

July 17, 2024

Mayor Wentz called to order the regular meeting of the Rockwell City Council at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17, 2024. All Council members were present. Also present were Jon Roberts, Zach Laudner, Tony Furbush, Steven Nelson and Chief Brunstein.

Tony Furbush was present to address concerns with the water flow during heavy rains flooding the West side of his property and the new parking area being put to the North of him. Council will look at this. Furbush left the meeting.

Emhoff moved to approve minutes of previous meeting, June 5, 2024. Motion seconded by Ditsworth.

As the Legion Club did not have the bids for demolition, they were not present.

Steven Nelson was present on behalf of the Rockwell Lions Club. Nelson noted that the Lions Club will be hosting a truck show on Saturday, August 10th. Nelson was asking to have the noise ordinance waived on this date until 1:00 AM the 11th. Koob moved to waive the noise ordinance for the truck show on August 10th until 1:00 AM on the 11th. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Mayor Wentz presented the liquor license for Rockwell Lions Club for their upcoming events. Koob moved to approve the liquor license. Motion seconded by Ditsworth. Nelson thanked the Council and left the meeting.

Laudner reported on the bridge inspections by WHKS, noting there is no immediate danger, this inspection will give them a base line to compare the First Street, Second Street and Third Street bridges. Koob noted that we need to start looking at cost and funding for repairs or replacement.

The following bills were presented for approval:

PUBLIC SAFETY

Cerro Gordo County Sheriff's Office.....	Monthly Service	\$ 70.00
Astra Security.....	Camera/Monthly Billing.....	\$ 306.54
Verizon.....	Police Data/Electronic Payment.....	\$ 40.01
Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 78.45
Stop and Shop.....	Gas	\$ 164.41
Don's Auto Service.....	Police Car.....	\$ 87.16
Wellmark	Health Insurance	\$ 1223.21
Cody Brunstein	Cell Phone.....	\$ 30.00
Total Public Safety		\$ 1999.78

PUBLIC WORKS

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 1892.51
Stop and Shop.....	Gas	\$ 715.44
Absolute Waste Removal.....	June/City Clean Up/July Service.....	\$ 13944.25
Menards.....	Supplies	\$ 44.35
Fleet Farm	Kerosene.....	\$ 44.92
NAPA	Supplies	\$ 59.90
Overhead Door.....	Repairs.....	\$ 318.28

Hefty Seed	Supplies	\$ 97.10
Floyd & Leonard.....	Supplies	\$ 79.17
Zach Laudner	Cell Phone.....	\$ 30.00
Jon Roberts.....	Cell Phone.....	\$ 30.00
Total Public Works		\$ 17255.95

ROAD USE TAX

Don's Auto Service.....	Dump Truck	\$ 369.90
Menards.....	Supplies	\$ 122.64
WHKS.....	Bridge Inspection.....	\$ 1178.46
Martin Marietta	Rock	\$ 369.87
Deano's Road Dust Control.....	Industrial Park	\$ 975.00
Wellmark	Health Insurance	\$ 3058.29
Total Road Use Tax		\$ 6074.16

CULTURE AND RECREATION

Makenzie Fessler.....	June Cemetery Mowing	\$ 1845.00
Total Culture and Recreation.....		\$ 1845.00

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC BETTERMENT

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing/Memorial.....	\$ 23.51
Tony Laudner.....	Tree Removal Cost Share	\$ 1177.00
Tyler Greimann	Main Street Flower Boxes	\$ 2955.00
Jordan Greimann	Main Street Flower Boxes	\$ 2955.00
Stillwater Greenhouse	Main Street Flowers.....	\$ 128.40
Menards.....	Main Street Flowers.....	\$ 111.38
Total Community and Economic Betterment		\$ 7350.29

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 196.60
Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 96.07
Emergency Management.....	Annual Appropriation	\$ 2142.30
Daley's Plumbing, Inc	Air Unit/EMS Building.....	\$ 950.00
Mirror Reporter.....	Publications	\$ 395.09
NIACOG	Annual Dues.....	\$ 1060.29
Office of Auditor of State	Filing Fee	\$ 175.00
Rachelle Thompson, CPA.....	Annual Exam 22-23	\$ 6200.00
Postmaster	Stamps.....	\$ 136.00
Total General Government.....		\$ 11351.35

BUSINESS UTILITY WATER

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 447.98
Stop and Shop.....	Supplies	\$ 4.27
State Hygienic Laboratory	Water Test	\$ 21.00
Iowa One Call	Locates	\$ 18.90
Van Wert Company	Water Meter-Install/Supplies.....	\$ 65.85
Eurofins.....	Water Test	\$ 38.52
Iowa DNR.....	Annual Water Supply Fee	\$ 117.51
Hawkins	Chlorine Cylinder.....	\$ 10.00
Postmaster	Fluoride Letters.....	\$ 257.72
Postmaster	Postage/Water Bills	\$ 228.43
Staples	Supplies	\$ 46.76
UPS	Water Test Shipping.....	\$ 16.26

