

Appointee plans to seek election

■ **In 13th Ward:** Approved by council, Linda McNeely plans to stay longer than the remaining four months of Ald. Jesse Gulley's term.

By CHRIS GREEN

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ROCKFORD — Rockford City Council members Monday unanimously approved the appointment of Linda McNeely to fill the vacated seat of former 13th Ward Ald. Jesse Gulley.

Gulley, 59, whose term would have expired in April, resigned last month.

McNeely, 41, of the 500 block of Johnston Avenue, said there are numerous issues that need to be addressed in her ward, but said, "I don't want to pinpoint any one thing at this time."

She said she would run as a De-

mocrat for a full term in the April elections.

Seventh Ward Ald. Ann Thompson said McNeely will be an asset to the council. "The qualities that I like about her are she sees the needs of the ward," Thompson said. "The drug problems, the need of community development, the need of upgrading the entire ward — not just the rental property, but the residential property, and she's willing to work hard at it."

McNeely is a full-time accountant and a part-time real estate saleswoman with State Wide Business & Residential Realty Corp. based in Chicago. She is a 1973 graduate of Auburn High School. She received a bachelor's degree from the University of Denver in 1977 and a master's degree in accounting from Roosevelt University in Chicago in 1981.