

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 June 2, 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 Searing, 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.

Public Hearing

- Public Hearing to receive written or oral comments from the citizens regarding the proposed Appropriation Ordinance for the Fiscal Year commencing May 1, 2026, and ending April 30, 2027.
Public Hearing was entered into at 5:30 p.m. and no written or verbal comments were made and the hearing ended at 5:31 p.m. by Mayor Kleckler

2025 Groundwater/Electric/Water Reclamation Scholarship

- Presentation of Scholarship to Adam Oquendo
Larry Hanrahan presented the scholarship to Adam Oquendo for his essay.

City Administrator Blackert:

- City Administrator Blackert gave a public statement about the Data Center discussion
 - There is no Data Center coming to Rock Falls
 - Lee County must approve the land to rezone
 - Land is not in the city limits of Rock Falls
 - Electricity must be run through ComEd.

Audience Request:

John Watts and Brick Boss presented information to the city for all of their help with the Touch a Truck event, May 30, 2026. A trophy was presented to the Fire Department for the best entertainment for the children. Thank you to all city departments for their help and a special thank you to the Street Department and Dave Miller for all of his help in the final hours of the event.

Community Affairs: Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce
None

Consent Agenda:

Consent Agenda was read aloud by City Clerk Pam Martinez.

1. Approval of minutes of the May 19, 2026, City Council Meeting
2. Approval of bills as presented.
3. Approve the reappointment of Shane Brown to the Utility Committee (Term 05-01-2026 to 04-30-2031)
4. Approve Mayor's appointment of Alderman Mark Searing to the Utility Committee

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

Vote 6 aye, 2 abstain (Searing and Doane), motion carried.

Ordinance 1st Reading:

1. Ordinance 2026-2739 – Amending Chapter 32, Article V of the Rock Falls Municipal Code Relating to Interconnection with the City’s Electric Distribution System.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2026-2739 – Amending Chapter 32, Article V of the Rock Falls Municipal Code Relating to Interconnection with the City’s Electric Distribution System and second by Alderman Searing.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

2. Ordinance 2026-2740 – Appropriation Ordinance Fiscal Year 2027 (Beginning May 1, 2026, and ending April 30, 2027)

A motion was made by Alderman Wangelin to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2026-2740 – Appropriation Ordinance Fiscal Year 2027 (Beginning May 1, 2026 and ending April 30, 2027) and second by Alderwoman Byrd.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

Ordinance 2nd Reading and Adoption:

1. Ordinance 2026-2738 – Authorizing Disposal of a 1988 Ditch Witch Trailer and Ditch Witch Model 1620 Trencher

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka Ordinance 2026-2738 – Authorizing Disposal of a 1988 Ditch Witch Trailer and Ditch Witch Model 1620 Trencher for second reading and adoption and second by Alderwoman Arduini.

Vote via voice, all approved, motion carried.

City Administrator Blackert:

1. Approve the Master Services Agreement with William and Mary Computer Center, 812 12th Avenue, Rock Falls, IL 61071, for on-site and remote support of existing hardware and software, installed third-party software, RingCentral Telephone services and line-of-business applications.

A motion was made by Alderman Wangelin to approve the Master Services Agreement with William and Mary Computer Center, 812 12th Avenue, Rock Falls, IL 61071, for on-site and remote support of existing hardware and software, installed third-party software, RingCentral Telephone services and line-of-business applications and second by Alderwoman Byrd.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

2. Approve Five Year Pow-R-Guard Maintenance Agreement for Ten Caterpillar Emergency Standby Generators with Altorfer Power Systems, 4712 Buckeye Street, Davenport, IA 52802 at a per visit cost of \$1,468.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the Five Year Pow-R-Guard Maintenance Agreement for Ten Caterpillar Emergency Standby Generators with Altorfer Power Systems, 4712 Buckeye Street, Davenport, IA 52802 at a per visit cost of \$1,468 and second by Alderwoman Arduini.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

City Administrator Blackert thanked the Police Department for crowd control tonight in keeping everything calm.

Rock Falls Tourism: Melinda Jones

Melinda asked for road closures for Sick the Mag that will be returning to Rock Falls as a check point only on June 15. Several streets in the downtown area will need to be closed and city parking lots too. There will be no burnout this year. Four food trucks will be available per Sick the Mag representative.

Road closures are 1st Street after business parking lot to Factory; 4th Avenue closed at W 2nd Street and 2nd Avenue closed at W 2nd Street.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the street and parking lot closures and second by Alderman Searing.

Vote via voice, all approved, motion carried.

City Attorney:

None

City Departments:

Assistant Admin McKanna thanked City Admin Blackert for the information given about the Data Center.

Alderman Reports / Committee Chairman Requests

A motion was made by Alderman Dowd to approve the recommendation from the Police Fire Committee to approve the Police Department purchase of 21 Kenwood Handheld radios from Ultra Strobe Communications, Inc., 748 Tek Drive, Crystal Lake, IL 60014, in the amount of \$82,487.90 and second by Alderman Stahr.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Stahr to approve the recommendation from the Finance/Insurance/Investment Committee to approve the Water Department purchase and financing of a E48 R2 Series Bob Cat Compact Excavator in the amount of \$85,556.21 with 0% financing for 48 months from Bobcat of Dixon, 610 River Lane, Dixon, IL 61021 and second by Alderman Dowd.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

Alderpersons thanked John with Touch a Truck for a great event, and all departments heads that helped to make it a successful event.

Mayor's Report:

- Approve appointment of Alderman Nathan Stahr as Mayor Pro-Tem as of June 2, 2026. A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the appointment of Alderman Nathan Stahr as Mayor Pro-Tem as of June 2, 2026, and second by Alderman Searing.
Vote via voice, all approved, motion carried.

Mayor Keckler also thanked Ross and Jessica for helping to plant the flowers at City Hall and thanked Alderwoman Bryd for all her work done at the Veterans Park.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to adjourn and second by Alderwoman Arduini.
Vote via voice, all approved (6:08 p.m.)

Pamela Martinez

Pamela Martinez, City Clerk