

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS
March 2, 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 and Folsom were present, quorum. Alderman Thurm was absent. In addition, City Administrator, Richard Downey and Attorney Thomas Sanders were present.

Audience Request:

Mr. Jerry Clark who resides at 1309 West 2nd Street, Rock Falls, Illinois requested to address the Council in regards to the on-going parking issues on West 2nd Street. Mr. Clark shared that he was representing many of the residents that live on W. 2nd Street, wanting to get some answers to the increasing problems with parking, traffic flow restrictions, blocking of private driveways etc. as a result of the growing Health Department Facilities and no accessible parking to accommodate the same. He believes that the combination of increased services, as well as, the City not be able to plow snow effectively in the area has created many of the conditions. He told the Council members that he had in his possession pictures taken earlier in the day, that showed restrictions on the road , where only one car at a time could pass and this is a regular daily occurrence

Beth Fiorini, Director of the Whiteside County Health Department was present and spoke at the request of Mayor Blanton to address the concerns presented by Mr. Clark. She understands that there are parking and traffic issues. She feels that if the City would allow her to purchase more real estate along W. 2nd Street she could alleviate the problems. The City has maintained the position that with the addition of more parking, and destruction of residential property it would be detrimental to other taxing bodies. At his point, Mayor Blanton interjected that a meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning to meet with Health Department Management, as well as, High school Administration to work towards a resolve.

Ordinance: First Reading

1. Ordinance 2010-2384; AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AMENDEMENT NO. 1 TO THE TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT ELIGIBILITY STUDY, REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND PROJECT FOR THE ROCK FALLS RIVERFRONT TAX INCREMENT FINANCING REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA.
2. Ordinance 2010-2385; AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT ELIGIBILITY STUDY, REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND PROJECT FOR THE ROCK FALLS DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA
3. Ordinance 2010-2386; AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE ROCK FALLS DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA.
4. Ordinance 2010-2387; AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING TAX INCREMENT FINANCING
5. Ordinance 2010-2389; AMENDING SECTION ; SECTION 5-126
6. Ordinance 2010-2390; ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 8-287. RESTRICTIONS ON ISSUANCE, SUB-PARAGRAPH (13)
7. Ordinance 2010-2391; AMENDING SECTION 9-168. RESIDENT PARKING

8. Ordinance 2010-2392; ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN BUSINESS LICENSE FEES
9. Ordinance 2010-2393; AMENDING SECTION 9-163(d)

Motion: Ald. Snow; Second: Ald. Vandersnick to accept the Ordinance's as presented for First reading. Vote: (6) ayes; Ald. Reitzel: Abstained, motion carried.

Ordinance: Adoption

1. Ordinance 2010-2383; ORDINANCE ENACTING AND IMPOSING A TAX UPON PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE BUSINESS OF DISTRIBUTION, SUPPLYING, FURNISHING, OR SELLING GAS FOR USE OR CONSUMPTION WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS.

Motion: Ald. Vandersnick; Second: Ald. Snow to adopt Ordinance as presented. Vote: (7) ayes, motion carried.

2. Ordinance 2010-2388: AUTHORIZATION TO DISPOSE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Motion: Ald. Snow; Second: Ald. Hand, to adopt Ordinance as presented. Vote: (7) ayes, motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve Minutes from February 16, 2010
2. Approve Bills as presented
3. Authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with the Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition for participation in the Interpretive Mural Project.
4. Approve expenditure FOR THE Electric Department to Brownstown Electric Supply Company for (1) 1000 KVA Pad Mount Transformer at a cost of \$13,704.00.
5. Approve payment to Willett, Hofmann & Associates for Lift Station Modifications under Plant Replacement Engineering at a cost of \$12,000.00.
6. Approve expenditure of \$6,845.00 to SCADAware, Inc. for a thumbwheel upgrade to SCADA at the Water Department.

