

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS
September 15, 2009

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 Vandernick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Hand, Folsom and Thurm were present representing a full quorum. In addition, City Attorney Jim Reese was present.

Audience Requests:

Master representing Cub Scout Pack 323 rose to address the Council in regards to the upcoming "Make a Difference" Food Drive with the food collected going to the Rock River Christian Church Food Bank in Rock Falls. Scouts from Pack 323, 306 and 902; as well as several Girl Scout Troops will be participating this year. The various scout organizations will be going door to door in Rock Falls on Saturday, October 10, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. distributing flyers and sacks for pick-up. They will return to canvas the City on Saturday, October 17, 2009 during the same time for pick-up of any donated non-perishable food items.

Community Affairs:

Mr. John Vorhees, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors addressed the Council on numerous upcoming events sponsored by the Chamber in and around the Community. Of special note is Saturday, September 19, 2009 when the Hennepin Canal Celebration 2009 will take place. There are numerous activities planned for the day centered on one of our most valuable recreational facilities, the Hennepin Canal Parkway. A Fishing Derby sponsored by the Rock Falls Optimist Club at Centennial Park is scheduled from 9 am-Noon. The other numerous activities of the day will be on the lawn surrounding the Overseer's House at the Head of the Canal from 10 am – 3pm.

Ordinance: First Reading:

1. 2009-2361, Authorizing an Interfund Transfer from Wastewater Department to Water Fund.

Motion: Vandernick, Seconded: Thurm, Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.

Ordinance: Second Reading/Adoption:

1. 2009-5354, Section 15-76. Single-Family Residential Dwellings, Commercial and Industrial

Motion: Snow, Seconded: Vandernick, Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.

2. 2009-2355, Section 15-266. Basis, Rates and Charges for Sewerage Services

Motion: Kuhlemier, Seconded: Vandernick, Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.

3. 2009-2356, Article XI to Chapter 6. Cable/Video Provider Service Fee

Motion: Kuhlemier, Seconded: Vandernick, Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve Council Minutes September 1, 2009
2. Approve Bills as presented
3. Approve Payment of \$101,092.00 to the Illinois Municipal League Risk Management Association for Minimum/Maximum Contribution additional Billing for the period 12/31/2006 to 12/31/2007.
4. Approve Resolution 2009-557, A Resolution Approving Policy for Net Metering and Interconnection of Generating Facilities.
5. Approve expenditure of \$35,000.00 to SAGA Inc., Stilwell, Kansas for performing a feasibility study in regards to installation of new generation on the west side of the City.

6. Approve expenditure of \$16,500.00 to SAGA Inc., Stilwell, Kansas for engineering work associated with the potential installation of Solar panels at the Electric Department.
 7. Approve recommendation from Public Works Committee to approve an additional \$10,000 be added to the West Third Street Road Contract with Twin City Construction for payment of the additional 760 tons of rock required on the project. Payment will be made as part of the final pay estimate for the project.
 8. Approve at the request of the Public Works Committee a payment of \$4,950.00 to Schreiner Oil Company for the City's share of an alley resurfacing project which runs through there parking lot.
 9. Approve the expenditure of \$29,400.69 to the Sate of Illinois for the placement of a 12" diameter water main in a steel casing with mechanical joint caps on each end under East Route 30 in conjunction with the placement of the Sewer line previously approved near the Illinois Department of Transportation property.
- Motion: Hand, Seconded: Folsom, Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.

City Administrator Report:

Administrator Downey was out of town on City Business and in his absence, City Clerk Wescott presented the following items on his behalf to the Council:

1. Reported to the Council that the City received a denial letter from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, in regards to our submitted Neighborhood Stabilization Grant (NSP). Monies from this grant were going to be earmarked for the demolition of the Limestone Building and another Residential building.
2. Prices have been secured for repurchase of garbage bags, both the white and green bags, as our current supply of bags is running low. Following review of the prices submitted, it was decided by the Council to purchase the white and Green Garbage Bags from Flexsol Packaging, Chicago, Illinois for the following: White Garbage Bags-500 cases/120 bags per case @ \$22.00/case\$11,000.00. Green Garbage Bags from Flexsol Packaging: 500 cases/240 bags per case @ \$24.90/case-\$12,450.00.

Motion: Snow, Seconded: Vandersnick, Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.

3. The City has been awarded a lighting upgrade grant from the State of Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation. The grant will be for \$5,300.00 for a project that will cost a total of \$20,330.21 to upgrade the lighting system in the Police and Fire Department. The only bid received for this project was from Engle Electric, Sterling, Illinois.

Motion: Hand, Seconded: Folsom, Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.

