

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS
January 5, 2010**

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, Schuneman, Hand, Folsom and Thurm were present. In addition, City Administrator Richard Downey and City Attorney Jim Reese were present as well.

Executive Session:

Mayor Blanton requested that the Council enter into executive session for Personnel-Section 2(c) (1) and to include in the session, Andrew Taft, IBEW, Douglas Robbins and Debbie Robbins.

Motion: Ald. Snow, Second: Ald. Thurm, Vote: (8) ayes motion carried. (IN: 6:38 p.m.)

Motion: Ald. Schuneman, Second Ald. Snow to return to regular session. Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried (7:04 p.m.)

Motion by Ald. Thurm, Second: Ald. Folsom; to grant IBEW Grievance No. 11809, and award Douglas Robbins a leave of absence retroactive to October 14, 2009 for a period of 120 days. Upon roll call, (8) ayes, motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve Council Minutes of December 15, 2009
2. Approve Bills as presented
3. Approve Resolution 2009-567; A Resolution Transferring Authority Over Real Estate to Industrial Development Commission (703 4th Avenue).
4. Approve 2010 Committee Meeting Schedule
5. Approve Change Order #4 with American Demolition Corporation for \$6,500.00 to demolish and remove water tower at the Limestone Building.

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

City Administrator Report:

Mr. Downey reported on behalf of Sandy Henrekin, Executive Director; Rock Falls Community Development Corporation that the name the Riverfront Contest is still underway. As of this time, over 700 ballots had been received. Residents are encouraged to continue submitting there votes.

Information/Correspondence:

City Clerk Wescott informed the Council that the City received word that the Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois will begin there 2010 Girl Scout Cookie Sale in January. Scouts will be taking orders between the dates of January 8-24, 2010 and deliver the same between March 1-April 11, 2010.

Department Heads:

Fire - Chief Larson presented a request to the Council to replace (4) four Gas Heater Units in the apparatus bays with Modine PDP Power Vented UH units at a total cost of \$8,900.00, installation and removal of the old units to be performed by Loescher Heating and Air Conditioning of Rock Falls in accordance with prevailing wage laws. **Motion: Ald. Snow, Second: Ald. Hand, Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.**

Electric – Mr. Jakubczak read a news release from the Illinois Municipal Electric Association. The IEMA and Next Era Energy Resources, LLC, a subsidiary of FPL Group (Florida Power & Light), have signed a long-term contract under which the Springfield based joint action agency will purchase 70 megawatts of wind-generated electricity from Next Era’s new Lee-Dekalb wind farm. Located near the intersection of Interstate 88 and 39 in Lee and Dekalb counties, the 217-megawatt wind farm began commercial operation in December and IEMA began taking output January 1, 2010.

This purchase agreement represents a major step forward toward “IEMA’s long-term strategic goal of making renewable resources, energy-efficiency and conservation measures a part of our overall power-supply portfolio.”

Standing Committees:

Finance/Insurance/Investment Chairman Kuhlemier shared with the Council the recent steps taken to attempt to reduce the remaining General Fund Budget by at least 10%. All of the departments presented what cuts that they felt were possible within the limits of their remaining line items. In many cases, it was not possible to make reductions of 10% due to the already fragile budget items remaining for the year. Chairman Kuhlemier thanked all of the Departments for their efforts to work on this initiative and thanked them for their cooperation in the matter.

Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Blanton commented on the year end numbers from the Building Department noting that in excess of \$5,000,000 dollars in Building permits had been issued for the City this past year. Within that amount there was only (1) one new residential home constructed..

Mayor Blanton requested the Temporary Appointment of Ted Padilla, current Water Department Supt. to the additional position of Street Supt. until further notice. Motion: Thurm, Second: Folsom, Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.

Adjournment:

With no other business to come before the Council, Motion: Ald. Folsom, Second: Ald, Reitzel, Vote (8) ayes, motion carried. (7:24 p.m.)

Minutes will be approved or amended at the January 19th 2010

William B. Wescott, City Clerk