Zach Laudner	Clothing/Medical.....	\$ 50.99
Itron.....	Temetra Subscription	\$ 3498.00
Service Tech of Central Iowa	Hydrant Repair.....	\$ 876.73
Hach	Chlorine packets.....	\$ 105.90
Total Business Utility Water.....		\$ 5804.82

BUSINESS UTILITY SEWER

Stop and Shop.....	Supplies	\$ 9.00
Clear Lake Sanitary District.....	Waste Water Test	\$ 93.00
Eurofins.....	Waste Water Test	\$ 299.60
UPS	Waste Water Test Shipping.....	\$ 49.62

LINN GROVE RECREATION

Carrico.....	Valve Repair.....	\$ 1256.02
Carrico.....	Summer Water Management.....	\$ 1400.00
Carrico.....	Supplies	\$ 65.89
Kiefer Aquatics/ Life Guard Store.....	Supplies	\$ 240.00
Kiefer Aquatics/ Life Guard Store.....	Suits.....	\$ 1001.36
Mid American Energy.....	July Billing	\$ 1959.66
Mid American Energy.....	June Billing.....	\$ 552.46
Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.....	July Billing	\$ 145.59
Menards.....	Repair/Supplies.....	\$ 20.79
Mechanical Air Systems	Repair Heater.....	\$ 225.00
Swanson Electric.....	Repairs 2021	\$ 2670.57
Hewett Wholesale Inc.....	Concession Supplies.....	\$ 1849.76
LeDoux Signs.....	Sign	\$ 90.00
Chadd Blanchard	Misc Supplies	\$ 2185.45
Cerro Gordo Department of Public Health.....	Inspection	\$ 468.00
Central Design.....	T-Shirts.....	\$ 640.00
Daley's Plumbing, Inc.	Valve Repair.....	\$ 1116.31
Jade Stubbe	Concession Supplies.....	\$ 59.49
Total Linn Grove Recreation		\$ 15946.35

Meyer moved to approve the bills for payment. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

June Receipts:

General \$8943.13; Road Use \$18593.05; Water Utility \$8694.33; Sewer Utility \$5783.96; Local Option \$16744.06; Debt Service Pool/Storm Water \$555.76; Storm Water \$2188.81; TIF \$0; EMS \$34.66; Library Benefits \$115.52; Property Ins \$115.52; Police Benefits \$46.21; Emergency Management \$7.45; ARP \$0.

23-24 Fiscal Year Payroll:

Zach Laudner	\$65955.26	Jacob Ditsworth	\$ 550.00
Jon Roberts	\$52991.24	Abbie Emhoff	\$1050.00
Jay Siefken	\$ 1087.60	Brian Koob	\$ 900.00
Cody Burnstein	\$70078.83	Randy Meyer	\$1000.00
Lorna Weier	\$39896.34	Chelsey Morrison	\$ 550.00
Caroline McManigal	\$31738.00	Larry Wentz	\$3000.00
JoLynn Scholl	\$17049.28	Tracy Worley	\$ 900.00
Helen Cahalan	\$ 4222.41		

Laudner presented bids from for the markings for street crossing and parking. With discussion, Koob moved to table this and have the bid include center markings for First Street. Motion seconded by Ditsworth, carried unanimously.

Laudner reported on the drainage issues along Madison Street and Southview Drive, noting a cost of \$4,000-\$4,500 to clean out the ditch, creek bed, re-shape the ditch to allow the water to flow better from there. Laudner also noted the cost for the North side of Madison Street. Council discussed this and asked to have more information on the scope of work to be done on the North side. Meyer moved to approve up to \$4,500.00 to clean the ditch on the South side of Madison Street. Motion seconded by Emhoff, carried unanimously.

Laudner stated that the door on the North tower is rusted and not easy to access, he had quotes from Mason City Glass to replace the door. Ditsworth asked to have a second quote, and so moved to table this until next meeting. Motion seconded by Koob, carried unanimously.

Weier noted a request to move a bench at the tennis courts from under the dying tree. With discussion, Ditsworth moved to allow the resident to move the bench and have everything put back as was. Motion seconded by Emhoff, carried unanimously.

Weier also noted a request to place a bench in the cemetery. Council was in agreement to allow the old bench be replaced.

Mayor Wentz presented Ordinance 1-2024 for approval.

