

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF  
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS  
April 1, 2008

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 following the pledge of allegiance. Upon roll call, Mayor Blanton, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm were present. City Administrator Richard Downey and City Attorney Jim Reese were in attendance.

**Audience Requests:**

Joan Hermes, Executive Director of the CGH Health Foundation addressed the Council concerning a collaborative effort being undertaken by area schools, Coloma Park District, Whiteside County Health Department, Sterling-Rock Falls Family YMCA, Whiteside County Extension Service and the Sterling Park District. April 21-27 is being promoted as Turnoff Week 2008. It is effort to get adults and children to spend less time in front of the Television and computer screens in order to promote healthier lives and communities. Ms. Hermes brought forth a Proclamation, proclaiming **April 21-27 2008 as TURNOFF WEEK** in Rock Falls. **Motion** by Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Thurm to accept the Proclamation. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote 8 ayes, **motion carried**.

**Community Affairs:**

Joan Hermes addressed the Council on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce and announced several upcoming dates of importance. May 3-4, 2008 is Garage Sale day in the City and the Annual Golf Outing will be May 30<sup>th</sup> this year at the Rock River Country Club. In addition, she spoke of the Chambers undertaking to develop pod cast capabilities for area business via the Chamber website.

**Ordinance/First Reading:**

1. Ordinance 2008-2271; Section 8-1053. Fee Schedule

**Motion** by Alderman Vandersnick and seconded by Alderman Thurm to accept the first reading. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote 8 ayes, **motion carried**.

**Ordinance: Second reading/Adoption**

1. Ordinance 2008-2267; Changes to Sec. 8-387; Sec. 8-389; Sec. 8-411; Sec. 8-746; Sec. 15-58; Sec. 13-60; Sec. 13-61; Sec. 13-97; Sec. 5-53. **Motion** by Alderman Thurm and seconded by Alderman Vandersnick to adopt Ordinance. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote 8 ayes, **motion carried**.
2. Ordinance 2008-2268; Lease Agreement with Rock Falls Convention and Visitors Bureau/Ordinance 2008-2269; Section 6-124. Use of Funds Generated / Ordinance 2008-2270; Hotel Tax Agreement. **Motion** by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Reitzel to table all (3) three Ordinances until contractual language between the City and the Convention and Visitors Bureau can be finalized. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote 8 ayes, **motion carried**.

**Consent Agenda:**

Mayor Blanton request that item (7) to approve the request of the Ordinance Committee to refer the Outside Wood Burners Ordinance to the City Attorney for review and considerations be removed for further input and review.

1. Approval of March 18, 2008 Council Minutes
2. Approve the bill as presented
3. Approve the Big Brother. Big Sisters Bucket Brigade request for June 21, 2008, with rain date of June 28, 2008
4. Recommend to the Planning and Zoning Commission the petition for Annexation requested by the Henery Hoffman Residuary Trust, requesting the land in question be classified under the zoning ordinances of the City as A-1 Agricultural District.

5. Resolution 2008-519; setting dates and times for (2) two Public Hearings by the City Council for consideration of annexation petition filed by the Henery Hoffman Residuary Trust and secondly, an agreement for exchange of real estate.
6. Approve recommendation from the Police/Fire Committee for the addition of (5) five Part-Paid Firefighters (POC); Peter Gibson, Tom Shore, Dustin Dahlstrom, Kyle Sommers and Jaziel Chavira, and raise the POC wage from \$7.50/hr to \$9.00/hr effective May 1, 2008.
8. Refer the preliminary Plat for P.A. Addition to the Planning & Zoning Commission for approval
9. Refer the preliminary Plat for Reliant Subdivision No. 2 to the Planning & Zoning Commission for approval.
10. Approve recommendation from Finance Committee for Clifton Gunderson to perform the 2008 audit for an Amount not to exceed \$39,750.00.

**Motion** by Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Snow to accept the Consent Agenda as presented with item #7 referred. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote 8 ayes, **motion carried**.

