (1) who shall be a retired firefighter and two (2) of whom shall be appointed by the Mayor. Mr. Reese asked the Council to forego first and second reading and to pass the Ordinance 2006 - 2180 tonight due to a legislative deadline and he will forward the Ordinance documents to the City for the Mayor and City Clerks signature.

Motion: Kuhlemier Second: Snow Vote: 7 ayes; Motion carried.

Mayor Blanton then requested the appointment of Fire Chief J. W. Larson and City Clerk William Wescott to the Board of Trustees of the Firefighters Pension Fund.

Motion: Hand Second: Snow Vote: 7 ayes, Motion carried.

Mayor Blanton asked the Council to approve a recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission to approve the rezoning from M-2 properties as designated to B-2 zoning along E. 2nd Street/Avenue A East of First Avenue to conform to the City's Riverfront Redevelopment Plan.

Motion: Snow Second: Arduini Vote: 7 ayes, Motion carried

Council Committee Reports/Member Requests:

All of the Committees will meet at there regular scheduled time with the exception of the Public Works Committee which is changing its meetings to the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Complex.

Mayors' Report:

Mayor Blanton informed the Council that the Greater Sterling Development Corporation will be holding its annual Dinner Meeting on May 10, 2006 at the Ramada Inn in Rock Falls. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Sylvia.

Executive Session:

Executive Session: Collective Bargaining- Section 2 (c) (2), with Mr. Jim White, Street Supt. attending the session.

Motion: Hand Second: Vandersnick Vote: 7 ayes, Motion carried (1917 hours)

Motion to return to Regular session at (1932 hours)

Motion: Vandersnick Second: Snow Vote: 7 ayes, Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn at (1935 hours)

Motion: Folsom Second: Arduini Vote: 7 ayes, Motion carried.

Approved: May 2, 2006

William B. Wescott, City Clerk