

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

March 7th, 2017

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Rock Falls, Illinois was called to order by Mayor William B. Wescott at 6:30 p.m. March 7th, 2017 in the Council Chambers of Rock Falls.

City Clerk Eric Arduini called the roll following the pledge of allegiance. A quorum was present including Aldermen Logan, Snow, Kuhlemier, Schuneman, Kleckler, and Folsom. Alderman Reitzel was absent. In addition Attorney Tom Sanders and City Administrator Robbin Blackert were present.

Public Hearing

A Public hearing concerning the intent of the City Council of the City of Rock Falls, Whiteside County, Illinois, to sell not to exceed \$13,000,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) was held. The minutes of the Public Hearing are attached separately as "*Exhibit A*"

Proclamation:

A proclamation was read aloud by Clerk Arduini. A motion was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Alderman Folsom to proclaim March 7th, 2017 as "Niles Ager Day" in the City of Rock Falls for his achievements in IHSA wrestling.

Consent Agenda:

The Consent agenda was read aloud by Clerk Arduini. A motion to approve the consent agenda by omnibus designation was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Alderman Schuneman.

1. Approve the Minutes of the February 21st, 2017 Regular Council Meeting
2. Approval of bills as presented
3. Approval of the agreement for Hearing Services with Tim Slavin ADR Services 620 Lincolnway Court, Morrison IL.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried

Information/Correspondence:

City Clerk Eric Arduini informed the Council that the Hennepin Canal / Trails Committee originally scheduled for March 9th has been moved to March 16th, 2017 at Noon.

Department Heads:

Electric - Dick Simon

A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Logan to approve the directional boring quotes from Kirby Cable Service Inc. PO Box 37 Pecatonica, IL in the amount of \$23,410.00.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried

Mr. Simon informed the Council that the IMEA Energy Efficiency Program is available to businesses who wish to upgrade items such as lighting, heat pumps, compressors, and motors. This program will offer up to \$2000 per business. Typically \$8000.00 goes to help businesses, and \$8000.00 is used by the city to upgrade to LED lighting. Alderman Kleckler asked if the program to recycle refrigerators is still available for residents, and Mr. Simon confirmed that it is.

Fire - Gary Cook

Mayor Wescott wished Fire Chief Gary Cook a Happy Birthday. Mr. Cook had no report for the Council.

Ward Reports:

Ward 2:

Alderman Kuhlemier wished congratulations to Geneva Dussler. She recently celebrated her 101st Birthday.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Wescott mentioned that the Public Works / Public Property Committee had approved street dances along west 2nd Street on May 27th and June 17th. These dances will involve blocking off west 2nd street. The Mayor has met with Police Chief Nelson, and Commander Koett. The road will be blocked off from 2nd Avenue to 4th Avenue. A motion to approve the street dances was made by Alderman Snow, and second by Alderman Logan.

Viva Voce Vote, motion carried

Mayor Wescott spoke about a recent trip to Washington DC for the APPA legislative rally. They were able to visit the offices of Tammy Duckworth, Cheri Bustos, and Dick Durbin. The group urged legislators to not pull the tax free municipal bonds. 77% of municipal projects utilize this funding source. Rock Falls over the years has used municipal tax-free bonds for \$26 million in projects, and \$3.1 million has been saved by using these types of bonds. The alternatives to these bonds are direct pay and tax credits, and there are no programs to pick up the slack that would be left if these bonds are taken away. Other issues that were discussed with our legislators were pole attachments, and the higher costs of electricity for northern Illinois from the energy markets that began after Illinois energy deregulation.

Mayor Wescott has reviewed the minutes of the Public Works / Public Property Committee meeting as he was not able to attend the meeting. He would like to encourage all of the Aldermen review the minutes concerning the direction that the committee has taken for the coming road work. Would the Council like to do away with the oil and slag program? The residents trusted the City with the increase in taxes to go for road and alley projects, and no alleys were discussed at the meeting.

Executive Session:

A motion to enter executive session for Collective Bargaining Section 2(c)(2) was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Logan.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried

City Council entered executive session at 7:02pm

City Council exited executive session at 7:14pm

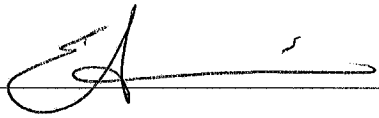
A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier and second by Alderman Schuneman for the adoption of **Ordinance 2017-2300** authorizing execution of collective bargaining agreement with firefighters.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried

With nothing else for the good of the Council a motion was made by Alderman Folsom and second by Alderman Snow to adjourn the meeting at 7:16pm.

Viva Voce Vote, motion carried

Meeting is adjourned at 7:16pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Eric Arduini', written over a horizontal line.

Eric Arduini, City Clerk

Exhibit A

Minutes of a Public hearing concerning the intent of the City Council of the City of Rock Falls, Whiteside County, Illinois, to sell not to exceed \$13,000,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source)

Rock Falls City Council
3-7-2017 Begin 6:30pm End 6:37pm

Rock Falls Council Chambers
603 W. 10th Street
Rock Falls, IL 61071

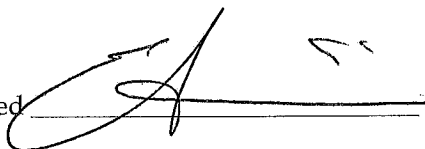
A Public hearing concerning the intent of the City Council of the City of Rock Falls, Whiteside County, Illinois, to sell not to exceed \$13,000,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) was held. Mayor Wescott made a short statement about the implementation of a reliable, cost effective, customer service focused internet option that will deliver 1GB internet speeds to the businesses and residents of Rock Fall who want the service. The Mayor stated that the money will be spent in 4 distributions. If the customers choose not to support the project, the money will not be spent. After the fiber backbone is finished along Route 30 and Route 40, then the fiberhoods will be built out after 45% buy-in in the fiberhood. This will enhance the Rock Falls economic opportunities.

Mayor Wescott asked the City Clerk if there had been any written correspondence received concerning the hearing to be put into the record. Clerk Arduini stated that none was received.

Mayor Wescott asked if anyone in the audience would like to speak for or against the issuance of the bonds.

Mike Corrigan, owner of William and Mary Computer, approached the microphone and spoke in favor of the bond issuance. Available and affordable gigabit internet service is not available currently for his business or businesses that he supports. Bringing this fast internet at a very reasonable price will be a big benefit as more information is moved to the cloud. It will be a big benefit to market the city to businesses. There is not a reasonable way to obtain gigabit internet currently. There are providers that offer it, but it is nowhere near the price points that have been discussed as what the City will be offering. He looks forward to this, and thinks it will be a big benefit to the community.

Mayor Wescott offered the floor to anyone else who wished to speak to the matter. With no other speakers present the meeting was adjourned at 6:37pm.

Signed  City Clerk