

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF  
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS  
February 21, 2012

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Alderman of the City of Rock Falls was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on February 21, 2012 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, Kuhlemier, Snow, Schuneman, Hand, Schuneman and Thurm. Ald. Folsom was absent. In addition, Attorney Tom Sanders and City Administrator Robbin Blackert were present.

**Public Hearing**

A Public Hearing was held following due notice in the local newspaper (7) days in the advance of the same. The purpose of the Hearing was for consideration and receipt of public comment both verbal and written in regards to the release of remaining funds from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Development for the Community Development Assistant Program (CDAP) Grant previously awarded to the City in October of 2009 in the amount of \$750,000. Executive Director Sandy Henrekin of the Rock Falls Community Development Corporation that served as the City's Administrator for the grant addressed those present. The grant was originally awarded to remediate blight on the abandoned Reliant Industrial site, by rehabilitation of the Office Building as part of the City's Riverfront Development Plan. This project was to provide a new home for State Offices that would have been consolidated into one location. However, in July the Department of Central Management Services defaulted on the plans. The City decided to go ahead with the addition of the East Second Street through the property to continue the progress for the development of the Riverfront. DCEO has been very supportive and flexible in allowing the City to shift the funding from the Building restoration to the demolition of the same and infrastructure improvements which still achieve the original intent improving a blighted area.

Clerk Wescott informed Mayor Blanton that his office had received no written comments for inclusion in the hearing record. No public comment was received during the Hearing and in addition to the members of the Council; the following individuals were present for the Hearing: Allen Boseneiler, Rock Falls, Illinois; Sandy Henrekin, Deer Grove, Illinois; Yolanda Thurm, Rock Falls, Illinois; Rex Lasson, Princeton, Illinois. With no comments or input received, the RFCDC was advised to go ahead with the request for the release of the remaining funds. The Hearing was closed at 6:40 p.m.

**Audience Request:**

Mr. Allen Boseneiler, 802 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Rock Falls, Illinois rose to address the Council. Mr. Boseneiler is requesting that the City provide him with a copy of the Council packets distributed to the Alderman prior to the meeting. He states that the average citizen does not have the time to attend the various committee meetings that are held, to get firsthand information about the issues before the council that are being acted upon. The inclusion of the packet to himself or any citizen that would request the same, would allow for the public to be better informed about the actions that are being taken by the Council on their behalf. Mayor Blanton thanked Mr. Boseneiler for his comments.

**ORDINANCE: Second Reading/Adoption**

1. 2012 – 2492; Section 9-152. Prohibited areas between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. along the West side of 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Merrill School.

Motion: Ald. Vandersnick; Second: Ald. Thurm to approve the ordinance for adoption as presented. Vote: (7) ayes, motion carried.

2. 2012 – 2493; Ordinance Authorizing Agreement for assignment of rights in dark fiber between CGH Medical Center of Sterling, Illinois and the City of Rock Falls, Illinois.

Motion: Ald. Kuhlemier; Second: Ald. Reitzel to approve the ordinance for adoption as presented. Vote (7) ayes, motion carried.

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Approve Minutes of February 7, 2012
2. Approve Bills as presented.
3. Approve Public Works Committee requests for Engineering Agreement with Willett, Hofmann & Associates, Inc. for the Avenue D Reconstruction Project between Dixon Avenue and East 5<sup>th</sup> Street in the amount of \$11,000.00.
4. Approve the recommendation of the Planning/Zoning Commission to refer the matter of Non-Conforming Lots in Residential Districts to the Ordinance Committee for consideration of an exception to the existing Ordinance.
5. Approve the recommendation of the Planning/Zoning Commission in regards to a variance request at 603 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue in regards to non-conforming lot size. In granting the variance, certain conditions must exist. In this case the property does not have any substantial detriment to adjacent properties, and variance is necessary for the preservation and enjoyment of a property right possessed by other properties and the R-2 zoning district for 60' lot was established after existing resident was built.
6. Approve the request of the Electric Department for purchase and installation in compliance with prevailing wage considerations for a Dakota Security Window, Deal drawer, audio system, and countertop from the Dakota Security Systems Inc., Ankeny, Iowa for a cost of \$12,981.39.
7. Approve the request of the Electric Department for the purchase of a Shelter for the Fiber Optic at the Avenue A substation from the Precision Quincy Corporation, Woodstock, Illinois with prevailing wage compliance in the amount of \$29,995.00.
8. Approve at the request of the Electric Department a Service Authorization Agreement with StellarRAD Systems in the estimated amount of \$2,700-\$3,600 for Phase #2 Conversion into StellarMAP Software System in the City of Rock Falls.
9. Approve the request of the Electric Department an agreement with DeBauche Communications, Green Bay, Wisconsin for Phase #1A – Field Inventory at an estimated cost of \$5,500-\$6,600 and Phase #1B – Open hand holes and document fiber splice information by StellarRAD Systems at an estimated cost of \$1,100-\$1,375.
10. Approve at the recommendation of the Public Property Committee the Rock Falls RB&W Riverfront Policy & Procedures Manual and name the Executive Director or her appointee of the Convention & Tourism as the Executive Manager of the RB&W Riverfront location.

Motion: Ald. Hand; Second: Ald Reitzel to approve the consent agenda as presented, with the removal of item 10 for a separate vote. Vote: (7) ayes, motion carried.

Motion: Ald. Hand; Second: Ald. Snow to approve item 10 of the consent agenda as presented. Vote: (6) ayes, (1) abstention (Ald. Reitzel), motion carried.

**Information/Correspondence:**

William B. Wescott, City Clerk

- City Clerk Wescott shared with the Council the news of the death of Colten Lee Kuster, infant son of Cody and Jenna Custer on February 16, 2011. Funeral services were held at 1:30 p.m., Monday, February 20, 2012 at the First United Methodist Church, Dixon, Illinois. Jenna is a clerk in our Utility Office and our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family at this time of loss.

**Ward Reports:**

Ward 2

Ald. Snow offered congrandulations to the members of the Newman Comment wrestling team for their showing at the IHSA State meet in Champaign over the weekend.

Ald. Kuhlemier shared with the Council some thoughts on the passing of Mr. Richard Breitweiser on Thursday, February 16, 2012 at the age of 87 years. Mr. Breitweiser served as the Unite States Postmaster for the City of Sterling for 37 years. He was also involved in a multitude of service clubs and organizations over the years. Most noticeable was the Sterling-Rock Falls Historical Society for 40 years. Never striving to be out in front, he was a tireless worker behind the scenes to make the communicates of Sterling-Rock Falls a better place for its residents.

**Adjournment:**

With no other business to come before the Council, Mayor Blanton called for a motion to adjourn. Motion: Ald. Thurm; Second: Ald. Reitzel. Vote: (7) eyes, motion carried.

Minutes will be presented at the March 6, 2012 meeting for approval.

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William B. Wescott, City Clerk