

June 5, 2024

Mayor Wentz called to order the regular meeting of the Rockwell City Council at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 5, 2024. Council members present were Koob, Worley, Ditsworth and Emhoff with Meyer absent. Also present were Jon Roberts, Zach Laudner and Chief Brunstein.

Emhoff moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion seconded by Ditsworth, carried unanimously.

Mayor Wentz presented the liquor license renewal for the American Legion Club. Worley moved to approve the license renewal. Motion seconded by Emhoff, carried unanimously.

Mayor Wentz presented the tobacco permit renewal application for Jonesy's Stop and Shop. Council tabled discussions to hold the public hearing.

At 7:05 Emhoff moved to open the public hearing for the 2023-2024 Budget Amendment. Motion seconded by Koob, carried unanimously.

Council discussed the programs amended. Koob moved to close the public hearing at 7:09. Motion seconded by Ditsworth, carried unanimously.

Koob moved by Resolution 2024-6 to approve the 2023-2024 Budget Amendment. Motion seconded by Emhoff. Mayor Wentz asked for roll call vote. Ayes: Koob, Worley, Ditsworth, and Emhoff. Motion carried unanimously.

With further discussion on the tobacco permit renewal, Koob moved to approve the permit, prorated to six months and with no violations would allow to keep said permit for the remainder of the one year license period. Motion seconded by Ditsworth, carried unanimously.

Mayor Wentz reviewed the utility rates and noted that as the Code states we have followed with an annual two percent increase. Following discussion, Ditsworth moved to apply the two percent increase July 1, 2024. Motion seconded by Koob, carried unanimously.

Mayor Wentz stated that with it being evaluation and raise time, he has only positive comments on the employees and their work. Mayor Wentz noted that we set the budget with three percent increase allowed and would recommend this for all employees. With discussion, Koob moved to allow a four percent increase for all employees; Chief Brunstein \$1.35, Laudner \$1.10, Roberts .92 and Weier .96. Motion seconded by Ditsworth. Mayor Wentz also noted that he feels an increase for the Council and Mayor positions are due in a nonelection year. Motion carried unanimously.

Koob stated that we have discussed the implementation of sidewalk improvements plan and feels we should hold a public meeting to discuss this with the residents. Ditsworth asked about prioritizing existing/damaged sidewalks. Koob noted that we have talked about starting around the school, with the use for kids getting to and from school. Council will consider a time for a public meeting.

The following bills were presented for approval:

PUBLIC SAFETY

Electronic Engineering	Monthly Service/three months	\$ 130.00
Cerro Gordo County Sheriff's Office	Monthly Service	\$ 35.00
Astra Security	Camera/Monthly Billing	\$ 306.54
Central Square	Zuercher/Police Software	\$ 68.87
Verizon	Police Data	\$ 40.01

Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 156.34
Stop and Shop.....	Gas	\$ 132.00
Wellmark	Health Insurance	\$ 1223.21
Cody Brunstein	Cell Phone.....	\$ 30.00
Total Public		\$ 2121.97

PUBLIC WORKS

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 1900.28
Stop and Shop.....	Gas	\$ 612.88
Absolute Waste Removal.....	May Service.....	\$ 6601.50
Tractor Supply.....	Supplies	\$ 57.97
Floyd & Leonard.....	Supplies	\$ 22.44
Central Design.....	Pickup Decals.....	\$ 125.00
O'Reilly Auto Parts	Supplies	\$ 16.99
Huber Supply	Annual Fee	4 125.00
John Ries	Nuisance Abatement.....	\$ 3800.00
Zach Laudner	Cell Phone.....	\$ 30.00
Jon Roberts.....	Cell Phone/Clothing.....	\$ 599.59
Total Public Works		\$ 13891.65

PUBLIC WORKS ROAD USE

Real Truck	Supplies	\$ 149.79
Northland Manufacturing, Inc	Supplies	\$ 195.00
Total Public Works Road Use		\$ 344.79

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing/Memorial.....	\$ 21.88
Wellmark	Health Insurance	\$ 7339.79
Rockwell Chamber.....	Fireworks Donation	\$ 3500.00
Total Community and Economic Development.....		\$ 10861.67

CULTURE AND RECREATION

Makenzie Fessler.....	April/May Cemetery Mowing.....	\$ 3990.00
Menards.....	Supplies	\$ 15.01
Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 11.14
Total Culture and Recreation.....		\$ 4016.15

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 307.20
Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 133.69
Hewett Wholesale Inc.....	Supplies	\$ 134.50
First Security	Box Fee	\$ 47.00
Mirror Reporter.....	Publications	\$ 404.46
Postmaster	Postage	\$ 136.00
Lorna Weier.....	Clothing Allowance	\$ 570.00
Total General Government.....		\$ 1732.85

