

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF  
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS  
April 17, 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 April 17, 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, Hand, Schuneman, Folsom and Thurm. In addition, Attorney Jim Reese and City Administrator Robbin Blackert were present.

**Audience Request:**

Mary Adams representing the Goldwing's Motorcycle Club addressed the Council requesting that her organization be given a Police escort down 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue to U.S Route 30 to Route 40 (First Avenue) South of the Rock Falls Hotel. On August 3-5, the organization will be holding its annual meeting in Rock Falls which will draw approximately 150-200 motorcyclists for the three (3) day period from around the State of Illinois. Mayor Blanton confirmed that Chief Kuelper had been contacted, and there are apparently no problems with the request. **Motion: Ald. Kuhlemier; Second: Ald. Folsom to authorize the request for Police escort. Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.**

**Community Affairs:**

Doug Wiersema, CEO and Executive Director of the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce spoke to the Council for the last time prior to his retirement next week. He thanked Mayor Blanton, Alderman and Department Heads for all of the support showed to the Chamber over the years. He then introduced, Bethany Bland who will be the next President/CEO of the Chamber effective April 20, 2012. Bethany addressed the Council and looks forward to the continued support and working relationship with the Chamber.

**ORDINANCE: Second Reading/Adoption:**

1. 2012 – 2501; Section 15-266. Basis, Rates and Charges for Sewage Service  
**Motion: Ald. Vandersnick; Second: Ald. Kuhlemier to accept the ordinance as presented for approval. Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.**
2. 2012 – 2502; Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance  
**Motion: Ald. Kuhlemier; Second: Ald. Schuneman to accept the ordinance as presented for approval. Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.**

**Consent Agenda:**

- Mayor Blanton requested that item 8 on the consent agenda be removed for a separate vote.

1. Approve Minutes of April 3, 2012
2. Approve Bills as presented.
3. Approve at the request of the Water Department, the purchase of a quantity of Neptune T-10 Meters and Radio Read Units with brackets at a cost of \$52,139.20 for the fiscal year 2011-12 and \$10,672.34 for the fiscal year 2012-2013 from Northern Illinois Water Works Supply.
4. Approve at the requests of the Electric and Public Works Committee the Utility write-offs for the period of March 1, 2011 thru February 1, 2012 totaling \$38,600.40.
5. Approve at the request of the Public Works Committee the purchase of a flow/call controller for the Avenue C lift station at a cost of \$17,000 from Metropolitan Industries.
6. Approve at the recommendation of the Public Works committee, the awarding of the 2012-2013 Sidewalk & Curb Maintenance bid to AAA Concrete of Rock Falls, Illinois for the period of May 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013.
7. Approve at the request of the Building Code Committee the awarding of the 2012-2013 Lawn Maintenance Bid to Williams Lawn Care of Rock Falls, Illinois to run from May 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013.

**Motion: Ald. Hand; Second: Ald. Snow to approve the consent agenda with items 1-7 as presented. Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.**

8. Approve Resolution 2012-631 authorizing award of contract without competitive bid at the request of the Electrical Department on a contract for Fiber Construction with PirTano Construction Company, Addison Illinois, for the boring of fiber on Route 40 from East 4<sup>th</sup> Street to East Second Street at a cost of \$55,661.40.

**Motion: Ald. Hand; Second: Ald. Kuhlemier to approve Resolution 2012-631 as presented. Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.**

**City Administrator: Robbin D. Blackert**

- Ms. Blackert thanked the Council, Department Heads and members of the Rock Falls Community who have reached out to her over the last several weeks, as she was going through a severe medical situation with her father, which ultimately resulted in his death. Although she has only been with the City for a short time, she values the friendships and all of the people that she now calls family.

**Information/Correspondence:**

- City Clerk Wescott read a letter received from Comcast, advising the residents of the City that effective May 1, 2012 the City of Rock Falls Utility Office will no longer serve as a drop off point for Comcast bill payments. Midland States Bank at their Rock Falls and Sterling Locations, as well as, the Comcast Office on W. Route 30 will accept payments.

**Ward Reports:**

*Aldermen Kuhlemier, as well as several others wished to offer their congratulations to Mike Wolber, current Building Inspector for the City of Sterling on his upcoming retirement. Mike served the City of Rock Falls as a full time firefighter, fire inspector and Building inspector before going to Sterling. In addition, he along with Ed Wagner provided the leadership behind the fundraising for the current Rock Falls Library that was built. He is retired from the US Naval Reserves and is a member of the Rock Falls Optimist Club, he and his wife reside in Rock Falls and he remains very active in community affairs.*

**Mayors Report:**

1. Mayor Blanton requests the Council consider and act upon the following re-appointments to committees:
  - Industrial Development Commission  
Jeff Bright- 5/01/12 to 4/30/17
  - Planning Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals  
Chairman Rick Turnroth- 5/1/12 to 4/30/16  
Bill Groleau- 5/1/12 to 4/30/16
  - Police/Fire Commission  
Bob Smeltzer – 07/1/12 to 6/30/15

**Motion: Ald. Vandersnick; Second: Ald. Thurm to approve the re-appoints as presented by the Mayor for terms identified. Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried.**

2. Reported briefly on his testifying in Rockford for TIF; participated in the 1644<sup>th</sup> Homecoming ceremonies; attended the Tri- City River Group meeting in Dixon, and attended a meeting sponsored by the Sterling Chamber of Commerce in regards to the current road and bridge conditions in the State of Illinois.

**Adjournment:**

With no other business to come before the Council, Mayor Blanton called for a motion to adjourn. **Motion: Ald. Folsom; Second: Ald. Reitzel to adjourn. Vote: (8) ayes, motion carried. Council adjourned at 7:01 p.m.**

For approval at the May 1, 2012 Council meeting.