



City of Rock Falls Ordinance/License Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 02-25-2010 **Time Meeting Started:** 6:00 p.m. **Time Meeting Ended:** 6:45 p.m.

Members		Also Attended	
Ald. Vandersnick (Chairman)	P	Mayor Pro Tem Kuhlemier	P
Ald. Snow	P	Ald. Schuneman	P
Ald. Folsom	A	City Clerk Wescott	P
Ald. Hand	A		
Ald. Thurm	P		
Also Attended			
Beth Fiorini-WCH Dept.	P		
Tony Arduini – County Board Chairman	P		
Joel Horn – County Administrator	P		
Karen Nelson- WCH Board	P		

Topic	Discussion	Plan of Action
1. Call to Order@ 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee called to order at 6:00 p.m. 	No Action
2. Audience Request Beth Fiorini, WCHD W. 2 nd St. Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beth Fiorini, Director of the WCHD spoke to the Committee expressing her concerns over action being considered to enforce a restricted parking policy in the area of the Health Department Clinics. She presented information concerning the patient volume and staff parking requirements that are already taxing the available parking. In considering a restrictive parking policy, she feels that we are only going to make the current issue much worse. Mr. Searing, Building Inspector responded by saying that, the Clinic although providing much needed services, has been developed without regard to parking needs. Currently the Health Department is 130 stalls below requirements for the number of construction projects that are either completed or underway. Chairman Vandersnick spoke on the matter and while he feels that there is no one that would not agree with the importance of services that are being provided on a daily basis to the residence of Whiteside County, not enough emphasis has been placed on the parking to accommodate the volume of visits that are being recorded on a weekly basis. Upon completion of the new Wastewater treatment Facility west of town, the clinic is going to be building a parking lot for staff members on the old location behind the clinic. However, that is (2) years away, and the current problems will be even more widespread by then. Ms. Fiorini, remind the committee that she has in hand the dollars to purchase more homes in the neighborhood, but due to a “gentleman’s” agreement they have with the City, she has restrained from doing so. Clerk Wescott asked to address the committee and pointed out that everyday, there is approximately 450 parking stalls within a 4 block walking distance from the clinic that are not being utilized by anyone to relieve the temporary problems that all of the parties are experiencing. The parking lot at the High School Football field, if permission was given by the high school could relieve the current problems. It would require staff members to walk 3-4 blocks however, it is short term. In addition, the High School could ask for cooperation from those students that park off campus to vacate a 2-3 block perimeter around the school and park at the football complex as well. It was decided to contact the high school and open a discussion on the feasibility of utilizing this space. The City and the Health Department will meet on Tuesday, March 2 to discuss the options. Ms. Fiorini ask that the 	City will meet with the Health Department Representatives and the High School Administration to work on a possible temporary solution.

	<p>City not pass the new ordinance on restrictive parking at the March 2nd meeting. It was noted that the Ordinance is up for first reading only and that no final action will be taken on Tuesday night.</p>	
<p>3. New Business a) Prairie Grass</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Searing told the committee that a request had come from Mr. Louis Pignatelli in regards to the City's ordinance on prairie grass. He would like to see the City allow this in residential area. Mr. Searing stated that the International Code Council has a new code on Urban Wildlife that he is ordering a book on and he will share information with the council next month. 	No action
<p>b) Wind Tower/Farm ordinance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Searing shared another request from Mr. Pignatelli in regards to the possibility of putting up wind tower generation in his subdivision to supply electrical services to the residence. Under our current utility ordinances, this is prohibited; however, individuals may develop green energy sources to supplement existing utilities, as long as they are not tied into the City's system. Questions arose in regards to zoning concerns with the adaptation. 	Building Inspector is going to research zoning issues and report back.
<p>c) Temporary sign Ordinance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A discussion ensued concern the issue of temporary signs. Mr. Schuneman requested to addressed the committee and shared the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> We need to define "portable" and "temporary "signs. Develop a fee structure (\$30-\$60) that is such that, those that might utilize these types of signs for the business, can choose the duration that they wish to utilize the signs and have set fees accordingly. Established maintenance requirements that would need to be adhered to, as to prevent a "distasteful" appearance to the community and establish fines for non-compliance. <p>Following a short discussion, the committee directed Mr. Searing to put together a draft for the committee to consider at there next meeting.</p>	Building Inspector is going to research this matter and prepare a draft for consideration by the committee.
<p>d) Storage containers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A discussion on this matter was held, with many ideas and points of consideration. The Committee directed Mr. Searing to put together a draft of ideas for the committee to consider at there next meeting. 	Building Inspector is going to research and prepare a draft for consideration by the committee.
<p>e) Outdoor Sales and Seating</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee reviewed information that the Mayor had forwarded as information only at this time. He will be addressing the Committee on this topic at the next regular meeting. 	Mayor will address at the next committee meeting.
<p>5. Adjournment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chairman Vandersnick adjourned the meeting at 6:45 pm 	Adjourned @ 6:45 p.m.

Committee Chairman