BUSINESS UTILITY WATER

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 457.94
Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 58.95
Stop and Shop	Supplies	\$ 3.00
Mort's Water Company	Shut-Off Repairs.....	\$ 491.88
Core & Main	Supplies	\$ 27.53
Van Wert Company	Water Meter-Install/Supplies.....	\$ 8050.00
Menards.....	Supplies	\$ 138.37
Hawkins	Chemicals/Chlorine Cylinders	\$ 1898.23
Plumb Supply	Supplies	\$ 3.59
Postmaster	Postage/Water Bills	\$ 227.90
Eurofins.....	Water Test	\$ 96.30
UPS	Water Test Shipping.....	\$ 30.30

Zach Laudner	Clothing Allowance	\$ 216.12
Total Business Utility Water.....		\$ 11700.11

BUSINESS UTILITY SEWER

Eurofins.....	Waste Water Test	\$ 68.48
NIACC.....	Training	\$ 65.00
UPS	Waste Water Test Shipping.....	\$ 33.28
Total Business Utility Sewer		\$ 166.76

LINN GROVE RECREATION

Carrico.....	Summer Water Management.....	\$ 4600.00
Kiefer Aquatics	Supplies	\$ 87.00
The Life Guard Store.....	Suits.....	\$ 645.00
Carrico.....	Supplies	\$ 1413.74
Knorr Electric	Repairs.....	\$ 175.32
IA Dept of Public Health.....	License	\$ 105.00
Total Linn Grove Recreation		\$ 7026.06

Worley moved to approve the bills as presented. Motion seconded by Koob, carried unanimously.

May Receipts: General \$25518.01; Road Use \$12196.63; Water Utility \$9099.23; Sewer Utility \$5955.47; Local Option \$20442.26; Debt Service Pool/Storm Water \$5891.90; Storm Water \$2945.95; TIF \$1701.15; EMS \$350.56; Library Benefits \$1168.53; Property Ins \$1168.53; Police Benefits \$467.42; Emergency Management \$75.38; ARP \$0.

Mayor Wentz asked if there has been contact from Heartland Asphalt on the First Street project. Laudner noted that it was to be the first part of June, but has not had a specific date.

Koob asked about the bridge inspections. Launder noted that they were going to get back with him on this. Koob noted that we should check for funding for bridge repairs.

Emhoff noted the flower pots for Main Street and is awaiting the grant announcements. Emhoff also stated she has talked with Noss Landscape for some brick work around the entry sign.

Emhoff noted a nuisance area. Ditsworth felt another letter should be sent and noted the cost for the City to take care of this.

Mayor Wentz told the Council the old dump truck and blade was sold, we have a check of \$1,127.50 for this.

Ditsworth asked about the hydrant at B60 and 4th Street. Laudner noted that it is not on, and there are other hydrants that will cover the area. Ditsworth asked if it is not being used can the line be capped and maybe the hydrant placed in a better location. Laudner will discuss with Ries when he is working on the culvert in that area about capping this.

Worley reported that the pool is looking good and on behalf of the pool board thanked Laudner and Roberts for all of their work there! Worley noted the change in hours, and staffing concerns. Ditsworth noted they are entertaining the use of gift cards/credit accounts for concessions.

Mayor Wentz noted concerns with the ditch along B60 that is filling in with silt and causing water to set in yards. Laudner will also talk with Ries on this issue and look at options to do something with the culvert or grade the ditch.

Mayor Wentz shared other concerns from residents; the lighted stop signs. Koob felt that there is a lot of vehicle traffic and kids on bike and foot, so feels this is a safety issue at this intersection.

Mayor Wentz also noted issues with youth driving golf carts, stating that a valid drivers license is needed to operate a golf cart and fines can be assessed. Koob felt that Chief Brunstein talking with parents my help. Council discussed allowing minors to drive with parents.

Mayor Wentz also noted a tree at Walnut and 2nd Street that is dying. Council noted to have it added to the list of trees for removal. Mayor Wentz also presented a note from a resident that had asked to have a tree, on city right of way, that was hallow removed and has removed it themselves and was asking the Council to pay a portion of the billing. Following discussion Koob moved to pay the \$1,103.00 of the \$3,103.00 billing. Motion seconded by Ditsworth, Worley abstained, motion carried.

Chief Brunstein noted the open house at the West Fork School, Rockwell campus, to see the FEMA shelter on June 12th at 5:30 p.m.

Laudner reported that it appears someone tried to pry out a window in the one of the overhead doors on the maintenance building, he will be contacting Overhead Door of Mason City about fixing this. Koob asked about any cameras that may have caught this happening. Laudner stated that he had asked at the Library, but their camera was not recording at that time. Koob noted that we need should make sure that camera is working properly.

With no further business, Emhoff moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Koob, carried unanimously.

Larry Wentz, Mayor

Lorna Weier, City Clerk