



City of Rock Falls
Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes
 Rock Falls Electric Department
 1109 Industrial Park Road
 Rock Falls, Illinois

Date: 07-23-2018

Time Meeting Started: 8:15am

Time Meeting Ended: 9:30am

Members		Also Attended	
Alderman Schuneman – Chairman	p	Ted Padilla	p
Alderman Kuhlemier	p	Ed Cox	p
Alderman Logan	p	Dick Simon	p
Mayor Wescott	p	Wayne Shafer	p
Shane Brown	p	Diane Hatfield	p
Tom Myers	p	Eric Arduini	p
Kim Groharing	p	Adm. Blackert	p

Topic	Discussion	Plan of Action
CALL TO ORDER	With a quorum present the meeting was called to order	Meeting begins at 8:15am
A. Roll Call		
B. Review of Minutes from June 25, 2018 meeting.	A motion to approve the of minutes from June 25, 2018 meeting was made by Alderman Logan, and second by Kim Groharing	Motion carried, Minutes approved
C. Public Comment/Resident Issues	None	No action
D. Policy Creation/Review/Education	Administrator Blackert informed the committee that a couple of policies have been added. \$5000 energy efficiency grant limit, and the terms of the non-elected members. She encourages the department heads to review the policy annually to have changes made as needed.	The policy, and member appointments will be added to the Council agenda.
E. New Business		
1. Utility Office		
a. Superintendent Update	Customer Service Superintendent Diane Hatfield informed the committee that temporary clerk is working out well, and the department has been cross-training.	No action
b. Review and discuss quarterly write-offs.	A motion was made by Shane Brown, and second by Tom Myers to approve the April –June 2018 write-offs and forward to Finance Committee. Ms. Hatfield explained that the focus is on the 90 day number her report. The comptroller i-drop program is 2/3 of that amount. The State has been paying their bills, and are now caught up to January.	Motion carried – To Council
2. Water Department Review & discuss quote from Layne Western for rehabilitation of Well 5.	A motion was made by Kim Groharing, and second by Mayor Wescott for the approval of quote from Layne Western, 721 W Illinois Avenue, Aurora, IL 60506 for rehabilitation of Well 5 in the amount of \$16,372.	Motion carried - To Council
3. Wastewater Department a. Superintendent update	Sewer Superintendent Ed Cox informed the committee that the department replaced a culvert at Harley Davidson Drive, and Murray will be patching the road when they are finished with the Thomas St. project. The Department is working on preparation for the sewer lining project. The notice of citations from the Department of Labor came. All issues have been abated, and the City's response will be sent this week. Due to issues with plumbers and drain layers, new permits will no longer be issued until the old permits are closed.	No action
b. Review & discuss revised Altorfer generator 6 year maintenance contract	A motion was made by Alderman Logan, and second by Alderman Kuhlemier for the approval of the of 6 year generator maintenance contract with Altorfer Inc., 4712 Buckeye Street, Davenport, IA 52802 in the amount of \$76,074. The cost has been reduced by \$7000.00 by using an off-brand filter.	Motion carried – To Council
4. Electric Department a. Hydro update	Both hydro units are running. AIMS is working on an air circulation issue. The top bearing on unit #2 is getting hot when running above 92%.	No action

b. Solar paperwork due by July 31, 2018 for IMEA	IMEA is applying for a grant to install a 1-2 megawatt solar installation in Rock Falls. St. Charles has received a grant for solar already. PSE is helping with the grant. A motion of support of the solar project was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Kim Groharing.	Motion carried
c. Operations Manager position update	After a Skype interview with the Personnel Committee, an offer of employment was made to Joel Collins. A lineman left the City for ComEd, and he has received quite a few resumes to fill the position.	No action
5. Fiber/Broadband Department a. Superintendent Report & Updates (Data Center HVAC, ISP User Acceptance Test, Outside Plant construction, Sign up status, Beta customer status	Fiber Director Wayne Shafer informed the Committee that the A/C unit is ordered, and will be installed when it arrives. They have made plans in case the current unit fails prior to the installation. The ISP user acceptance was finished at 7:00pm on July 13 th . The department is very close to beta testing. Mr. Shafer presented samples of the fiber modems to the committee. The Outside Plant work is on schedule. They will be primarily front lot access, below grade. A FAQ will be ready soon for the website. There was much discussion about the business plan and how it is running about 8 months behind currently. Alderman Kuhlemier has been receiving questions from residents about streaming. Alderman Schuneman spoke about gamers using broadband. Alderman Logan inquired about Fibernet marketing.	No Action
Review & discuss Saukvalleyweather.com proposal – review cost/benefit	This website is requesting that cameras be installed by the river, and at the corner of Rt. 30 and 40. They feel Rock Falls is underserved by local TV markets. This proposal would cost Fibernet \$3890. Per year, and \$750.00 upfront for each camera. It was suggested that the website partner with a business to lessen the recurring costs.	No action
Fiber Dept. vehicle purchase	Mr. Shafer informed the committee that two vehicles have been budgeted for. Mike will be looking for a midsize truck, and a midsize SUV for Wayne. A motion was made by Tom Myers, and second by Kim Groharing for the approval to seek bids for the vehicles.	Motion carried.
6. Other Updates – City Administrator a. Update on Sweitzer lateral	Adm. Blackert presented a signed contract between Sweitzer, and Lavelle concerning the attached sewer lateral under the Lavelle's house. Realtors should be more forth coming when selling homes. After much discussion about requiring a sewer inspection prior to home sales, a motion was made by Mayor Wescott, and second by Alderman Logan to direct this issue to the Ordinance Committee.	Motion carried
b. Update on City sewer connection ordinance amendments	The ordinance setting penalties for non-compliance with the sewer connection ordinances has been drafted, and is up for adoption by the City Council.	No action
F. Next Meeting Date & Time	The next meeting will be held on August 27 th at 8:15am in the Electric Department	Next meeting is 08-27-2018
G. Adjournment	With nothing else for the good of the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30am	Meeting ends at 9:30am


 _____ Committee Chairman