

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS
May 15, 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 May 15, 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, Hand, Schuneman, and Folsom. (Ald. Snow and Thurm were absent) In addition, Attorney Jim Reese and City Administrator Robbin Blackert were present.

Special Scholarship Presentation:

Mr. Ed Cobau, Director of State Association of Services and Communication for the Illinois Municipal Utilities Association was present to award to Ms. Kayla Jakubczak the 2012 Scholarship Award for her essay submission. Mr. Cobau told the council that this is the thirteenth (13th) year for the program and to date 27 students have been awarded a total of \$57,000 through this program. Applicants are given the opportunity to submit an essay in response to a question concerning Electrical, Water or Gas Utilities. Ms. Jakubczak was one of 37 submittals under the Electric Category and was named a winner of a \$500.00 scholarship. The local agency traditionally matches the scholarship award and the Rock Falls Electrical Utilities wanted to keep this tradition in place and awarded an additional \$500, bringing the total scholarship award to \$1,000.00. Ms. Jakubczak thanked all present and will be utilizing the scholarship funds to attend the University of North Carolina next year.

Proclamations:

1. Proclamation to the American Cancer Society Relay for Life Day in Whiteside County, June 2-3, 2012. Betty Clementz and other representatives of the Relay for Life Team were present to accept the Proclamation from the City. **Motion: Ald. Hand; Second: Ald. Vandersnick to approve the Proclamation as presented. Vote: Six (6) ayes, motion carried.**
2. Proclamation to the Rock Falls American Legion and Legion Auxiliary recognizing May 26, 2012 as Poppy Day. The 2012 Poppy Queen was present to kick off the sale of the Poppy. **Motion: Ald. Kuhlemier; Second: Ald. Vandersnick to approve the Proclamation as presented. Vote: Six (6) ayes, motion carried.**

Ordinance: First Reading

1. 2012-2055: An Ordinance Adopting Revised Zoning Map
Motion: Ald. Vandersnick; Second: Ald. Reitzel to approve the ordinance for first reading as presented. Vote: six (6) ayes, motion carried

Ordinance: Second Reading /Adoption

1. 2012-2054; An Ordinance imposing an annual fee for the Operation of a Video Gaming Terminal.
Motion: Ald. Vandersnick; Second: Ald. Kuhlemier to approve the ordinance as presented for second reading and adoption. Vote: Six (6) ayes, motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve Minutes of May 1, 2012
2. Approve Bills as presented.
3. Approve the Agreement with Today in America Television Show, Ft. Lauderdale Florida at a cost of \$19,800.00 for marketing and promotion of the City of Rock Falls via television media.
4. Approve the recommendation of the Planning/Zoning Commission for the rezoning request for 3300 E. Rock Falls Road which is within the 1 ½ mile radius of the city limits. Current zoning is A-1 (agriculture) and the petitioner is asking the County to change the zoning to I-2 which is conducive to current usage of the property.

***Request from Ald. Reitzel to Mayor Blanton to remove item # 3 from the consent agenda for separate consideration.**

Motion: Ald. Hand; Second: Ald. Schuneman to approve the consent agenda as presented minus item #3. Vote: Six (6) ayes, motion carried.

Motion: Ald. Hand; Second: Ald. Vandersnick to approve item #3 of the consent agenda previously removed for consideration. No discussion brought forth by any members. Vote: Five (5) ayes, One (1) nay, motion carried.

Information/Correspondence:

City Clerk Wescott brought forth two (2) items of information for the Council:

1. Presented a brief report on the status of HB 3637 and the three (3) attached amendments being presented by Speaker Madigan. If the bill and its amendments are successfully passed, Municipalities, School Districts and other divisions of local government that would normally receive CCPRT funds would lose the funding, totaling \$1-1.5 billion dollars per year. The monies would be utilized by the State of Illinois to fund the States responsibilities under the TRS Pension. Our local municipality would stand t loose \$49,932.00 and the Fire District, \$9,555.
2. Read into the record a thank you from the Family of Robert "Bob" Machnicki, for the flowers, phone calls and condolences expressed at the time of Bob's passing. Bob had served the City of Rock Falls as Alderman, Treasurer and on other civic committees. He truly enjoyed working with his constituents, and had a tremendous pride in his City, he shall be missed.

Mayors Request:

Mayor Blanton presented a brief overview on the following items:

1. Working with IDOT and Civil Construction in regards to a staging area for the construction of the First Avenue Bridge with the start of phase 2 in June.
2. Attended the Northern Illinois Mayor's Meeting which had as a speaker a representative from the Attorney General's Office.
3. Brief the Council on the States suggestion to start charging for admission to State Parks with the implementation of day passes.
4. Informed the Council that he and Alderman Kuhlemier had been to Morrison to attend the Route 30 Project Meeting. Basically, after 5 years of discussion, no plan is in place, and in fact, the road placement is still in the air due to 2011 Flood Plane Act.
5. Mayor will be attending the upcoming Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, this year's theme, "Under One God, One Nation".
6. Rock River Trail Initiative has met and is in discussion concerning a placement of a portage are for Kayaks and canoe traffic.
7. Announced that there would be an Armed Forces Day celebrated in Veteran's Memorial Park on May 19, 2012 beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Executive session:

Mayor Blanton request the Council enter into executive session for ***Pending Litigation-Section 2 (c) (11) and include City Engineer Brian Frickenstein sit in on the session. Motion: Ald. Vandersnick; Second: Ald. Reitzel to enter into executive session as requested by mayor Blanton. Vote: Six (6) ayes, motion carried (IN: 7:03 p.m.)***

Motion: Ald. Vandersnick, Second: Ald. Schuneman to return to regular session. Vote: Six (6) ayes, motion carried. (OUT: 7:15 p.m.)

Adjournment:

With no other business to come before the Council, Mayor Blanton called for adjournment. ***Motion; Ald. Folsom, Second: Ald. Reitzel. Vote: Six (6) ayes, motion carried.***

Minutes will be presented for approval on June 5, 2012.