

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF  
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS  
May 17, 2011

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Alderman of the City of Rock Falls was called to order at 6:30 p.m., May 17, 2011 in Rock Falls, Illinois by Mayor David H. Blanton.

City Clerk, William Wescott, called the roll following the pledge of allegiance, present was Mayor Blanton, Ald. Vandersnick, Reitzel, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Hand, Folsom and Thurm. In addition, City Administrator Richard Downey and Attorney Jim Reese were present.

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

The following Proclamations were read into the record and presented to representatives of the respective organizations:

1. Rock Falls Rotary Club 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, June 5, 2011  
*Motion: Ald. Kuhlemier-Second: Ald. Hand to approve Proclamation. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried*
2. American Cancer Society Relay for Life- June 4-5, 2011  
*Motion: Ald. Thurm-Second: Ald. Vandersnick to approve Proclamation. Vote 8 ayes, motion carried*
3. Emergency Medical Services Week- May 15-21, 2011  
*Motion: Ald. Hand-Second: Ald. Reitzel to approve Proclamation. Vote 8 ayes, motion carried.*
4. National Police Week- May 15-21, 2011  
*Motion: Ald. Snow-Second: Ald. Schuneman to approve Proclamation. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried.*
5. National Public Works Week- May 15-21, 2011  
*Motion: Ald. Snow-Second: Ald. Reitzel to approve Proclamation. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried.*

**Audience Request:**

Ms. Adie Bales a sixth grader at the Rock Falls Middle School is the 2011 Rock Falls American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Queen. She informed the Council that Poppy days will be May 26-28, 2011; proceeds will go to help veterans of our country.

Water/Street Supt. Ted Padilla introduced Ms/ Paige Last, a senior at Rock Falls High School as the winner of the first ever awarded Groundwater/Electric Utility Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. Mr. Padilla had the pleasure of presenting the scholarship to Ms. Last at the Student awards program the previous evening. He told the council that 56 students were recognized with \$791,619.32 awarded in scholarships.

**Ordinance: Second Reading/Adoption**

1. 2011-2463; Section 9-149. Prohibited  
*Motion: Ald. Kuhlemier-Second: Ald. Vandersnick to approve the ordinance for passage as presented. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried.*

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Approve Minutes of May 3, 2011
2. Approve Bills as presented
3. Approve at the request of the Public Property Committee that land parcel 11-28-253-008 located on the southeast corner of 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and West 1<sup>st</sup> Street owned by the City of Rock Falls be transferred to the Industrial Development Commission for disposal along with the adjoining alley, with the understanding that the sale of said properties would require easements for access to any city infrastructure located on the properties.
4. Approve at the recommendation of the Electric Department, Invoice E0934301 from Altorfer Inc. for the purchase of two (2) new 3516 prime rated generator sets at a total cost of \$1,199,956.05 for the 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue Substation project.
5. Approve at the request of the Electric Department pay request #4 from SEGA for Martin & Company in the amount of \$88,888.00 for work at the 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue Sub Station.

6. Approve expenditures under the DCEO grant totaling \$59,869.20 for the following expenses: Ringland Johnson Construction \$53,435.75; Executive Director: \$4,875.94; Program Coordinator: \$1,307.08; Executive Assistant: \$22.44; Communications: \$97.50; Copying/Printing: \$63.20; Copier Lease: \$67.29.

*Motion: Ald. Hand-Second: Ald. Folsom to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried.*

City Administrator:

Mr. Downey reported on the following:

1. All of the documentation for the 1<sup>st</sup> MARS Grant has been submitted. The City of Rock Falls looks to receive approximately \$74,000.00. Once the first grant is closed out, we shall begin the application for the next grant.
2. Reported that the 1<sup>st</sup> City Newsletter is completed and will be going out in the utility bills soon.

Department Heads:

Water/Street- Mr. Padilla

1. Request approval at the recommendation of Public Works Committee to hire Saver Asphalt, Dixon, Illinois for seal coating of identified roads under the direction of Street Supt. at a cost not to exceed \$19,999.00, approximately 28,425 linear feet @ \$0.70/per linear feet.

*Motion: Ald. Snow-Second: Ald. Thurm to approve the request as presented. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried.*

2. Request approval at the recommendation of Public Works Committee to hire Burger Brothers, Rock Falls, Illinois for blacktop rehabilitation on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue under the direction of the Street Supt. at a cost not to exceed \$19,999.00.

