

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS
January 6, 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 Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Hand and Thurm were present. City Administrator, Richard Downey and City Attorney, Jim Reese were also present. Alderman Arduini and Folsom were absent.

Police Department Appointments/Promotions:

Chief Mike Kuelper introduced Administrative Commander Tammy Nelson who is moving to the position of the Operations Commander; Detective Doug Coppotelli, is moving to the position of Administrative Commander; and Office Herb Hall is promoted to the position of Sergeant all with the effective date of January 1, 2009.

Community Affairs:

Doug Wiersema, President/CEO of the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce presented his 2008 Year-end report to the Council. During which he highlighted the many areas of the Chambers involvement with the local businesses, community, tourism and legislative actions. The Chamber became the leader of the area movement to keep our parks and other local treasured natural resources open following the Governor's announcement that he would be closing many of the State Parks due to budget considerations. The Chamber is already busy working on the 2009 years activities, keeping there mission to "provide vision and leadership for business success and civic well being" at the forefront of all there activities. A Copy of the full address will be maintained with the Council minutes for public review.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve Minutes of December 16, 2008 Council Meeting
2. Approve Bills as presented
3. Approve recommendation from the Finance Committee to enter into an agreement with Clifton Gunderson, Inc. for audit services for the next three (3) years. Cost would be \$39,000 for 2009; \$40,500 for 2010 and \$43,000 for 2011. If additional GASB requirements are placed upon municipalities requiring additional services, or any single audits are required, the City and Clifton Gunderson, Inc. will re-open discussion on the agreement.

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4. Approve recommendation of the Finance Committee to re-new with R.W. Troxell & Company for Boiler Insurance through Travelers with a policy period of February 1, 2009 to February 1, 2010 at a cost of \$29,295.00.
5. Approve reimbursement payment of \$1,102.50 to Paul Jakubczak for completion of Course # BUS 650, Managerial Finance (Grade A), in accordance with the City Tuition Reimbursement Policy at the recommendation of the Personnel Committee.

Administrators Report:

Mr. Downey spoke to the Council in regards to establishment of dates for this years Council retreats. There will be two (2) retreats planned. The first, will be Mayor, Administrator, Clerk and Alderman only. The retreat is scheduled for Saturday, January 17, 2009 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm in the North Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex. The meeting date for the Second Retreat, which will involve the Department Heads, will be scheduled later.

Department Heads:

Electric – Mr. Jakubczak

1. Presented an updated IMEA report speaking of the progress of the construction which is well underway on two (2) different base load power plants that will serve a portion of the IMEA members' needs. Trimble County Unit #2 and the Prarie State Generating Facility are both on time and on budget as construction progresses.
2. Presented an update report on the Hydro Plant repairs. Unit I is back on line producing approximately 500 KW which is half of it's capacity. Unit 2 is hoped to be on line by the first week in February.

Ward Reports:

Alderman Kuhlemier inform the Council that there will be a Public Informational Open House sponsored by the Illinois Department of Transportation to update the Community, in an open meeting format, on the U.S. 30 project's progress to date; providing the project's Purpose and Need, Environmental Constraints, and Next Steps; and gathering input from the public on proposed corridors developed by both the U.S. Project Study Group (PSG and the U.S. 30 Community Advisory Group (CAG) which have been recommended for further screening.

The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 29, 2009 from 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm in Morrison, Illinois. Mr. Kuhlemier made a motion to have the Council direct the Mayor to draft a letter to the Committee, stating that the City of Rock Falls strongly urges IDOT to retain alignment 4B as the layout plan of the project. Alderman Hand seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Hand and Thurm voted aye. Vote (6) six ayes, motion carried.

Mayor's Report:

1. Mayor Blanton reported to the Council that the January meeting of the Northern Illinois Mayor Association will be held on January 15, 2009. The meeting will include a tour of the Byron Nuclear Plant. Anyone wishing to go should contact the Mayor's Office.
2. Reminder of the Chamber Annual Dinner Meeting scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Deer Valley Country Club. Anyone wishing to attend should contact the Mayor's Office.

Adjournment:

In the absence of Alderman Folsom, Alderman Reitzel made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Alderman Thurm. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Hand and Thurm voted aye. Vote six (6) ayes, motion carried.

For approval at the January 20, 2009 Council Meeting.

William B. Wescott, City Clerk