

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

*May 5, 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, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm were present. City Administrator Downey and City Attorney Reese were also present.

***Audience Requests:***

Mr. John Carrillo representing the Latin American Social club addressed the Council in regards to the 2009 Twin Cities Fiesta Day Parade. He request that the City of Rock Falls permission for the parade to access 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue (Illinois Route 40) on Saturday, September 12, 2009. Alderman Kuhlemier made the motion that Resolution 2009-544 be approved and that the City Clerk take the necessary actions to request a parade permit for the event from the Illinois Department of Transportation., seconded by Alderman Snow. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote (8) ayes, motion carried.

***Community Affairs:***

Mr. Paul Jakubczak a member of the Rock Falls Chamber Board addressed the Council on upcoming events. This years annual golf outing is scheduled for May 29, 2009 at the Deer Valley Country Club. The cost for participation has been reduced due to the current state of the economics. In addition, he reminded Alderman of the First Wednesday Breakfast at the All-American Grill starting at 7<sup>00</sup>-:30 a.m., Mr. Downey will be the presenter.

***Ordinance: First Reading:***

1. 2009 – 2341 ; Section 15-29 Bills generally; delayed payment (h)  
Motion by Alderman Snow and seconded by Alderman Thurm to approve the first reading of the ordinance as presented. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote (8) ayes, motion carried.

***Consent Agenda:***

1. Approve minutes of the April 21, 2009 Meeting
2. Approve the minutes of the Special April 27, 2009 meeting.
3. Approve the bills as presented.
4. Proclamation: National Police Week, May 10-16, 2009
5. Proclamation; Emergency Medical Services Week, May 17-23, 2009
6. Proclamation; National Nursing Week, May 10-16, 2009
7. Resolution 2009 -543; Consolidated Election Results 2009
8. Approve referral of application for variance, submitted by Rodger L. Hampton, 1408 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Rock Falls, Illinois. Requests referral to the Zoning Board of Appeals to conduct a hearing on the request in accordance with the provisions of Article XVI of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Rock Falls. Variance requests is for extending the roof to the property line in order to cover a handicap ramp for wheelchair usage.

9. Approve requisition of Sewer Department f in the amount of \$58,000.00 for plant replacement engineering costs to Willett, Hofmann and Associates.
10. Approve the following requisitions of the Electric Department; \$14,071.00 to Engle Electric Co. for traffic signal repair loop at Rt. 30/40; \$11,600.00 to Communications Supply Corporation for 16,000 feet of fiber optic cable and shipping charges; \$12,000.00 to Survalent Technology Corporation for Gen Station & Equipment repair; \$6,976.00 to McFarland Cascade for (4) 70' CL1SYP Poles CCA treated for the Centennial Park risers.

Motion by Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Folsom to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote (8) ayes, motion carried.

***Service Award Presentations:***

The Mayor and City Council presented service plaques to City Treasure Bob Machnicki (2001-2009) and Third Ward Alderman Eric Arduini (2005-2009). Both men were unsuccessful in there election bids and leave the City having served the citizens of Rock Falls in a professional manner during there terms in office.

***Seating of Newly Elected Officials:***

The following elected officials as confirmed by abstract vote results received from Dana Nelson, Whiteside County Clerk were sworn in; Mayor David H. Blanton, City Clerk William B. Wescott, City Treasurer Suzanne Dir, First Ward Alderman Mark Vandersnick, Second Ward Alderman Brian Snow, Third Alderman Jim Schuneman and Fourth Ward Alderman Bob Thurm. Associate Judge Michael R. Albert, 14<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit administered the oath of office to all of the elected officials. The officials assumed there places in the Council Chambers.

***Roll Call of New Council:***

City Clerk, William B. Wescott, called the roll, Mayor Blanton, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Hand, Folsom and Thurm were present.

