

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF
THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS
December 4, 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 December 4, 2012 in Rock Falls, Illinois by Mayor David Blanton, City Clerk, William Wescott, called the roll following the pledge of allegiance, present was Ald. Vandersnick, Kuhlemier, Snow, Schuneman, Hand, Folsom and Watts. In addition, City Attorney Jim Reese and Administrator Robbin Blackert were present.

Proclamations:

The Mayor and City Council read into the record and issued Proclamations to the following individuals and Teams from Rock Falls Township High School for achievements during their respective sports. Brandt Cole; Boys Cross Country IHSA State Medalist 15th place. **Motion: Ald. Snow, second: Ald. Vandersnick to recognize, Vote (7) Ayes, motion carried.** Girls Varsity Volleyball Team; Elite 8 qualifiers. **Motion: Ald. Snow, second: Ald. Snow to recognize, Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.** Girls Cross Country Team; IHSA 4th Place finishers at the State meet. **Motion: Ald. Snow, Second: Ald. Schuneman to recognize. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.** In all, over 60 students, and coaches were recognized for their achievements.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ANNEXATION AGREEMENT

***Hearing for the purpose of considering and hearing testimony regarding
a proposed Annexation Agreement governing annexation to the City of Rock Falls
of a tract of property comprising approximately 43.207 acres generally bounded by Clearwater Drive
on the East, the City limits on the North, U.S. Route 30 on the South and the Rock River on the West.***

Mayor Blanton called the Hearing to order at 6:45 p.m. and read into the record the reason for the hearing. The record will reflect that the following individuals were present and registered: Allen Boseneiler, 802 W. 2nd Street, Rock Falls; Sandy Henriken, 309 1st Avenue, Rock Falls; Nancy Morris, Rock Falls. Mayor Blanton called for anyone that would like to speak to the matter of the hearing to come forth. Mr. Allen Boseneiler presented two (2) questions: he requested clarification as to the location of the property being annexed. Mr. Reese, City Attorney identified the property as the Riverside Mobile Estates located at 900 Regan Road, in addition to adjoining properties. Mr. Boseneiler, then asked, why the City was taking the steps to annex the property against the objections of the residents in that area. Attorney Reese responded, that the owners of the property requested the annexation. The City cannot forcefully take this action, without a formal request being made. It is part of a process. Mr. Boseneiler, could not understand why none of the owners or residents of the area were present and questioned whether the City had given proper notice, he then retired to his seat.

The City Clerk advised the Mayor that he had not received any written requests for inclusion into the record. Mayor Blanton then closed the hearing at 6:50 p.m.

Community Affairs:

Adm. Blackert spoke on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce and presented the following report: The Hometown Holidays has once again been deemed a huge success. It was estimated that 7,000 plus people were in the downtown area on Friday night, and the Parade on Saturday, was one of the largest ever, in regards to participation. Thank you is not enough to express to all of the various volunteers that pulled together to make this year's event a huge success. In addition, a special thank you to all of the City of Rock Falls employees who worked to prepare the downtown and participated in the clean-up the next day.

Audience Requests:

Mr. Allen Boseneiler asked to address the Council. He expressed his concern that many residents still remain in the dark in regards to the actions taken by the Council and committees, and not enough input is received or sought from the residents before actions are taken and new ordinances opposed which affect them directly or indirectly. He was told that all of the meetings are posted on the City website, here at City Hall as required by statute. He then asked why information concerning the Public Hearing tonight was not made available to the citizens. He was informed that legal notices were published in the paper as required.

Ordinance: 1st Reading

1. 2012- 2087; **Appropriations Ordinance**

Motion: Ald. Kuhlemier; second: Ald. Schuneman to accept the appropriation ordinance for first reading as presented. Adm. Blackert then informed the Council that the appropriations/tax levy being presented is within the limits and that no public hearing will be required . ***Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.***

Ordinance: 2nd Reading/Adoption

Prior to proceeding with the Ordinances for adoption, Attorney Reese requested that the Council remove Ordinance 2012-2088 and 2012-2089 from consideration this evening. Motion: Ald. Folsom; second: Ald. Vandersnick to remove the ordinances identified until the next Council meeting. Vote (7) Ayes, motion carried.

1. 2012 – 2086; **Section 16-54. Classification of Annexed Territory**

Motion: Ald. Vandersnick; second: Ald. Snow to adopt the ordinance as presented. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

Prior to presentation of the Consent Agenda, Mayor Blanton removed item #4 which appeared on the agenda from consideration.

1. Approve the Minutes of the November 20, 2012
2. Approve the bills as presented
3. Approve Resolution 2012 – 645, request for Motor Fuel Funds in the amount of \$76,000.00 for the purpose of maintaining streets and highways within the Municipality for the period January – December 2013.
4. Approve Proclamation proclaiming December 2012 as Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month at the request of the Illinois Department of Transportation.
5. Approve the Engineering Agreement with Willett Homan & Associates in the amount of \$23,000.00 (Design-\$17,000 and Construction Observation- \$6,000) for the design and construction of the generator and enclosure at the Fairview Lift Station.

Motion: Ald. Hand; second: Ald. Folsom to approve the consent agenda for approval, with the removal of item #4 as it appeared on the agenda. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.

City Administrator:

Adm. Blackert spoke to the Alderman and residents of the City concerning an survey that will be coming to the residents via their utility bills during the month of December. The survey is in regards to gather information concerning the residents of Rock Falls position on leaf burning in the corporate city limits of Rock Falls. In addition to the survey questions, information will be presented outlining the current regulations that are in place concerning burning of yard waste in the city. Everyone is asked to completed the survey and return them no later than January 31, 2013.

Department Heads:

Electric- Mr. Simon

1. Mr. Simon made a brief presentation on the costs that the City incurred in regards to the recent bridge project between Sterling and Rock Falls. Questions have been raised lately concerning the lack of financial contribution made by the City. Most people are not aware, that the bridge on its underside is a pathway for fiber optics that the city runs to CGH Medical Center for their participation in the health Care Network, T6 for internet services they provide. During the demolition of the bridge, all of the conduit, wiring, etc. had to be removed and could not be reused. As a result, the City had to pay for all of that which was removed to be replaced. In addition, the city paid for the lighting on the Rock Falls side which matches that on the bridge, and lighting was placed under the bridge, so that the new bike path that will be in place will be lit for safety reasons at night. In all, the City spent \$205,519 dollars on the various projects identified.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Blanton requested the Council approve his requests for the establishment of two (2) new AD HOC Committee's:

1. Social Media Committee- Ald. John Watts, Chairman, Ald. Schuneman, Ald. Brian Snow
Motion: Ald. Hand; Second: Ald. Vandersnick to approve the new Ad Hoc Committees and the members assigned. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.
2. Hennepin Canal Committee- Ald. Jim Schuneman, Chairman
Motion: Ald. Kuhlemier; Second: Ald. Folsom to approve the new Ad Hoc Committees and the members assigned. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried.

Adjournment:

With no other business to come before the Council, Mayor Blanton called for a motion to adjourn.
Motion: Ald. Folsom; Second: Ald. Watts to adjourn. Vote: (7) Ayes, motion carried. (7:48 p.m.)