

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMAN OF THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS JULY 5, 2005

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Alderman of the City of Rock Falls was called to order at the hour of 6:30 p.m., July 5, 2005 in Rock Falls, Illinois by Mayor David Blanton.

City Clerk William Wescott, called the roll, present were Mayor Blanton, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom. Alderman Thurm was absent.

Audience Requests:

Alderman Kuhlemier addressed the Council on behalf of the Twin Cities Fiesta Committee, asking the Council to pass Resolution 2005-471, which would allow for the temporary closure of Route 40 (1st Avenue) for a Parade to be held on September 17, 2005 during the approximate time of 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and that the City Clerk send the necessary communications to the Illinois Department of Transportation for permission of the same. **Motion** was made by Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Folsom to adopt Resolution 2005-471. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Alderman Kuhlemier abstained. Vote 6 ayes, 1 abstention, **motion carried**.

Community Affairs:

Gayla Kolb, Program Coordinator for the Rock Falls Community Development Corporation addressed the Council, primarily concerning the scheduled events surrounding Louie Bellson Heritage Days. She also thanked the City for allowing the RFCDC to place there flyers in the electric billing as an outreach to the Community.

Mr. John Gieson, representing the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce reminded the Council of the Quarterly Chamber luncheon scheduled for July 14th at the Rock River Country Club. Representative Jerry Mitchell will be the speaker, talking on bills and legislation in Springfield.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Folsom to approve consent agenda items 1-4 as presented:

1. Approval of Minutes from Regular Session of June 21, 2005.
2. Payment of Bills as presented.
3. Proclamation – honoring Jonathon Schutt as an Eagle Scout, declaring Wednesday, July 6, 2005 to be designated as JONATHON SCHUTT – EAGLE SCOUT – DAY IN THE City of Rock Falls.
4. Approve renewal of License Agreement No. 3088 with the Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources for the period of 1 September 2005 – 31 August 2010 at a cost of \$200.00 for a 5 year period.

Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

City Clerk Wescott, following approval of the Proclamation honoring Eagle Scout Jonathan Schutt read the Proclamation contents into the record. Among his many accomplishments necessary to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout, Jonathan has earned 21 merit badges and served his Troop 902 of Rock Falls in several leadership positions, completed several hours of community service including cleanup and landscaping of St. Andrews Church, scholastically maintained a 4.22 GPA, finishing 3rd in his class at Newman Central Catholic High School. He was presented the Proclamation by Mayor Blanton and recognized by members of the Council.

Department Head Reports:

Electric Department – Mr. Jakubczak spoke to the Council about the recent APPA Conference in which information concerning Legislative updates, Economic Development was shared and networking with other municipalities.

Addressed the Council on the need to transfer \$100,000.00 from Electric cash reserves for the purpose of facilitating necessary repairs to the Centennial Substation. The station is 30-40 years old and is in need of some major repairs to safe guard its operational use. Currently part of the load of the station has been switched out to other circuits, which although functioning opens the door to some liability issues. **Motion** by Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Folsom to approve the transfer of \$100,000.00 as requested. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Hand, Arduini and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

Mr. Jakubczak also requested the expenditure of \$59,650.00 to Hughes Supply for the purchase of 1000 (\$59.65 each) meters to continue the upgrade to the AMR system. **Motion** by made by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Vandersnick to approve the purchase. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

Fire Chief – J.W. Larson reported to the Council that despite the hot/Dry conditions fires have not shown any increase in our area related to issues of burning. Alderman Snow asked the Chief if any thought had been given or was it necessary to impose a no burn order as other communities have done. Chief Larson responded that he has been watching closely the other areas; however at this time he does not feel it is necessary. The Council verbalized that the decision should it need to be made would be at the Chief's discretion.

Water Department – Mr. Padilla presented a handout to the Council which presents an overview of the current financial status of the Water Department. Financial returns this past year were good and show a successful developed and executed plan by the Superintendent.

Administrators Report:

Mr. Downey spoke to the Council about the need for a Workplace Violence Policy and a review of the Personnel Policy and Employment at-will-handbook. Following a review of the handout on the Workplace Violence Policy, **a motion** was made by Alderman Searing and seconded by Alderman Vandersnick to have the City Attorney draft an Ordinance to adopt a Workplace Violence Policy for the City of Rock Falls. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

Mr. Downey informed the Council on a request received from CINNet. Wireless Communications, requesting to enter into an agreement for the leasing of space on both water towers within the City for the purpose of placing equipment for a wireless internet system at the cost of \$150.00 per month per tower. The request is similar to the current lease agreement with Lectronics. Following discussion concerning provisions in the contract with Lectronics, **a motion** was made by Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Snow to have the City Attorney draft the necessary Ordinance and Lease documents for the proposal. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**. Additionally, Mr. Downey will check with Lectronics to insure that they wish to continue there current lease which has expired and inquire if there system and CINNET would be compatible.

