

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS**

April 21, 2009

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Alderman of the City of Rock Falls was called to order at 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 Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Thurm were present. Alderman Vandersnick and Folsom were absent. City Administrator Downey and City Attorney Jim Reese were present.

Community Affairs:

Alderman Reitzel who serves on the Chamber of Commerce Board presented an update of various upcoming activities of the Chamber.

Ordinance/Adoption:

1. 2009-2339; Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance for the Fiscal Year 2008-2009. Motion by Alderman Kuhlemier, seconded Alderman Arduini to approve the Ordinance as presented. Roll Call, Alderman Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Thurm voted aye. Vote (6) ayes, motion carried.
2. 2009 -2340; Section 2-78. Committee Membership (d). Motion by Alderman Hand, seconded Alderman Thurm to approve Ordinance as presented. Following a short discussion in which the City Attorney explained the conditions of the Ordinance, roll call was taken. Alderman Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Thurm voted aye. Vote (6) ayes, motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve Minutes of April 7, 2009
2. Approve Bills as presented
3. Approve Proclamation; "Letter Carrier Food Drive Day", May 9, 2009.
4. Approve Proclamation; "2010 Complete Count Committee"
5. Approve Proclamation; "Municipal Clerks Week", May 3-9,2009.
6. Approve the utility write off's at the recommendation of the Public Works and Electric Committee. The period covered is April 1, 2009 – March 31, 2009 with a total of \$34,066.15.
7. Approve Phase I of the Arland Street drainage study, which provided for (3) three inlets to be installed at a cost not to exceed \$25,000.00.
8. Approve reimbursement of \$18,747.50 from the Public Property Demolition Fund to the Water Department for work completed on the abandonment of Reliant Fastner Well #1 at the request of the Finance Committee.
9. Approve recommendation of the Public Works Committee to accept the low bid of AAA Concrete, Rock Falls, Illinois for the 2009-2010 Sidewalk Maintenance Contract, upon completion of all necessary paperwork.
10. Approve the second and final reading of the 2009-2010 City of Rock Falls Budget as presented.
11. Approve the recommendation of the Electric Committee to combine the Electric and Broadband Committee into one entity.

12. Authorize Mayor to forward a request to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to re-name Canal Bridge #8 (former R&R bridge to the 'LINVILLE CROSSING BRIDGE').
13. Approve Resolution No. 2009 – 541; Resolution urging the passage of a Comprehensive Capital Infrastructure Program.

Motion by Alderman Snow; seconded Alderman Reitzel to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll Call; Alderman Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Thurm voted aye. Vote (6) ayes, motion carried.

City Administrator Report:

Mr. Downey reported briefly that all work on the various housing grant applications are progressing. Will have more to report in several weeks.

Department Heads:

Electric: Mr. Jakubczak shared with the Council he has been approached by representatives from Element Markets, LLC, Houston, Texas to enter into an agreement to purchase renewable energy credits, "green energy credits" that are available due to the generation of electricity from our hydro plant. The contract would be for a period of (1) one year. Last year the Electric Department was approached, however, opted not to participate. Both the IMEA and the State IMUA are onboard with these programs and have no problems with our participation in this type of program if we so choose. In the future, if this program is successful, revenue from this type of project could be earmarked for efficiency programs in the City. Request that the City enter into an agreement with Element Marketing for them to purchase renewable energy credits; "green energy credits", following review of all documents by the City Attorney.

Motion by Alderman Hand; seconded Alderman Reitzel to approve the request as made. Upon roll call, Alderman Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Thurm voted aye. Vote (6) ayes, motion carried.

Police: Chief Kuelper requested that the Council give passage to an Intergovernmental Agreement for Backup Communications Services, which would provide for backup services for all three of the 911 Public Answering Points (PSAP) in Whiteside County: Whiteside County Sheriff's Office, Sterling Police Department, Rock Falls Police Department. The agreement is a requirement of the Interstate Commerce Commission. The initial agreement shall be for a period of (5) five years and shall automatically renew for an additional five (5) year period terms as parties may agree. Motion by Alderman Snow; seconded Alderman Thurm to approve the agreement as presented. Roll call, (6) six ayes, motion carried.

Wastewater: City Administer Downey on behalf of Mr. Cox requested the City approve a request for EMERGENCY REPAIRS, to the north PBR due to leaks in the distribution system. Current leaks are causing some wastewater to leak out of the PBR and onto the surrounding ground. Schmitt Plumbing, Dixon, Illinois will be completing the repairs at a cost not to exceed \$11,000.00. Motion by Alderman Arduini; seconded Alderman Snow to authorize the necessary emergency repairs as presented. Roll call, Alderman Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Thurm voted aye. Vote (6) six ayes, motion carried.

Water: Mr. Padilla told the Council of his continuing efforts to promote the Groundwater Education. To date over 1000 students in the local and surrounding schools have received formal education in regards to the importance of stewardship of our natural water supplies. Over this coming year, the Electric Department is going to be incorporated into the program so that

education on conservation of electrical energy can also be addressed. Mayor Blanton and the Council recognized the efforts that are being made by the Water Department to education our users of the future.

Information/Correspondence:

City Clerk Wescott spoke to the Council on the following:

1. Recent completion of the audit of MFT Funds by IDOT
2. Report on NICOR Municipal Tax Audit completed by the Clerk's Office.

Brian Frickenstein, City Engineer presented an update on the West 3rd Street project. He presented to the Council information, at the request of the Public Works Committee, which would allow for the addition to the already previously approved roadwork, from the intersection of 2nd Avenue to 1st Avenue. Additional cost to the already approved \$297,184.81 work would be \$158,395.40, bringing the total project cost to \$455,580.21. Motion made Alderman Kuhlemier; seconded Alderman Arduini to approve the expenditure of an additional \$158,395.40 to complete the 2nd Avenue to 1st Avenue block in Section No. 08-00129-00-PV. This project will be paid for out of funds received from the ½-cent sales tax. Roll call, Alderman Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Thurm voted aye. Vote (6) ayes, motion carried.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Blanton informed the Council that he would be out of town attending a TIF conference in Fairview Heights, Illinois April 22-25. He request that Alderman Kuhlemier serve as Mayor Pro Tem during his absence. Motion made Alderman Kuhlemier; seconded Alderman Thurm to approve the appointment of Alderman Kuhlemier. Roll call, Alderman Reitzel, Snow, Arduini, Hand and Thurm. Alderman Kuhlemier Abstained. Vote (5) ayes, (1) abstention, motion carried.

Adjournment:

With no other business for the Council to consider, motion by Alderman Thurm; seconded Alderman Reitzel to adjourn. Roll call, Alderman Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Thurm voted aye. Vote (6) ayes, motion carried.

Minutes for approval at the May 5, 2009 City Council Meeting.

William B. Wescott, City Clerk