Motion: Ald. Hand, Second: Ald. Schuneman to accept the Consent agenda as presented, following the removal of item #3. Vote: (7) ayes, motion carried.

Mayor Blanton requested that Ald. Kuhlemier present the Council with information pertaining to item #3, which was withdrawn from the consent agenda for clarification. Mr. Kuhlemier explained that the City of Rock Falls is one of the Illinois cities which has been chosen by the Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition (ILHC) to participate in the newly created Lincoln Highway Interpretive Mural Project. Though portions of the old Lincoln Highway exist in other states, Illinois section is the only portion of the road designated as a National Scenic Byway. The mural program will be universally accessible to all visitors to the state-and serve to promote one of America's most influential transportation links-the Lincoln Highway.

Each community that participates will enter into a signed agreement with the Illinois Highway Coalition. The total cost of each mural will be \$10,000.00 and will be paid by the byway's management agency, the Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition. Each local Organizational Committee will be responsible for selecting the artists. A total of forty (40) murals will be completed in approximately thirty (30) months. Each mural will total 200 square feet. Once the

local canvas area is selected by the local organization a second agreement between the parties will be enacted. Motion: Ald. Kuhlemier; Second: Ald. Vandersnick to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the necessary documents following review of the City Attorney. Vote: (7) ayes, motion carried.

City Administrator Report:

Mr. Downey presented a brief report on his attendance last week at the Illinois Housing Authority's meetings for the SFOOR and SRRP grant programs which the City participates in. In addition, he noted his attendance at the ICMA City Managers Meeting.

Department Heads:

Electric- Mr. Jakubczak presented the following information to the Council:

1. Presented to the Council a brief report on the 2010 APPA Legislative Rally held on February 22-25 at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C. which was attended by Mayor Blanton, Alderman Hand and himself. Topics ranging from Green House Gas, Cap-N-Trade and USEPA issues were the hot topics. In addition to our local representatives, total of (46) IMEA members were in attendance as well. Excellent meeting sessions with Legislative representatives were attended.
2. March 10, 2010 is being recognized as "Great Energy Efficiency Day". On this day, national organizations will promote the need for, and benefits of energy efficiency in residential, commercial and industrial settings. Mr. Jakubczak remind those present and the residents via television, that they can conduct a free energy audit of their residents, by going to the City of Rock Falls website and connecting to the home energy link. It is a simple method of evaluating your residence, and suggests ways to lower energy costs effectively.

Water- Mr. Padilla presented the following information:

1. Plans are underway to begin the yearly Groundwater Education that the Water Department has undertaken the last several years, of all of the 5th grades in both the City and Rural schools, as well as, the sophomore class at the High School. This year the education is expanding to include a collaborative effort of both Water and Electric. The joint programs will address conservation of resources and green initiatives. The Water Department will be distributing nitrate testing strips to rural home owners that are located within the 5- year recharge area, that the City draws its water from.

Wastewater- Mr. Cox presented the following:

1. Building Construction at the new Wastewater Treatment Facility, 101 Clearwater Drive has started to move along with the change in weather. Crews have begun laying in the force main from the plant to the east. With the thaw that is occurring, fields are becoming wet and soft, which will slow the process a bit. As of this report, the crews were crossing Antec Road..
2. The West 24th Street Drainage project will most likely not get underway until April, due to weather and ground conditions.

Ward Reports:

Mr. Kuhlemier presented a brief report on the recent Governor's Conference on Tourism that he attended in Chicago on behalf of the City, as he sits on the local tourism Board.

Mr. Schuneman- Suggested Council Members review (2) interesting articles in the monthly Illinois Review Magazine in regards to Pension costs and Municipal Budgeting.

Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the City, Mayor Blanton requests a motion for adjournment. Motion: Ald. Reitzel, Second: Ald. Reitzel; Vote (7) ayes, motion carried.

Minutes presented for approval on March 16, 2010.

William B. Wescott, City Clerk