

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 August 4, 2026, in the Council Chambers by Mayor Pro-Tem Nathan Stahr.

City Clerk Pam Martinez called the roll following the pledge of allegiance. A quorum was present including Aldermen Searing, 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. Absent Alderman Wangelin and Mayor Kleckler.

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 from the July 21, 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 Alderman Searing.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

Ordinance 1st Reading:

1. Ordinance 2026-2745 – Amending Chapter 18, Article VII of the Rock Falls Municipal Code Regarding Enforcement of Truck Size and Weight Limits
A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve Ordinance 2026-2745 – Amending Chapter 18, Article VII of the Rock Falls Municipal Code Regarding Enforcement of Truck Size and Weight Limits for first reading and second by Alderwoman Byrd.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

2. Ordinance 2026-2746 – Amending Chapter 18, Article VI Parking – Prohibited Areas.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve Ordinance 2026-2746 – Amending Chapter 18, Article VI Parking -Prohibited Areas for first reading and second by Alderman Searing.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

City Administrator:

- City Administrator Blackert read a thank you letter from the Village of Winnetka thanking our Electric Department for their help in clean up after the storm that went through on July 27, 2026. Thanked Larry and his crew for stepping up to help out another town that owns their own Utilities.
- City Administrator Blackert gave an update on Mayor Kleckler. He is home and resting and should be back at the office in a few weeks.
- Ribbon Cutting at Love's Travel Stop, Thursday, August 6, 2026, at 10:30 am

Tourism Director, Melinda Jones:

Request for Road Closures:

1. Approval to close E. 2nd Street from Avenue A to Wood Avenue on Saturday, August 29, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the Art in the Park Sculpture Walk and Outdoor Art Gallery at the RB&W Park.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the closure of E. 2nd Street from Avenue A to Wood Avenue on Saturday, August 26, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the Art in the Park Sculpture Walk and Outdoor Art Gallery at the RB&W Park and second by Alderwoman Byrd.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

2. Approval of closing E. 2nd Street from Avenue A to Wood Avenue on Monday, August 31, 2026, from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for Voices of Recovery (Tevin's Tribe) event at the RB&W Park.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Byrd to approve the road closure on E. 2nd Street from Avenue A to Wood Avenue on Monday, August 31, 2026, from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for Voices of Recovery (Tevin's Tribe) event at the RB&W Park.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

City Attorney:

None

City Departments:

none

Alderman Reports / Committee Chairman Requests

A motion was made by Alderman Dowd to approve the Recommendation from the Utility Committee to approve the Utility Office write-offs for April 2026 through June 2026 in the amount of \$21,442.61 and second by Alderwoman Sobottka.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Dowd to approve the Recommendation from the Utility Committee to waive bidding on the chemical treatment of wells 4, 5 and 7 and second by Alderwoman Sobottka.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Dowd to approve the Recommendation from the Utility Committee to accept the proposal from Municipal Well & Pump, 15602 West Key Drive, Peosta, IA 52068 for the chemical treatment of wells 4, 5 and 7 in the amount of \$25,690.00 and second by Alderwoman Byrd.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Dowd to approve the Recommendation from the Utility Committee to accept the quote from William & Mary Computer Center, 812 12th Ave, Rock Falls, IL 61071 for the purchase, installation and warranty of new switches in the amount of \$33,855.62 and second by Alderman Searing.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Dowd to approve the Recommendation from the Utility Committee to accept the proposal from Stratus Networks, Inc. to acquire the City of Rock Falls' rights, title and interest in IRU Fibers in the amount of \$110,000.00 and second by Alderwoman Sobottka.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Dowd to approve the Recommendation from the Utility Committee to create a Request for Quotes for a cost / benefit analysis of the hydro plant and second by Alderwoman Sobottka.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the Recommendation from the Ordinance License Personnel Safety Committee to approve the updated Electric Department Maintenance and Stockroom Job Description and second by Alderwoman Byrd.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

Alderman Doane mentioned that tonight is National Night Out at the RB&W Park, 5:00p.m. to 7p.m.

Mayor's Report:

None

Adjournment

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

Vote via voice, all approved (5:49 p.m.)

Pamela Martinez

Pamela Martinez, City Clerk