***City Administrator Report:***

Mr. Downey presented a brief report on (2) two grants that he has submitted on behalf of the City: 1) Transportation grant through Congressman Foster's Office totaling \$320,000.00. This grant will pay for rehabilitation of the bridge on East 11<sup>th</sup> Street over the Hennepin Canal. This roadway serves as one of the gateways to our Industrial Park. 2) Neighborhood Stabilization Grant, which allows communities to utilize the funds to take care of, blighted residential structures within the City. The funds would be utilized to acquire and demolish a blighted structure on 14<sup>th</sup> Street, as well as, demolish the old limestone building and water tower on the riverfront.

***Department Heads:***

Electric- Mr. Jakubczak reported that on June 11, 2009 the IMEA will be holding an information meeting for member communities to bring them up to date on current status and future directions to include future rates. The meeting is scheduled for Princeton, Illinois at the AmericInn off Interstate 80, beginning at 6:30 p.m... Anyone wishing to attend should contact Paul.

Fire – Chief J. W. Larson requested permission from the Council to apply for (2) two grants: 1) FEMA Grant for \$220,000.00 to used to purchase a new Tanker Truck. 2) Illinois State Fire Marshall Small Equipment Grant.

Motion by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded Alderman Hand to authorize Chief J.W. Larson and the Department to pursue the grants as presented. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote (8) ayes, motion carried.

***Information/Correspondence:***

Brian Frickenstein, City Engineer presented a brief progress report on the West 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Project.

***Council Committee Meeting Dates/Reports:***

Electric Committee Chairman Hand, advised the Council that the meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> is going to be re-scheduled at a later date.

Finance/Insurance Chairman Kuhlemier made a motion to name AMCORE Bank, U.S. Bank, Freedom Bank and Sauk Valley Bank as the Public Agency Depository's for Public Funds of the City of Rock Falls, Illinois; and authorize Mayor David H. Blanton, City Clerk William B. Wescott, City Treasurer Suzanne M. Dir and City Administrator Richard Downey to be endorsers of transactions of these accounts on signature cards effective May 6, 2009, seconded by Alderman Folsom. Upon roll call Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote (8) ayes, motion carried.

***Ward Reports:***

Alderman Kuhlemier commented on the recent WGN Television broadcast of a feature on the Hennepin Canal as a recreational area. Signage showing the "City of Rock Falls" appeared on that program.

***Mayor's Report:***

Mayor Blanton presented his appointments for Chairman and Committee members for the 2009-2010 year standing committees for approval. Motion by Alderman Thurm and seconded Alderman Reitzel to approve the appointments as presented. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote (8) ayes, motion carried.

***Executive Session:***

Mayor Blanton asked for a motion for the Council to enter into executive session for Personnel – Section 2(c) (1). Motion Alderman Folsom and seconded Alderman Snow to enter into executive session. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Hand, Folsom and Thurm vote aye. Vote (8) ayes, motion carried. In: (7:05 p.m.)

Motion by Alderman Folsom and seconded Alderman Vandersnick to return to regular session. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote (8) ayes, motion carried. Out: (7:07 p.m.)

Mayor Blanton provided an overview of the potential financial assistance via the stimulus package that the City of Rock Falls could be receiving in regards to the funding of the new Wastewater Treatment Plant. The information is only preliminary at this time and final confirmation will hopefully be forth coming. Of the \$30 million dollars projected for cost of the project the following assistance may be received; \$5 million dollar grant; \$15 million in a 0% interest loans; with the remaining \$10 million dollars required to be secured through local banks. Motion by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Thurm to authorize the Mayor to act on behalf of the City in regards to the Stimulus proposals that are received. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote (8) ayes, motion carried.

***Adjournment:***

With no other business for the Council to consider, motion by Alderman Folsom and seconded by Alderman Reitzel to adjourn the meeting. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Hand, Folsom and Thurm voted aye. Vote (8) ayes, motion carried.

Minutes for approval at the May 19, 2009 regular meeting.

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William B. Wescott, City Clerk