Administrators Report:

Mr. Downey presented (2) two items for Council consideration and/or action:

1. Informed the Council that there is monies remaining in the Police budget which will be available for the purchase of a new Police Car prior to the end of the 2007-08 budget year. Bids were placed for 2008 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor with (2) two bids received. **Sutton Ford, Matteson, Illinois \$22,953.00** and Reynolds Ford of the Quad Cities, \$23,255.40. **Motion** by Alderman Snow and seconded by Alderman Thurm to approve the purchase of the new vehicle from Sutton Ford. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote 8 ayes, **motion carried**.
2. Presented to the Council, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the final 2008-09 General Fund budget for approval of the Council. The proposed budget shows Revenues projected at \$5,820,566.34 and Expenditures under the General Fund balanced at \$5,820,566.34. **Motion** made by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Arduini to approve the General Fund Budget as presented. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote 8 ayes, **motion carried**.

Department Heads:

Mr. Padilla, Water Superintendent presented the following (3) three items to the Council:

1. Mr. Padilla presented a plaque to the Council that was awarded to his Department recognizing their efforts as a 2007 Groundwater Guardian. This award recognizes the work of the Department, as well as, the Groundwater Committee's actions in providing Education to the area in which we draw our Communities Water Supply.
2. Mr. Padilla requested the expenditure an amount not to exceed \$500.00 for erecting signage at the entrances to the City showing the groundwater guardian emblem. **Motion** by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Thurm to approve the purchase. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote 8 ayes, **motion carried**.
3. Mr. Padilla request the authorization to purchase a **2008 Ford 250/4x4 with snowplow attachments from Reynolds Ford in the Quad Cities at a cost not to exceed \$20,241.00**. Funds for the purchase have been set aside in budgets over the past 3 years and will cover the full cost. **Motion** by Alderman Arduini and seconded by Alderman Hand to approve the purchase as presented. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote 8 ayes, **motion carried**.

Council Standing Committee Reports:

Alderman Arduini, Chairman of the Public Works Committee, presented a recommendation for the purchase of a sweeper attachment for the Street Departments Bobcat. **The sweeper is to be purchased from Bobcat of the Quad Cities for an amount not to exceed \$5000.00 and will come from the 2007-08 budget monies**. This will be utilized to clean sidewalks and other areas in the downtown. **Motion** by Alderman Arduini and seconded by Alderman Hand to approve the purchase as presented. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote 8 ayes, **motion carried**.

Mayors Report:

Mayor Blanton reported that Alderman Reitzel and Kuhlemier along with himself had attended a training session at Kishwaukee College on Economic Development and TIF orientation. The seminar provided a good opportunity for further education, as well as, networking with other communities in attendance.

Illinois E-Zone Training will be conducted in Bloomington on April 16-18, 2008. Anyone that is interested in attending should contact the Mayor's secretary to secure reservations.

**Mayor Blanton reported that he would be out of town from April 11-21, 2008 and request that Alderman Glen Kuhlemier be named Mayor Pro Tem for the period of his absence. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote 8 ayes, motion carried.**

Executive Session:

Mayor Blanton requested that the Council enter into executive session for the following:

1. Purchase or Lease of Real Estate – Section 2 (c )(5) to include Mr. Gasper from Willett, Hoffman and Mr. Searing, Building Inspector.
2. Pending Litigation- Section 2 (c )(11)
3. Collective Bargaining – Section 2 (c )(2)
4. Personnel – Section 2 (c )(1)

**Motion** by Alderman Thurm and seconded by Alderman Vandersnick to enter into closed session for the key reasons named and to include those individuals identified in the motion presented. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote 8 ayes, **motion carried.** (In: 7:10 pm)

**Motion** to return to regular session made by Alderman Reitzel and seconded by Alderman Snow. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm. Vote 8 ayes, **motion carried.** (Out 8:40 pm)

**Motion** by Alderman Folsom and seconded by Alderman Reitzel to adjourn. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote 8 ayes, **motion carried.**

For approval at the April 15, 2008 meeting.

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William B. Wescott, City Clerk