

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

July 5th, 2016

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Rock Falls, Illinois was called to order at 6:30 p.m. July 5<sup>th</sup>, 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 Folsom. Alderman Ebenezer was absent. In addition City Attorney Jim Reese, and City Administrator Robbin Blackert were present.

**Public Hearing**

A Public Hearing began at 6:30 for written or oral comments from citizens regarding the proposed **Appropriation Ordinance 2016-2267** for the Fiscal Year commencing May 1, 2016 and Ending April 30, 2017. City Clerk Arduini stated that he had received no written comments concerning the appropriation ordinance. No one in the audience spoke up concerning the ordinance.

The Public Hearing ended at 6:31pm.

**Audience Requests:**

John Watts from the Rock Falls Optimist Club approached the Council concerning the annual Touch -a- Truck event. This is the fourth year in a row that it will be held at the RB&W District riverfront patio. The theme of Touch -a- Truck is "look, touch, and learn". He asked as part of the application that the fees be waived for this free community youth based event including the electric and water fees. The group will be giving away 500 free toys, and asks for City support with vehicles. A motion to approve the Touch -a- Truck event waiving the fees was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Folsom.

Alderman Snow thanked the Optimist Club for hosting this event.

Mr. Watts informed the Mayor that there are 40 companies signed up this year, and many companies bring multiple vehicles.

**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried**

**Consent Agenda:**

The Consent agenda was read aloud by Clerk Arduini. Alderman Reitzel asked that item number four be considered separately.

1. Approve the Minutes of the June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016 regular Council Meeting.
2. Approval of bills as presented.
3. Recommendation from the Council to send the "Casey's Rock Falls" subdivision plat to the Planning and Zoning Commission for approval.

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda by omnibus designation by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Schuneman.

**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Schuneman, and second by Alderman Folsom for the Approval of **Resolution 2016-744** adding diagonal parking to the east side of 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue.  
**Vote 6 aye, motion carried (Alderman Reitzel recused himself from this vote)**

**Ordinance First Reading:**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Alderman Schuneman for the approval of **Ordinance 2016-2269** amending Chapter 18 Article VI, Section 18-163 to add subsections (9) and (10) Handicap Parking on west 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.  
**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried (Alderman Reitzel recused himself from this vote)**

A motion was made by Alderman Schuneman, and second by Alderman Kuhlemier for the approval of **Ordinance 2016-2272** amending Section 18-120 – Stop Intersections Designated to add subsection (107) for East 14<sup>th</sup> Street at Mary Avenue.  
**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Logan, and second by Alderman Snow for the approval of **Ordinance 2016-2273** amending Section 32-89 Fire Service - for the addition of 2” service lines.  
Alderman Kleckler inquired if the date was correct in the ordinance.  
**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried**

**Ordinance Second Reading / Adoption:**

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Logan for the adoption of **Ordinance 2016-2267** Appropriation Ordinance for the year beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 and ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.  
**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Alderman Schuneman for the adoption of **Ordinance 2016-2270** disposal of surplus property- two 2016 PSI MSA Air packs with four air tanks.  
**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Schuneman , and second by Alderman Logan for the adoption of **Ordinance 2016-2271** amending the zoning map of the City of Rock Falls to reflect MU-1 Zoning for Lots 2, 3, 4, and 5 of Rock Falls-Glen’s Garden Subdivision. The date of the hearing will be changed to 2016.  
**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Reitzel for the adoption of **Ordinance 2016-2274** annexing approximately 26.59 acres of property being zoned A-1 into the City of Rock Falls. The date of the hearing will be changed to 2016.  
**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Snow for the adoption of **Ordinance 2016-2275** annexing approximately 30 acres of property being zoned B-2 into the City of Rock Falls. The date of the hearing will be changed to 2016.  
**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Schuneman for the adoption of **Ordinance 2016-2276** authorizing the issuance of general obligation alternate bonds of the City of Rock Falls, Whiteside County, Illinois, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 for the paying the costs of projects within the Downtown Tax Increment Financing District of the City, including, but not limited to, developing public green space and a hiking and biking trail, improving the riverbank, and constructing an outdoor entertainment venue, public restrooms, a water feature and a skateboard park.