*Motion: Ald. Schuneman-Second: Ald. Folsom to approve the request as presented. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried.*

3. Request approval at the recommendation of Public Works Committee to accept the lowest responsible bid of Murray & Sons, Sterling, Illinois for the 2011 Concrete contract for the City at a cost not to exceed \$60,000.00 with all work to be coordinated with the Street Department Supt...

*Motion: Ald. Thurm-Second: Ald. Reitzel to approve the recommendation as presented. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried.*

Building Inspector- Mr. Searing

1. Mr. Searing reported to the Council on the seminar conducted at Sauk Valley Community College in regards to ADA requirements in construction. The City is ahead of many of the local communities in compliance and in addition has established the ADA committee which is very active. The City has been asked by several communities to come and speak to them about our success and how it was achieved.

Police- Chief Kuelper

1. Chief Kuelper thanked everyone for there support and participation in the Funeral services for Telecommunicator Donna Baxter. Donna had worked for the City ofr 20 years and was well known and a highly respected individual amongst Police, Fire and EMS. In honor of Donna, Chief Kuelper request the City allow for the planting of a lilac bush here on City property has a memorial to Donna's service and memory.

*Motion: Ald. Reitzel-Second: Ald. Kuhlemier to authorize the placement of the memorial. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried.*

Ward Reports:

Ward 2 – Alderman Kuhlemier reported that as a setting member of the Rock Falls Convention and Tourism Board he wanted the Council to be aware, that the Board is currently working on its award procedures policy.

Mayor's Request:

1. Mayor as the City's Liquor Commissioner Request the Council approve a Special Liquor License be issued to the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce for June 8-9, 2011. They have met all of the requirements necessary for such issuance.  
Motion: Ald. Hand-Second: Ald. Reitzel to approve the special liquor license as requested. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried
2. *Mayor request that the Council approve Willet Hoffman & Associates let bids for the following road projects: East Second Street from First Avenue (Illinois Route 40) to Wood Avenue; Avenue A from East Second Street to East Third Street. Bids for these projects are to be let as two separate projects. Motion: Ald. Vandersnick-Second: Ald. Kuhlemier to approve the mayors request for the letting of the bids for the above identified street projects.* A discussion ensued, in which Ald. Snow questioned what would be the funding source for either of these projects. Mayor Blanton responded the ½ cent sales tax. Ald. Snow expressed his concern over going forward with this project, when the Public Works committee has already made decisions concerning other projects that they have identified spending the ½ cent sales tax for. Ald. Schuneman addressed the same concerns, adding that we need to move forward with the projects that have been identified by Public works. Other Alderman engaged in the discussion sending the issue back and forth. Ald. Reitzel, Chairman Public Works stated that to his understanding, the Mayor's original motion calls only for the letting of the bids as separate projects. The motion does not include the funding source. So at this time we should let the bids and see what type of pricing we get back and then we can conduct further discussions concerning the funding source for the project. The mayor concurred, by stating that no monies for either project can be allocated without Council approval. *City Clerk Wescott re-stated the motion and the roll was read: Vote 8 ayes, motion carried.*
3. Mayor Blanton requested that a temporary City Administrator be named to fill the position once Mr. Downey leaves. *Ald. Hand made a motion to name Mayor Blanton as interim City Administrator once Mr. Downey vacates the position. Seconded: Ald. Kuhlemier. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried.*

Executive Session:

Mayor Blanton requests a motion to enter into executive session for:

1. Collective Bargaining – Section 2(c)(2)
2. Personnel – Section 2(c)(1)
3. Litigation – Section 2(c)(11)

*Motion: Ald. Thurm-Second: Ald. Reitzel to enter into executive session for the reasons identified. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried. (IN: 7:35 p.m.)*

*Motion: Ald. Snow Second: Ald. Vandersnick to return to regular session. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried. (OUT: 8:00 p.m.)*

*Motion Ald. Hand-Second: Ald. Snow to hire Brian Beem as the new Electric Operations Manager for the Rock Falls Electric Department, with a start date of June 1, 2011. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried.*

*Motion : Ald. Folsom –Second: Ald. Reitzel to adjourn the meeting with no other business to come before the council. Vote: 8 ayes, motion carried. (8:02 p.m.)*

