

City of Rock Falls

603 W. 10th Street
Rock Falls, IL 61071-2854

Regular meeting minutes of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Rock Falls

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Rock Falls, Illinois was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on April 7, 2026, in the Council Chambers by Mayor Rod Kleckler.

City Clerk Pam Martinez called the roll following the pledge of allegiance. A quorum was present including Mayor Kleckler, Aldermen Wangelin, Byrd, Doane, Dowd, Stahr, Arduini, and Sobottka. In addition, Attorney Matt Cole and City Administrator Robbin Blackert and Assistant City Administrator Gabbi McKanna were present.

Audience Request:

None

Rock Falls Police Department:

- Presentation of Officer of the Year Award – Officer Armando Garnica
Chief McKanna presented Officer Armando Garnica with Officer of the Year Award.
Chief McKanna stated Officer Garnica is a tremendous asset to the department.

Community Affairs: Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce, Sam Kersey, President/CEO

None

Consent Agenda:

Consent Agenda items 1-2 were read aloud by City Clerk Pam Martinez.

1. Approval of minutes from the March 17, 2026, City Council Meeting
2. Approval of bills as presented.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the Consent Agenda and second by Alderwoman Arduini.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

Ordinance 1st Reading:

1. Ordinance 2026-2733 – Approving Annual Purchase Power Adjustment
A motion was made by Alderman Wangelin to approve Ordinance 2026-2733 – Approving Annual Purchase Power Adjustment for first reading and second by Alderwoman Byrd.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.
2. Ordinance 2026-2734 – Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2026
A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve Ordinance 2026-2734 – Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2026 for first reading and second by Alderman Doane.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.
3. Ordinance 2026-2735 – Amending Chapter 16, Article V, Section 16-389 of the Rock Falls Municipal Code Regarding Tasting Licenses and Other Matters
A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve Ordinance 2026-2735 – Amending Chapter 16, Article V, Section 16-389 of the Rock Falls Municipal Code Regarding Tasting Licenses and Other Matters for first reading and second by Alderman Dowd.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

Ordinance 2nd Reading and Adoption:

1. Ordinance 2026-2729 – Amending Chapter 32, Section 32-435 Regarding Irrigation System Rates
A motion was made by Alderman Wangelin to approve Ordinance 2026-2729 – Amending Chapter 32, Section 32-435 Regarding Irrigation System Rate for second reading and adoption and second by Alderman Stahr.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.
2. Ordinance 2026-2730 – Amending Chapter 32, Article VI, Solid Waste.
A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve Ordinance 2026-2730 – Amending Chapter 32, Article VI, Solid Waste for second reading and adoption and second by Alderman Byrd.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.
3. Ordinance 2026-2731 – Amending Chapter 16 and 34 of the Rock Falls Municipal Code Relating to Zoning Changes for Tattoo Parlors and Cannabis Dispensaries
A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve Ordinance 2026-2731 – Amending Chapter 16 and 34 of the Rock Falls Municipal Code Relating to Zoning Changes for Tattoo Parlors and Cannabis Dispensaries for second reading and adoption and second by Alderwoman Arduini.
Vote 6 aye, 1 no (Wangelin), motion carried.
4. Ordinance 2026-2732 – Authorizing a Variance from Accessory Structure Height Limitations 1317 Dixon Avenue, Rock Falls, IL 61071.
A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve Ordinance 2026-2732 – Authorizing Structure Height Limitations 1317 Dixon Avenue, Rock Falls, IL 61071 for second reading and adoption and second by Alderwoman Byrd.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

Resolutions:

1. Resolution 2026-945 – In Support of the Illinois America 250 Commemoration
A motion was made by Alderwoman Byrd to approve Resolution 2026-945 – In Support of the Illinois America 250 Commemoration and second by Alderman Wangelin.
Vote via voice, all approved, motion carried.

City Administrator:

1. Recommendation from the Utility Committee to waive bidding as a sole source provider for replacement of UV Bulbs at the Wastewater Treatment Plant
A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the recommendation from the Utility Committee to waive bidding as a sole source provider for replacement of UV Bulbs at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and second by Alderwoman Arduini.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.
2. Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the quote received from Trojan Technologies, 4310 44th St SE, Kentwood, MI for replacement UV Bulbs at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$34,914.69.
A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the quote received from Trojan Technologies, 4310 44th St SE, Kentwood, MI for replacement UV Bulbs at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$34,914.69 and second by Alderwoman Arduini.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

3. Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the alternative bid for the purchase and installation of upgraded LED lighting in the Rock Falls Community Building from Helm Electric, 1514 W Fourth St, Sterling, IL in the amount of \$26,212.00.
A motion was made by Alderman Wangelin to approve the Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the alternative bid for the purchase and installation of upgraded LED lighting in the Rock Falls Community Building from Helm Electric, 1514 W Fourth St, Sterling, IL in the amount of \$26,212.00 and second by Alderman Doane.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried
4. Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the Fair Solar Credit rate of \$0.0515/kWh for Fiscal Year 2027 (May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2027).
A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the Fair Solar Credit rate of \$0.0515/kWh for Fiscal Year 2027 (May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2027) and second by Alderwoman Arduini.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried
5. Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve increasing Coloma Township Energy Efficiency Money from \$2,424.40 to 75% of the project cost totaling \$5,596.50.
A motion was made by Alderman Wangelin to approve the Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve increasing Coloman Township Energy Efficiency Money from \$2,424.40 to 75% of the project cost totaling \$5,596.50 and second by Alderman Dowd.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.
6. Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the proposal for Line Clearance Tree Trimming with Intren, LLC, 18202 W Union Road, Union, IL.
A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the proposal for Line Clearance Tree Trimming with Intren, LLC, 18202 W Union Road, Union, IL and second by Alderman Stahr.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

City Attorney:

None

City Departments:

None

Alderman Reports / Committee Chairman Requests

A motion was made by Alderman Stahr to approve the Recommendation from the Finance Committee to approve the first reading of the Fiscal Year 2027 Budgets and second by Alderman Dowd.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Kleckler stated that he has three applications for Ward 1 vacancy and he should have a recommendation by the next City Council meeting.

Executive Session:

1. Enter into Executive Session for the purposes of:
 - a. Personnel – Section 2(c)(1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance.
 - b. Purchase of Lease of Real Estate – Section 2(c)(5) – Includes general discussion of whether land should be purchased or leased by the public body.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to move into Executive Session and second by Alderwoman Byrd.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried. (5:49 p.m.)

Returned to regular Council meeting at 6:12 p.m.

Any action taken from Executive Session

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the Department Head Contracts FY2027 and paid volunteer and second by Alderwoman Byrd.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

Adjournment

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

Vote via voice, all approved (6:15 p.m.)

Pamela Martinez

Pamela Martinez, City Clerk