

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND  
ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF ROCK FALLS

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Rock Falls, Illinois was called to order at 6:30 p.m. March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in the Council Chambers of Rock Falls by Mayor William B. Wescott.

City Clerk Eric Arduini called the roll following the pledge of allegiance. A quorum was present including Mayor William B. Wescott, Aldermen Reitzel, Logan, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Hand, and Watts. Alderman Folsom was absent. In addition City Attorney Jim Reese, and City Administrator Robbin Blackert were present.

Mayor Wescott announced that Alderman Folsom called to inform him that Mr. Folsom's wife may be having surgery and he would not be able to attend.

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Approve the Minutes of the March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 Council Meeting
2. Approval of bills as presented.
3. Recommendation from the Public Works Committee for reconstruction of the wastewater lift station with consideration from Stanley Consultants to be awarded to Leander Construction, Inc. PO Box 345 Canton, IL 61520 in the amount of \$594,000
4. Resolution 2015-708 Transfer of funds from reserves for engineering due to the OSLAD Grant suspension.
5. Approval of the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission for the change from R-2 to B-1 for areas north of the Whiteside County Health Department PIN # 11-28-152-002
6. Approval of the purchase of a 2014 Impala from Pete Harkness Auto Group 2811 Locust Street Sterling, IL 61081 for \$12,037 and trade-in.

Mayor Wescott asked that items 3 and 4 be removed from the Consent Agenda, and be considered for voting separately.

A motion was made by Alderman Reitzel, and second by Alderman Snow to approve items 1,2,5, and 6 of the consent agenda by omnibus designation.

**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Alderman Hand to approve Resolution 2015-708 allowing for the transfer of funds from reserves to pay for engineering due to the OSLAD Grant suspension

**Vote 5 aye, motion carried (Aldermen Reitzel and Logan recused themselves from the vote)**

**Ordinance 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading/ Adoption**

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Logan for the adoption of Ordinance 2015-2200 Amending Section 14-122 - Sidewalks; placement; standards.

**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Alderman Watts for the adoption of Ordinance 2015-2201 Amending Section 8-1043, 8-1047 - 8-1049, 8-1051, 8-1053 - 8-1055 for changes to the Raffle License.

**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

**City Administrator Robbin D. Blackert:**

City Administrator Robbin Blackert asked the Council for approval of the Commercial Utility Reimbursement Grant Brochure. Adm. Blackert explained that this is an expansion of the residential grant program. A motion to accept the brochure was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Schuneman.

**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried**

Administrator Blackert reminded the Council that the Finance Committee will be reviewing the budget on March 30<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup>. These meetings will be held at 5:15pm. The budget will be ready for approval by the full Council on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Adm. Blackert stated that the budget will be presented without the possible state funding cuts. There will be actions ready if the state does go ahead with the proposed cuts of the local government distributed fund. Adm. Blackert informed the Council that the bids for the 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Street Project went out today, and the bid opening will be on March 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.

**Information/Correspondence:**

Eric Arduini, City Clerk

City Clerk Eric Arduini asked the Council for the approval of the proposal by Municode - 1700 Capital Circle SW, Tallahassee, FL 32310 for review, updating, and production of City of Rock Falls Municipal Code Books in the amount of \$14,175.00. Mr. Arduini explained that this is the final part of a 3 year long process that had Municode analyze the Rock Falls municipal code for discrepancies within the code, and with the State Statutes. A motion to approve the proposal was made by Alderman Watts, and second by Alderman Hand.

City Attorney Jim Reese mentioned that this review was much less cost than having his firm do it. He noted that this will not change the zoning code which he feels was written by Stanley Consultants for a town with a fully staffed zoning department.

Alderman Kuhlemier asked that in the future we could use IML to help find a consultant to help with the zoning ordinance.

**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

**Department Heads:**

Building Inspector Mark Searing explained that the brick façade of the west wall of 111 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street had fallen recently covering a furnace duct for the building adjacent to it. He consulted the City Attorney, and the City Engineer due to the public safety issues of bricks possibly falling onto the sidewalk. The owner removed some of the bricks, but due to the emergency, Mr. Searing asked for bids to have the bricks removed by contractors. A motion was made by Alderman Reitzel, and second by Alderman Schuneman to approve the bid from American Construction for collapsed wall brick removal at 111 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in the amount of \$1400.00 not to exceed \$2000.00.

Alderman Hand asked if we would lien the property, and Mr. Searing explained that he has had much contact with the owner, and he seemed willing to take care of the bill.

Alderman Snow inquired if the city has any plans to inspect some of the older uptown buildings for safety issues? City Engineer Brian Frickenstein explained that Chicago has the building owners hire inspectors every 5 years to insure safety on their buildings.

Mayor Wescott added that the CO levels in the building next to it were at toxic levels when the collapse was first noticed by someone who alerted the city.

This item will be taken to the Building Code Committee for further discussion.

**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

### **Ward Reports:**

#### **Ward 2:**

Alderman Glen Kuhlemier thanked the Council for allowing him to attend the Rural Affairs Conference. He reported that it featured speakers from different states with ideas for revenue earning, and cost savings. He stated that it was a useful conference, and he learned a lot. Lt. Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti spoke at the event.

Mayor Wescott thanked Aldermen Kuhlemier, and Schuneman for attending the conference and representing the City of Rock Falls.

#### **Ward 3:**

Alderman Schuneman informed the Council that the IIRA has a website, and all of the material from the conference can be accessed there for anyone interested.

### **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Bill Wescott gave the 2015 State of the City which will be attached with these minutes.

Mayor Wescott reported on the trip to Washing D.C. for the APPA legislative rally. He gave summaries to the Council of each day's events and meetings.

On Monday he was able to hear Clark Gelling speak on the role of distributed generation.

On Tuesday the APPA discussed legislative agenda on the floor. Mitch McConnell had guest speaker Bob Woodward there to speak.

On Wednesday he was honored to have the opportunity to meet with Senator Dick Durbin, and Todd Wolf from Cheri Bustos' office. They were able to speak with Mr. Durbin for about 20 minutes about broadband, and APPA issues.

### **Executive Session:**

A motion to enter executive session for Section 2(c)(11) was made by Alderman Logan and second by Alderman Snow.

**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

**City Council entered Executive Session at 7:19pm**

**City Council returned to Regular Session at 7:55pm**

A motion was made by Alderman Hand and second by Alderman Reitzel to approve the recommendation from the Public Works Committee for reconstruction of the wastewater lift station with consideration from Stanley Consultants to be awarded to Leander Construction, Inc. PO Box 345 Canton, IL 61520 in the amount of \$594,000.

**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

### **Adjournment**

With nothing else for the good of the Council a motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Folsom, and second by Alderman Snow at 7:56pm

**Viva Voce Vote motion carried**



Eric Arduini, City Clerk