

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

November 17, 2020

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Rock Falls, Illinois was held electronically (via Zoom) due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Region 1 being placed into Tier 2 Enhanced Mitigation Measures. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. November 17, 2020 by Mayor Wescott.

Deputy City Clerk Michelle Conklin called the roll. A quorum was present including Mayor Wescott, Aldermen Palmer, Wangelin, Snow, Babel, Schuneman, Kleckler and Sobottka. Alderman 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 November 3, 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 7 aye, motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Schuneman and second by Alderman Palmer to approve first reading of Ordinances:

1. Ordinance 2020-2510 – Tax Levy for the Fiscal Year beginning May 1, 2020 and ending April 30, 2021
2. Ordinance 2020-2511 – Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2020 to Pay Debt Service on \$5,300,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Sources), Series 2017
3. Ordinance 2020-2512 – Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2020 to Pay Debt Service on \$2,115,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Sources), Series 2016
4. Ordinance 2020-2513 – Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2020 to Pay Debt Service on \$9,200,000 General Obligation Bonds (Electric System Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2018A
5. Ordinance 2020-2514 – Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2020 to Pay Debt Service on \$1,200,000 General Obligation Bonds (Waterworks System Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2018B
6. Ordinance 2020-2515 – Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2020 to Pay Debt Service on \$1,200,000 General Obligation Bonds (Sewerage System Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2018C

**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried. (7aye)**

A motion was made by Alderman Sobottka and second by Alderman Wangelin to approve Ordinance 2020-2503 – Amending Chapter 18, Article IV, Section 18-86 of the Rock Falls Municipal Code Removing One-Way Street Designation of Alley Between E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Dixon Avenue.

**Vote 7 aye, motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Sobottka and second by Alderman Babel to approve Ordinance 2020-2504 – Amending Chapter 18, Article VI, Section 18-152 of the Rock Falls Municipal Code

Removing No Parking Designation Along Southerly Portions of East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. **Vote 7 aye, motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Sobottka and second by Alderman Palmer to approve Ordinance 2020-2505 – Amending Chapter 16, Article V Authorizing the Delivery and Carry Out of Alcohol by Licensed Establishments.

**Vote 5 aye, 1 nay (Kleckler), 1 recuse (Snow), Mayor Wescott voted aye, motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Schuneman and second by Alderman Snow to approve Ordinance 2020-2506 – Approving Grant of Utility Easements to Commonwealth Edison.

**Vote 7 aye, motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Kleckler to approve Ordinance 2020-2507 – Authorizing the Publication of Notice of the Invitation to Bid for the Sale of Real Property 710 ½ Avenue A, Rock Falls, IL 61071 PIN # 11-27-310-015.

**Vote 7 Aye, motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Kleckler to approve Ordinance 2020-2508 – Authorizing the Publication of Notice of the Invitation to Bid for the Sale of Real Property 1015 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Rock Falls, IL 61071 PIN # 11-33-128-008.

**Vote 7 aye, motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Sobottka to approve Ordinance 2020-2509 – Authorizing the Publication of Notice of the Invitation to Bid for the Sale of Real Property 614 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Rock Falls, IL 61071 PIN # 11-28-436-020.

**Vote 7 aye, motion carried.**

City Administrator Blackert explained that at the time the Contract was signed between the City and Moring Disposal in 2018, Moring Disposal was making money on the recyclables and now there is no market. Moring is having to pay to dispose of the recyclables they are picking up and it is going to cost an additional \$0.69 per household, per month which would be passed on to the residents. At this time the recycling program will be suspended until June 1, 2021 or at such time as the market becomes available for recycling.

A motion was made by Alderman Kleckler and second by Alderman Wangelin to approve the Acknowledgment between the City of Rock Falls and Moring Disposal, Inc. to suspend the recycling program in the City of Rock Falls until June 1, 2021 or until such time that the market becomes available for the disposal of recyclables. The City and Moring Disposal will review the marketability of recyclables every 6 months.

**Vote 5 aye, 2 nay (Palmer and Babel), motions carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Kleckler and second by Alderman Sobottka to approve a Resolution of Support for our local Liquor Commissioner in his actions of enforcing the COVID 19 Mitigations.

**Vote 6 aye, 1 recuse (Snow), motion carried.**

Mayor Wescott updated the Council on Governor Pritzker's Tier 3 Mitigations that will go into effect on November 20, 2020. There was a 10 minutes conference call with the Governor that was not helpful, no one was allowed to ask questions. There have been a lot of phone calls wanting to know why we are not doing anything as a city for the bars and restaurants that are not adhering to the Tier 2 Mitigations. By State Statute, the only thing that we can do is if the establishment has a liquor license we can suspend that license for 7 days and have a hearing. There is nothing that

the City can do with restaurants as that is the Health Department's license. At this time the Health Department does not have the authority or the staffing to deal with this. The only other thing that the city could do by State Statute is have the Mayor to declare an emergency and this is not an avenue that we would like to follow. The Governor's Office says that we can enforce the mitigation efforts so we have asked for information on how we can do this.

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Wangelin to Adjourn.  
**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried. (7:05 p.m.)**



Michelle K. Conklin  
Michelle K. Conklin, Deputy City Clerk