Lastly, Mr. Downey reported that a TIF conference is going to be held in Chicago, prior to the start of the IML Conference in September. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Mr. Downey. It was mentioned that it would be a good idea to have an introduction program for the newly elected officials in regards to what is TIF and how it applies to us here in the City of Rock Falls.

Information and Updates:

City Clerk Wescott advised the Council of the receipt of an Application for Interpretation of Zoning Map/Special Exception from Mr. Daniel T. Webber. Mr. Webber is requesting consideration for a special exception of property located at 200 E. 4th Street, Rock Falls with change of zoning from current M-2 to B-1. **A motion** was made by Alderman Searing and seconded by Alderman Vandersnick to refer the request to the Planning/Zoning Committee for review and recommended action. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

City Clerk Wescott presented a packet of information for the Appropriations Ordinance that will need to be filed before 31 July. He presented a brief explanation of the process to the newly elected Alderman. **A motion** was then made by Alderman kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Snow to conduct a Public Hearing on the Appropriations Ordinance at the July 19th Council Meeting and that all necessary legal notifications for the same be made by the City Clerk. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

Council Committee Reports:

Electric – Mr. Hand informed the Council that at the last Committee meeting a recommendation was made to purchase a plotter for the GIS mapping system at the Electric department. **Motion** by Alderman Hand and seconded by Alderman Searing to purchase the equipment from William & Mary Computer for a price not to exceed \$6300.00. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

The Electric Committee also recommended the purchase of parts that will be necessary to facilitate the repairs to Turbine #2 at the Hydro-electric Plant this fall from Voith Seaman for an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00. Alderman Hand made **a motion** to approve the purchase seconded by Alderman Snow. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

Mr. Hand scheduled the next Electric Committee meeting for July 13th at 6:30 p.m., and announced that all future monthly meeting will be scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m at the Municipal Complex.

Finance/Insurance – Mr. Kuhlemier reminded the Council of the Committee Meeting scheduled for Monday, July 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Complex.

Ordinance/License – Mr. Folsom set a Committee Meeting for July 14th at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Complex.

Public Property – Mr. Folsom set a Committee Meeting for July 21st at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Complex.

Personnel/Safety – Mr. Searing reminded the Council of the scheduled Committee Meeting on the 21st of July at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Complex.

Public Works – Mr. Searing reminded the Council of the July 7th Committee Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Water Department.

Additionally, Mr. Searing reminded the Council of the River Chase to be held this coming weekend.

Alderman Reports:

Mr. Hand reported that the Community Building Committee that he serves on met and reported to the Public Property Committee concerning the status of the inoperable air conditioning units at the Community Building. One of the units is a 3 ton condensing unit and the other a 7.5 ton condensing unit. Mr. Hand stated that normally this request would have been directed to the Finance Committee for consideration; however, in lieu of upcoming events scheduled for the Community Building he considers this an emergency request. The City is responsible for the repair and maintenance of the heating/cooling systems in the building by written agreement. Mr. Hand received a proposal from D & W Heating & Air Conditioning in the amount of \$7,706.36 not including the cost of a crane which will be necessary to lift the units. A **motion** was made by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Vandersnick to authorize and expenditure of no more than \$8500.00 for the necessary repairs to be completed by D & W. Mr. Downey reminded the Council members that only \$10,000.00 had been allocated for repairs this year, with most of that earmarked for needed repairs in the Public Safety buildings. The budgets are going to have to be examined and monies moved around. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

Executive Session:

Motion by Alderman Searing and seconded by Alderman Vandersnick to enter into executive session for the purpose of:

1. Collective Bargaining – Section 2 (c) (2) – Collective negotiating matters.
2. Personnel – Section (c) (1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance.

and that Chief Perez be included in the discussions of the first item only. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried (7:09 p.m.)**

Motion by Alderman Snow and seconded by Alderman Searing to return to open session **at 8:45 p.m...** Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier and seconded by Alderman Searing to adopt the Collective Bargaining Side Letter of agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

Mayor Blanton called for a motion to reappoint all Department Heads to there current positions. **Motion** by Alderman Searing and seconded by Alderman Hand to confirm the reappointments of all Department Heads as requested. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

Mayor Blanton requested a motion for the reappointment of Mr. James Reese as the City Attorney for the City of Rock Falls. **Motion** by Alderman Arduini and seconded by Alderman Vandersnick. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

Mayors Report:

Mr. Blanton reported to the Council that the City of Morrison would be having a parade on Saturday the 9th of July in celebration of there 150th Anniversary. The antique Fire Truck is going to be in the parade and any Alderman wishing to attend and ride in the parade should contact the Mayors Office.

Motion made by Alderman Folsom and seconded by Alderman Hand to adjourn. Upon roll call, Alderman Vandersnick, Searing, Snow, Kuhlemier, Arduini, Hand and Folsom voted aye. Vote 7 ayes, **motion carried**.

Approved: July 19, 2005

William B. Wescott, City Clerk