Department Heads:

Street – Mr. White told the Council that the new storage container for the oil product to be utilized with the new patching machine is in place, but still requires the electrical installation. The new equipment will arrive prior to the end of the month. In addition, he reported that the signs ordered, identifying the parking lots in town have arrived and will be erected this week.

Fire – Chief J. W. Larson announced that October 4-10, 2009 is National Fire Prevention Week. This year's theme is, "Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned". The Department will be participating in events during the week. On Saturday, October 3rd they will be conducting a public safety project with Sterling Fire Department and CGH EMS at the Moose Club in Sterling, involving the Child Safety house. During the week, they will be providing educational classes to the middle grade students in the Rock Falls Schools.

Police – Chief Kuelper requested the Council set the date for this years Trick or Treat Night. The date being considered by all of the surrounding communities is Saturday, October 31, 2009 from 4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m..

Motion: Hand, Seconded: Snow, Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.

Electric – Mr. Jakubczak presented results of the bids submitted on September 10th for the Parking Lot renovations at the Electric Department Buildings in the Industrial Park.

Item	Engineer's Estimate	Northwest Illinois Construction, LLC Rock Falls, Ill	Twin City Construction Company Sterling, Ill	Murray & Son's Excavating Sterling, Ill
Base Bid	\$43,566.00	\$64,291.50	\$92,257.00	\$67,004.00
Alternate Add on Bid	\$14,698.00	\$19,138.00	\$23,708.00	\$17,168.00
Total Bid Proposal	\$58,264.00	\$83,430.30	\$115,965.00	\$84,172.00

Following review of the bids submitted against the engineer's estimate for the project, Mr. Jakubczak request that all bids be rejected. He will hold this project over until next year's budget.

Motion: Hand, Seconded: Snow, Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.

Ward Reports:

Mr. Kuhlemier informed the Council of the Open House to be held at the Blackhawk Hills Resource Conversation and Development Offices on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 and encourage all of the elected officials to attend and support the work done by this organization. In addition, he publicly thanked John and Cathy Carrillo for there leadership in serving as chairpersons for this years Fiesta Parade.

Mr. Snow spoke to the Council about numerous complaints that he had received in regards to the first night of road construction on the First Avenue project. He strongly suggested that the Council needed to revisit the matter, and call for termination of the nighttime work hours and go with the daytime construction instead. Following a lengthy discussion in which other Alderman agreed that there were some disadvantages to the nighttime work, they far outweighed the associated problems with traffic that would result in changing the construction back to only 6:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; No actions were taken.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Blanton shared with the Council excerpts from the recent E-Zoning conference that he and Alderman Kuhlemier attended in Macomb, Illinois. In the State of Illinois, there are 92 E-Zone Associations and 72 of them were represented at this meeting.

Mayor Blanton informed the Council that the State of Illinois in it's efforts to cut back on budget expenditures, will be eliminating 3 of the 4 staff members that make up the Office of Community Programs within the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. The Office of Community Programs is responsible for Community Development Assistance Programs (CDAP), Competitive Communities Incentive (CCI), Governor's Hometown Award Program, Revolving Loan Fund and serves as a resource with its local government management services. A long time friend of the City of Rock Falls, who has worked diligently for small communities throughout the State of Illinois will be one of this released. Following a discussion of the effects that the reduction of staff in this office could have on the programs they administered; it was decided to on behalf of the City of Rock Falls, to have Mayor Blanton write a letter to Mr. Warren Ribley, Director of DECCO and express our displeasure in this decision and urge them to reconsider in lieu of the impact that this would have on small communities throughout the State of Illinois.

Motion: Kuhlemier, Seconded Folsom, Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.

Executive Session:

Mayor Blanton requested that the Council enter into executive session for the purpose of Personnel-Section (c) (1). Motion: Vandersnick, Seconded Snow, Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried. (In: 7:21 p.m.)

Motion: Snow, Seconded Schuneman, to return to regular session. Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried. (Out: 7:51 p.m.)

Motion by Alderman Thurm and seconded Alderman Snow to re-appoint Mr. Jim White as Department Head of the Street Department and to award compensation as previously awarded to other Department Heads with an effective date of September 15, 2009. His contract will run to the end of the current fiscal year. Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.

Mayor Blanton requested the Council to appoint Alderman Lee Folsom Mayor Pro Tem for the period September 23-27, due to his absence from the City. Motion: Snow, Seconded: Vandersnick, Vote: (7) ayes, Alderman Folsom Abstained, motion carried.

Motion by Alderman Folsom and seconded by Alderman Reitzel to adjourn the meeting with no other business to come before the Council. Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.

Minutes for approval at the October 6, 2009 Meeting.

William B. Wescott, City Clerk