

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

January 19th, 2016

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Rock Falls, Illinois was called to order at 6:30 p.m. January 19th, 2016 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, Kleckler, and Watts. Alderman Folsom was absent. In addition City Attorney James Reese, and City Administrator Robbin Blackert were present.

Mayor Wescott reported that he had spoken to Alderman Folsom, and his wife had just been released from the hospital.

Community Affairs:

1. Bethany Bland, CEO, Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce, informed the Council about upcoming events. Mrs. Bland reminded the Council about the upcoming Annual Dinner on February 25th, 2016

Consent Agenda:

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda with item number 3 being changed to \$1050.00 by omnibus designation by Alderman Watts and second by Alderman Logan

1. Approve the Minutes of the January 5th, 2016 Regular Council Meeting
2. Approval of bills as presented
3. Renewal of IDNR License No. 3090 for the operation and maintenance of a storm sewer pipe along the Hennepin Canal. The five year agreement is in the amount of \$1100.00. (\$1050.00)

Vote 7 aye, motion carried

City Administrator Robbin D. Blackert:

A motion for the approval of the agreement with Terracon for a Phase 2 environmental study of the Schmitt property was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Snow. City Administrator Robbin Blackert explained that the study will cost \$10,800, and the proposal had been reviewed by attorney Rick Palmer.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Logan to approve **Resolution 2016-730** authorizing an amendment to the contract for purchase of land from George and Janet Hallman. This amendment extends the closing date to March 31st, 2016.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried

A motion for the approval of the amended agreement, and additional documents with Rock Falls Hotel Group was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Alderman Schuneman. Attorney Jim Reese explained that the amended agreement does not change anything other than a new contractor is listed as the former contractor on the project went out of business. This is the formal agreement extending the time allowed for work to be completed. The motion is contingent upon the review of the sources and uses documents being updated and approved by the City Attorney.

Representatives from Rock Falls Hotel Group gave the Council an update of the progress at the hotel. Neil Densmore reported that tiling is done on the third floor, and the drywall is going up on the first floor. Alderman Kuhlemier thanked the representatives for the tour of the hotel.

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

Administrator Blackert informed the Council that the bids were let for the Limestone Building demolition. The contract will be with Terracon, and bidders may find the information on the City's website for the bid. Adm. Blackert announced that representatives from the IEPA and USEPA will be visiting the site on February 4th.

Alderman Klecker asked what the site will look like after the demolition.

Administrator Blackert could not tell until the bids are in, as that is all part of the bid through Terracon.

Information/Correspondence:

Eric Arduini, City Clerk

A motion was made by Alderman Watts and second by Alderman Reitzel to approve the recommendation from the Public Works-Property Committee to award to the Cash Farm Lease for Sewer Plant farmland to the high bidder Mike Gaulrapp in the amount of \$300.00/acre 3-1-2016 through 2-28-2017.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried

Department Heads:

Sewer Superintendent Ed Cox explained to the Council that along with the latest EPA permit for sewer discharge, the EPA has now added the requirement for Rock Falls to do studies on how to reduce phosphorus, and develop a Capacity, Management, Operations, and Maintenance (CMOM) Plan. Stanley Consultants of 8501 West Higgins Road Suite 730 Chicago, IL. is currently working on permit issues with the sewer system, and has submitted their proposals for both. The cost of the CMOM plan is not to exceed \$110,000, and the cost of the Nutrient Reduction Plan is not to exceed \$57,000. These are new unfunded mandates required to obtain the permit to operate the sewer plant. A motion to approve the contract with Stanley Consultants for the CMOM plan was made by Alderman Reitzel, and second by Alderman Watts.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried

A motion was made by Alderman Reitzel, and second by Alderman Watts to approve the Nutrient Reduction Plan development with Stanley Consultants 8501 West Higgins Road Suite 730 Chicago, IL. in an amount not to exceed \$57,000.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried

Twin City Joint Fire Command Chief Gary Cook spoke about the tragic events that happened in the previous week with a house fire on Second Avenue. Because of this the Red Cross will be going door to door in the neighborhood handing out fliers. If residents call the number on the back of the flier, the Red Cross will provide families with smoke detectors. The City participates in the State Fire Marshall smoke detector program due to the lack of a state budget the City currently has none on hand.

Water Superintendent Ted Padilla informed the Council that the recent bids for the new Well #7 project had been reviewed by the Public Works Committee and the committee along with the City Engineers recommend the low bidders for both contracts. The contracts will be funded by a Illinois EPA revolving loan. Purchase of a Byron – Jackson pump and liner will be separate, and not paid through EPA funds.

A motion was made by Alderman Reitzel, and second by Alderman Logan for the approval to award the bid of Well #7 Project Contract #1 to Brotcke Well & Pump 750 Merus Court Fenton MO. 63026 in the amount of \$180,798.00

Vote 7 aye, motion carried

A motion was made by Alderman Reitzel, and second by Alderman Watts for the approval to award the bid of Well #7 Project Contract #2 to O'Brien Civil Works 7495 Judson Road, Polo, IL 61064 in the amount of \$219,356.00

Vote 7 aye, motion carried

Mr. Padilla stated that Groundwater and Electrical training will begin soon in the grade schools. The City will also be awarding a \$1000.00 college scholarship again in April.

Tourism Director Janell Loos spoke about all of the events coming around the June 25th weekend. Summer Splash, Rock Falls River Chase, and the Bass Pro Shops Big Cat Quest are all happening, and the groups have been working together to make it a perfect blend for the community.

Ward Reports:

Ward 1

Alderman Daehle Reitzel welcomed Alderman Logan back to the Council after being in the hospital.

Alderman George Logan thanked everyone for their thoughts, prayers, and cards. Mr. Logan commended the Fire Departments on their professionalism during the situation and tragedy of the previous week.

Ward 2

Alderman Brian Snow recommended that residents check their smoke alarms, and change out older ones because they can become defective. He had to recently change out a defective one.

Alderman Glen Kuhlemier remarked that when tragedies occur, it gives an opportunity for our communities to come together. We express our sorrow and regrets to the family, and to all who participated in helping with the fire.

Ward 3

Alderman Rod Kleckler inquired about the whereabouts of the "Welcome to Rock Falls" signs at the bridge and Rt. 30 and 40. Administrator Blackert explained that one is at the Street Department, and are in need of some touch ups. It should be fixed up this spring. Alderman Kleckler added that they should be replaced before the City hosts the big events this summer to let tourist know what city they are in.

Ward 4

Alderman Watts reminded residents to check the batteries and test their smoke alarms. He asks that families make sure they have a plan, and a backup plan. He also asks all resident to make sure everyone understands the emergency plans.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Wescott spoke about the tragedies recently with the Adams and Hopkins families, and gives them our sincerest sympathies. He gave a huge thank you to the Fire and Police Departments. Mayor Wescott was impressed with how the two communities came together. It is overwhelming how generous and supportive the schools, churches, and everyone in the community have been. The Firefighters, Police, and Mayors went to the visitation, and did a walk through as a group to show their support, many people commented how much that it was appreciated by the family members. Mayor Wescott stated that our communities are closer than people may think and we should be proud to live in these two cities. There is no reason that it could be closer in so many things, and not need a tragedy to happen.

With nothing else for the good of the Council a motion was made by Alderman Reitzel, and second by Alderman Watts to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm.

Viva Voce Vote, motion carried

 Eric Arduini, City Clerk