

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

October 5, 2021

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Rock Falls, Illinois was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on October 5, 2021, in the Council Chambers by Mayor Rod Kleckler.

Deputy City Clerk Michelle Conklin called the roll following the pledge of allegiance. A quorum was present including Mayor Kleckler, Aldermen McKanna, Wangelin, Snow, Babel, Dowd, Devers, Doane and Sobottka. In addition, Attorney James Reese, Attorney Matt Cole, Attorney Tim Zollinger and City Administrator Robbin Blackert were present.

A motion was made by Alderman Sobottka and second by Alderman Babel to approve a Proclamation, proclaiming the month of October 2021 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Rock Falls.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried.**

Eric Epps, Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce addressed the City Council and stated that the Chamber has wrapped up another series of workshops, and they are currently working on the Uptown Trick or Treat and Hometown Holidays. Bethany Bland has been working with the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council and Mark Searing to look at some grants to approve the ventilation in the Community Building. Bethany extended her appreciation to Alderman Wangelin for his help in supporting the Rock Falls Homecoming Parade.

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

1. Approval of the minutes of the September 21, 2021, City Council Meeting
2. Approval of bills as presented

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

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Doane to approve Ordinance 2021-2537 - Approving Contract and Authorizing the Purchase and Financing of Personal Property (2 - 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe Special Service Package Vehicles) for the fire department in the amount of \$78,059.50, pending approval of the contract by the City Attorney.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Babel to accept the recommendation from Willett, Hofmann & Associates and award the former Limestone Building property Earthwork and Grading Project to Porter Brothers, 9904 Freeport Road, Rock Falls, IL 61071, for their low bid of \$104,483.80.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried.**

Melinda Jones, Tourism Director informed the City Council that on October 22, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. we will be burying the Time Capsule. If anyone has items to be placed in the capsule please have them in by October 21, 2021. The Time Capsule will be buried in front of the Fire Department and will be opened in 2067.

Wayne Shafer, Surf Broadband gave the City Council an update on the progress being made on the Broadband Network Buildout. There are around 5000 homes and businesses in the City of Rock Falls and by the end of October the buildout will have surpassed 3300 of these and the remainder will be done by the end of the first quarter of 2022. There was a desire when we started this to be a gig city, we took an unexpected path but we are almost there.

Wayne also announced that this would be his last council meeting and his last day on site will be around October 15, 2021. His departure will have very little impact on the project, you will be in good hands with the local construction manager. He thanked the city council for the opportunity to live and work in Rock Falls, it has been a great experience and I have learned a lot about the Municipal side of things.

City Administrator Robbin Blackert stated that she believed that it was appropriate to thank Wayne. He is a very humble person, I have never seen anyone work harder to put themselves out of a job potentially, that is how dedicated he was and that is a rare quality anymore. The City owes him a debt of gratitude because the people that he knew in the industry and the connections that he had is why this whole project is successful.

A motion was made by Alderman McKanna and second by Alderman Wangelin to approve the revisions made to the Purchasing Policy Manual.

**Vote 7 aye, 1 nay (Devers), motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Babel to approve a 3 year Esri Small Utility Enterprise Agreement at \$10,000.00 per year with Esri, 380 New York Street, Redlands, CA 92373.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Dowd to approve the proposal for warranty and inspections in the amount of \$137,480.00 with Altorfer, P.O. Box 3007, Davenport, IA 52802, this will be for Generators 1 - 7.

**Vote 8 aye, motion carried.**

Alderman Doane stated that the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce has a survey to gather input for the future of the Sterling Riverfront. It is community based and quick and easy, so feel free to give your ideas and input in.

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Sobottka to approve the Resolution to Honor City Attorney, James L. Reese.

**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Snow and second by Alderman Sobottka to approve the request to renew the appointment of Ward, Murray, Pace and Johnson, P.C. as the attorneys for the City of Rock Falls. The primary point of contact will continue to be Matt Cole and Tim Zollinger.

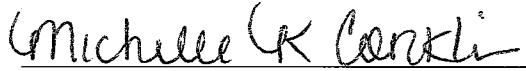
**Vote 8 aye, motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Sobottka and second by Alderman Wangelin to approve the re-appointment of City Administrator Robbin Blackert to the Whiteside County Enterprise Zone Board for a 3 year term (October 13, 2021 through October 12, 2024).

**Vote 7 aye, 1 nay (Devers), motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alderman Sobottka and second by Alderman Wangelin to adjourn.

**Viva Voce Vote, motion carried. (5:50 p.m.)**



Michelle K. Conklin, Deputy City Clerk