**Vote 5 aye, 1 nay (Kleckler) motion carried (Alderman Reitzel recused himself from this vote)**

#### **City Administrator Robbin D. Blackert:**

City Administrator Robbin Blackert gave kudos to Tourism Director Janell Loos who has been with the City for less than a year and has gone in and done the job fearlessly. In speaking with Ken Freeman who runs the Bass Pro Shops catfish tournaments all over the country, this one was well managed for its first year.

Administrator Blackert mentioned that the bid tabulations were in the packet for the RB&W Greenspace phase 1 for the trail and areas around the hotel.

Alderman Kuhlemier mentioned that this is for the citizens of Rock Falls.

A motion to approve the low bid for RB&W District Recreational Trail - Phase I to Martin & Company Excavating 2456 E. Pleasant Grove Rd. Oregon, IL in the amount of \$491,380.80 was made by Alderman Schuneman and second by Alderman Folsom.

**Vote 5 aye, 1 nay (Kleckler) motion carried (Alderman Reitzel recused himself from this vote)**

#### **Department Heads:**

##### **Tourism – Janell Loos**

Director Loos informed the Council that the Bass Pro Shops event went amazingly well. Director Loos also learned a lot about the Summer Splash and Rock Falls River Chase events. Nine year olds are participating in the boat races, and next year they may have even more kid's classes. Dir Loos reported that the fireworks were amazing.

Director Loos reminded the Council that the Pink Heals tour will be coming to town and setting up for the Pink Party on the Patio on July 30<sup>th</sup> from 6-9pm. There will also be a cruizin' pink cruise that is free for anyone who would like to enter.

July 22<sup>nd</sup> there will be a formation fly-in at the Whiteside County Airport with 30 planes flying in formation on their way to the EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh WI.

The Whiteside County Fair and Barn Tour will be on Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Wescott stated that everyone did an outstanding job downtown for the destination weekend.

##### **Utility Office – Diane Hatfield**

Utility Office Supervisor Diane Hatfield requested that a section called "write off procedure" be added to the Procedures Manual Governing Utility Service. Superintendent Hatfield stated that the policy would require that write-offs be done at least twice a year, while the office is planning on doing them quarterly. A motion to approve the addition to the Procedures Manual Governing Utility Service was made by Alderman Reitzel, and second by Alderman Schuneman.

**Vote 7 aye, motion carried**

## **Ward Reports:**

### **Ward 2**

Alderman Glen Kuhlemier informed the Council that the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council has moved into their new building on First Avenue at the former RFCDC building.

Alderman Snow thanked the Chamber of Commerce for Summer Splash, and thanked Janell Loos for her hard work with the events.

### **Ward 1**

Alderman Reitzel said that he has received a number of great comments from the Summer Splash and fireworks.

## **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Wescott announced that the Committee of the Whole meeting will be held on July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 6:00pm

Mayor Wescott stated that it was a great weekend for the City and for the area. Mayor Wescott was able to talk to the boat racers in the pits, and with a new championship division being added, there may be even more boats here next year. The Chamber' Summer Splash went great, and there was something for everyone. For the Bass Pro Shop's Big Cat Quest being in it's first year, things could not have went better.

The Mayor talked to many people over the weekend, and some do not see the efforts as being a good thing. When cities like Rock Falls display a can do attitude, not all people are going to be on that same page. Abraham Lincoln brought people who disagreed into his cabinet to have discussions about the issues from all sides. The City is motivated to change, and change can be painful. Healthy things grow, and growing things change. The City is on a precipice, and when negative events occurred in our City, past leaders proved that the City was not ready to go away. Rock Falls has went through the recession, and state issues without layoffs, or loss of City services. The City can now strive to bring jobs, sales tax, real estate, and a better quality of life. Because of the vision of leaders 13- 14 years ago, the community will be a better place to live. If anyone has questions about the path that the City is going, these meetings are open for you.

With nothing else for the good of the Council a motion was made by Alderman Folsom and second by Alderman Reitzel to adjourn the meeting at 7:06pm.

**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried**

Meeting is adjourned at 7:06pm

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Eric Arduini, City Clerk