

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

October 20, 2020

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Rock Falls, Illinois was called to order at 6:30 p.m. October 20, 2020 in the Council Chambers by Mayor William B. Wescott.

Deputy City Clerk Michelle Conklin called the roll following the pledge of allegiance. A quorum was present including Mayor Wescott, Aldermen Palmer, Wangelin, Snow, Babel, Schuneman, and Sobottka. Alderman Kleckler and Folsom being absent. In addition, Attorney Matt Cole, Attorney James Reese and City Administrator Robbin Blackert were present.

Consent Agenda items 1 and 2 were read aloud by Deputy City Clerk Michelle Conklin.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the October 6, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting
2. Approval of bills as presented

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Wangelin to approve Consent Agenda items 1 and 2.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Sobottka and second by Alderman Snow to approve first reading of Ordinance 2020-2502 Amending Chapter 6, Article III, Division 4 of the Rock Falls Municipal Code Relating to Maintenance and Repair to the Exterior of Buildings and Structures Located Within the City's Uptown Business Area

Viva Voce Vote, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Schuneman and second by Alderman Palmer to approve Resolution 2020-850 - Authorizing Transfer of Funds to Escrow Account Relating to Bond Defeasance Made in Connection with Fibernet Asset Sale.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Schuneman and second by Alderman Snow to approve Ordinance 2020-2493 - Ordinance Providing for the Payment of the Outstanding General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2017A, of the City of Rock Falls, Whiteside County, Illinois, and the Execution and Delivery of an Escrow Agreement in Connection Therewith.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Schuneman and second by Alderman Wangelin to approve Ordinance 2020-2494 - Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property and Further Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement with Surf Air Wireless, LLC for the Same.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Sobottka and second by Alderman Palmer to approve Ordinance 2020-2499 - Amending Chapter 18, Article VI, Section 18-152 of the Rock Falls Municipal Code Prohibiting Parking Along Portions of Wolf Creek Drive.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Palmer and second by Alderman Wangelin to approve Ordinance 2020-2500 - Sale of Surplus Property - Fire Department.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Sobottka to approve Ordinance 2020-2501 - Approving Contract and Authorizing the Purchase of Real Property 2211 Canal Street, Rock Falls, IL 61071 PIN: 11-33-404-019.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Wangelin to approve the Addendum to Employment Contract between the City of Rock Falls and A. Wayne Shafer Discussion of Public Act 101-0642 - Election Day Holiday Litigation.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Schuneman and second by Alderman Snow to abide by the Sagamon County Judges decision, regarding Public Act 101-0642 - Election Day Holiday, which stated that municipalities are not obligated to observe November 3, 2020 as a holiday, therefore the City offices will remain open on November 3, 2020.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Schuneman to approve the Re-Appointment of Brian Tribbley, Amy Williamson, Tom Rynott and Bethany Bland to the Tourism Committee, terms to be November 15, 2020 through November 14, 2022.

Vote 6 aye, motion carried.

Mayor Wescott addressed the council regarding the public safety tax that will be on the ballot on November 3, 2020. The City of Rock Falls and the City of Sterling pay approximately \$1.2 million of the \$2.2 million cost to run the PSAP because we are the largest populated areas in the County. This half cent sales tax will be county wide and will be earmarked for paying the costs of the PSAP centers. Mayor Wescott asked that the Aldermen get the word out about the tax and to make sure that the voters know it is a good thing for the City's of Rock Falls and Sterling. What this tax will allow us to do is have about \$400 thousand more that we will not be pulling out of our general fund to pay for the PSAP and will be able to use it for other things.

City Administrator Blackert stated that the City of Rock Falls and the City of Sterling both received a bill today for the PSAP, we were the only 2 cities in Whiteside County that received a bill for dispatch. None of the other cities in the county will receive a bill for the same dispatch services that our dispatch services that our residents are paying for and that is unfair. This is why it is so important for this public safety tax to pass. Sterling and Rock Falls residents need to get the word out that they should not be footing the bill for the entire county.

Mayor Wescott stated that there are robo calls being made that are saying they are calling to let you know that your local electric utility has been cheating you and charging you excessive rates and if you call a number they can help you reduce your electric bill. This is not being generated by the City and if anyone has questions about their utility bills please call us and schedule an appointment with us.

A motion was made by Alderman Sobottka and second by Alderman Snow to Adjourn.

Viva Voce Vote, motion carried. (7:01 p.m.)



Michelle K. Conklin, Deputy City Clerk