

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 16, 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.

Audience Request:

None

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 June 2, 2026, City Council Meeting
2. Approval of bills as presented.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

Ordinance 2nd Reading and Adoption:

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 Ordinance 2026-2739 – Amending Chapter 32, Article V of the Rock Falls Municipal Code Relating to Interconnection with the City's Electric Distribution System for second reading and adoption and second by Alderman Stahr.

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 Alderwoman Sobottka to approve Ordinance 2026-2740 – Appropriation Ordinance Fiscal Year 2027 (Beginning May 1, 2026 and ending April 30, 2027) for second reading and adoption and second by Alderman Searing.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

City Administrator Blackert:

1. Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the purchase of a new Vactor 2100i Sewer Cleaner 2025 Freightliner 114SD Chassis for the Wastewater Department from Standard Equipment, 625 S. Illinois Rt. 83, Elmhurst, IL 60126 in the amount of \$325,278.25 after trade-in.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the purchase of a new Vactor 2100i Sewer Cleaner 2025 Freightliner 114SD Chassis for the Wastewater Department from Standard Equipment,

625 S. Illinois Rt. 83, Elmhurst, IL 60126 in the amount of \$325,278.25 after trade-in and second by Alderman Doane.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

2. Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the purchase of a new 2027 Ford F-600 Service Truck for the Wastewater Department from Bonnell Industries, 1385 Franklin Grove Rd., Dixon, IL 61021 in the amount of \$188,844.63.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Arduini to approve the recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the purchase of a new 2027 Ford F-600 Service Truck for the Wastewater Department from Bonnell Industries, 1385 Franklin Grove Rd., Dixon, IL 61021 in the amount of \$188,844.63 and second by Alderwoman Sobottka.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

3. Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the quote from VIPower Services, LLC, 1433 Jamie Ln., Waterloo, IL 62298 for switch gear control upgrades to the Industrial park Road Generation Facility with EPA monitoring in the amount of \$627,931.00.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the quote from VIPower Services, LLC, 1433 Jamie Ln., Waterloo, IL 62298 for switch gear control upgrades to the Industrial park Road Generation Facility with EPA monitoring in the amount of \$627,931.00 and second by Alderwoman Arduini.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

4. Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the proposal from BHMG Engineers, Inc., 9735 Landmark Parkway Dr., Suite 110A, St. Louis, MO 63127 for 202 NESHAP Compliance Testing in the amount of \$35,333.00.

A motion was made by Alderman Wanglein to approve the recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the proposal from BHMG Engineers, Inc., 9735 Landmark Parkway, Dr., Suite 110A, St. Louis, MO 63127 for 2026 NESHAP Compliance Testing in the amount of \$35,333.00 and second by Alderman Searing.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

5. Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the proposal from Helm Electric, 1514 W. Fourth St., Sterling, IL 61081 for the Centennial Park substation alternative power feed transfer switch installation and connection in the amount of \$10,750.00.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Arduini to approve the recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the proposal from Helm Electric, 1514 W. Fourth St., Sterling, IL 61081 for the Centennial Park substation alternative power feed transfer switch installation and connection in the amount of \$10,750.00 and second by Alderwoman Sobottka.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

6. Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the quote from Megger, 4545 W. Davis St., Dallas, TX 75211 for a Smart Thump portable cable fault location system, required hardware, calibration certificates and extended warranties in the amount of \$64,527.00.

A motion was made by Alderman Wangelin to approve the recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the quote from Meeger, 4545 W. Davis St., Dallas, TX 75211 for a Smart Thump portable cable fault location system, required hardware, calibration certificates and extended warranties in the amount of \$64,527.00 and second by Alderman Stahr.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

Rock Falls Tourism: Melinda Jones, Tourism Director

1. Approval for road closure on July 2, 2026, - E 2nd Street from Ave A to Wood Avenue for Independence Day Celebration. City Administrator Blackert stated it would be from 1 p.m. until 11 p.m.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the street closure and second by Alderwoman Arduini

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

City Attorney:

None

City Departments:

None

Alderman Reports / Committee Chairman Requests

A motion was made by Alderman Searing to approve the recommendation from the Public Works/Public Property Committee to approve recommendation from Willett Hofmann & Associates to award the 2026 Annual Concrete Contract to Twin Cities Construction, 20581 Pilgrim Road, Chadwick, IL 61014 and second by Alderman Doane.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Doane to approve the recommendation from the Public Works/Public Property Committee to approve the Street Department to purchase a 10' Asphalt Drag Box, Metal Divider Plates and Tabs and an E-Track Accessory Holder from Draggtec, 4492 Hanoverville Rd., Bethlehem, PZ 18020 in the amount of \$13,025.00 and second by Alderman Searing.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

Alderman Searing thanked Amber, Tourism and Gabbi, Asst City Administrator for a great event Sick the Mag yesterday.

Alderwoman Byrd and Alderman Dowd thanked Dave Miller and workers for all their hard work on the roads.

Alderman Doane thanked Gabbi for her work with the Pride parade in Dixon. Spoke about the Flock Camera's and other alternatives.

Alderwoman Sobottka thanked all of the department heads for all of their hard work for last weekend event 250-year Celebration

Alderwoman Arduini wished Melinda a quick recovery

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Keckler stated that he was involved in a car vs. pedestrian accident at Menards on Monday morning and is doing okay today.

Executive Session:

1. Enter into Executive Session for the purposes of:
 - a. Personnel – Section 2(c)(1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to move into Executive Session for Personnel – Section 2(c)(1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance and second by Alderwoman Arduni.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried (5:48 p.m.)

Any Action taken from Executive Session:

A motion was made by Alderwoman Arduini to approve the hire for the Accounting Clerk position and second by Alderwoman Sobottka.

Vote 8 aye, motion carried.

Adjournment

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

Vote via voice, all approved (5:55 p.m.)

Pamela Martinez

Pamela Martinez, City Clerk