

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 November 5, 2024, 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 McKanna, Wangelin, Snow, Byrd, Dowd, Arduini and Sobottka. In addition, Attorney Matt Cole and City Administrator Robbin Blackert were present.

Rock Falls Police Department:

Oath of Office – Doug Wolber – Deputy Chief, City Clerk Pam Martinez swore in Doug Wolber as Deputy Chief.

Audience request:

None.

Presentation:

Studio GWA – Ashley Sarver – Historic Preservation Presentation

- City Administrator Blackert introduced Ashley Sarver to City Council members.
- Ms. Sarver presented information on the findings of the downtown area of West 2nd Street and First Avenue.

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

Request closure of the following on November 22, 2024, for Hometown Holidays:

1. West Side of 1st Avenue Parking Lot at 8:00 a.m.
2. East 2nd Street in front of the RB&W Park
3. West 2nd Street from 1st Avenue to 5th Avenue

A motion was made by Alderman Snow to approve the road closures with the approval of the Police Department for Hometown Holidays and second by Alderwoman Sobottka.

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

Consent Agenda items 1-3 were read aloud by City Clerk Pam Martinez.

1. Approval of the minutes of the October 15, 2024, City Council Meeting.
2. Approval of bills as presented.
3. Appointment of Vickey Byrd to the Finance Insurance Investment Committee.

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

Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

Ordinances 1st Reading:

1. Ordinance 2024-2667 – Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Rock Falls Regarding Short-Term Rentals
2. Ordinance 2024-2668 – Amending Chapter 4 of the Rock Falls Municipal Code Relating to the Keeping of Chickens

Mayor Kleckler pulled Ordinance 2024-2677 and 2024-2668 from the agenda, to be addressed in committee.

Resolution:

1. Resolution 2024-923 – Resolution for Maintenance Under the Illinois Highway Code – Section 25-00000-00-GM (2025 General Maintenance)
A motion was made by Alderman Snow to approve Resolution 2024-923 – Resolution for Maintenance Under the Illinois Highway Code – Section 25-00000-00-GM (2025 General Maintenance) and second by Alderman Wangelin.
Vote via voice, all approved, motion carried.

City Administrator:

None

City Attorney:

None

City Departments:

None

Alderman Reports / Committee Chairman Requests

A motion was made by Alderwoman McKanna to approve the recommendation from the Finance Insurance Investment Committee to approve the Utility Office Write-Offs for July 2024-September 2024 and second by Alderman Snow.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderwoman McKanna to approve the recommendation from the Finance Insurance Investment Committee to approve the Fire and Police Pension Fund Actuarial Valuations for the Year Ending April 30, 2025, and second by Alderman Wangelin.
Vote via voice, all approve, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderwoman McKanna to approve the recommendation from the Finance Insurance Investment Committee to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Audit and second by Alderman Snow.
Vote via voice, all approved, motion carried.

Alderman Snow reminded City Council members Building Code meeting is November 6 at 5:15 and Ave A repair is moving along.

Mayor's Report:

None

Executive Session:

1. Enter Executive Session for the purpose of:
 - a. Section 2(c)(21) – Review of Closed Session Minutes
 - b. Personnel – Section 2(c)(1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance
 - c. Collective Bargaining – Section 2(c)(2) – Collective negotiating matters and deliberations concerning salary schedules

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to move to Executive Session and second by Alderwoman Arduini
Vote 7 aye, motion carried (6:07 p.m.)

Any Action taken from Executive Session: (returned to regular session 6:12 p.m.)

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the contract for the Building Inspector with a start date of November 12, 2024, and second by Alderman Snow.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Snow to keep the Closed Session Minutes closed and second by Alderman Wangelin.
Vote via voice, all approved, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the new hire to the Utility Department with a start date as soon as possible and second by Alderman Snow.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Sobottka to approve the Side Letter with IBEW – Local 196 Utility Unit and second by Alderman Snow.
Vote 7 aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Snow to adjourn and second by Alderwoman Arduini.
Vote via voice, all approved (6:15 p.m.)

Pamela Martinez

Pamela Martinez, City Clerk