ORDINANCE NO. 1-2024

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROCKWELL, IOWA, BY AMENDING 6-5-9, 6-5-11, 6-5-12, 6-5-13 AND 6-13-7 PERTAINING TO RATES AND AUTOMATIC INCREASES

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKWELL, IOWA:

Be amended to the following:

6-5-9 WATER RATES. Water shall be furnished at the following monthly rates per property serviced within the City limits:

The first	1,000 gallons -	\$11.94
All over	1,000 gallons -	\$3.51 per 1,000 gallons

The minimum charge shall be Eleven dollars and ninety-four cents (\$11.94) per building per billing month.

There shall be an annual increase of two (2%) for water service charges beginning each July.

6-5-11 REFUSE COLLECTION RATES. There shall be collected by the City for its services in collecting garbage, rubbish and recyclables, the following mandatory fees:

(a) The cost of garbage and refuse collection including recyclables collection shall be seventeen dollars and fifty-four cents (\$17.54) per month for one garbage or rubbish collection each week of no more than 33 gallons. The cost of 96 gallon garbage cart shall be twenty-one dollars and seventy-four cents (\$21.74) per month. Excess garbage and rubbish may be disposed of with additional tags.

(b) There shall be a charge of Two dollars and twelve cents (\$2.16) per month for landfill services.

There shall be an annual increase of two (2%) for refuse collection charges beginning each July.
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84(1))

6-5-12 RATE OF SEWER RENT AND MANNER OF PAYMENT. The rate of sewer rent shall be based upon the amount of water consumed per month as follows:

The first	2,000 gallons or lessor amount -	\$10.76 per month.
All over	2,000 gallons -	\$2.76 per 1,000 gallons

The minimum charge shall be Ten dollars and seventy-six cents (\$10.76) per building per billing month.

There shall be an annual increase of two (2%) for sewer service charges beginning each July.
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84(1))

6-5-13 DETERMINATION AND PAYMENT OF SEWER RENT FROM PREMISES WITH PRIVATE WATER SYSTEMS. Users whose premises have a private water system shall pay rent of \$10.76 per month.

The minimum charge shall be Ten dollars and seventy-six cents (\$10.76) per building per billing month.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84(1))

6-13-7 STORM WATER. Each residential, commercial and industrial account that is billed for one or more City utility services within the corporate limits of the City shall pay a Storm Water fee of five dollars and sixty-three cents (\$5.63) per month. Exempt from these charges are property owned by a public entity.

There shall be an annual increase of two (2%) percent for service charges beginning each July.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect on July 1 and following publication as required by law.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED by the City Council of Rockwell Iowa, on the 17th day of July, 2024.

Koob moved to approve the Ordinance 1-2024 as presented. Motion seconded by Emhoff. Roll call vote: Aye-Koob, Worley, Meyer, Ditsworth and Emhoff. Carried unanimously.

Koob moved to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance 1-2024. Motion seconded by Emhoff, carried unanimously.

Mayor Wentz noted a nuisance property. Weier stated the bank stated they will be taking care of said nuisance after July 19th.

Emhoff reported on the feedback from the Community Foundation grant application.

Emhoff also noted she has had concerns with the hours for the pool. Worley stated that they have more guards available now. Ditsworth felt this was something for the board to review and talk about.

Meyer reported, on behalf of the Community Fire Service, that the new mini pumper for the Rockwell Fire Department is here. Meyer noted this moves our department up a grade in fire protection.

Emhoff reported on the Landfill of North Iowa meeting.

Worley noted issues from storms at the pool and the annual Chicken BBQ is coming up.

Mayor Wentz offered congratulations to the West Fork Softball team and best luck with the state game!

Koob noted the existing sidewalk along a part of East Main Street and felt it would be nice to have sidewalk/trail out to Zeidler Park. Koob will look at cost and funding for such improvements. Council also asked to include the street markings for the path on East Main street to be included in the bid for street marking.

Meyer stated that he gave his due diligence, but the warning siren is very loud, and has concerns with this going off at noon and six every day. Council discussed and asked to have this on the agenda for the next meeting.

Ditsworth noted his conversation in reference to the tobacco permit issued and concerns voiced.

Emhoff asked to have the weeds on Main Street taken care of. Emhoff also asked about the standing water on Maple Street. Laudner noted the standing water seems to be coming from a sump pump, and since it was graveled there the water is not draining away.

Laudner reported on the hydrant at Madison and Fourth Street, noting that it is turned off as it leaks and does not work properly. Council agreed to have this hydrant removed, as there is another hydrant across the street.

Laudner stated that Linn Grove Country Club has asked about using the City skid loader to attach a stump grinder to use by them and possibly the City. With discussion, Koob felt that when the skid loader is being used it should be run by a city employee. Council agreed to work with the course on an agreement to use such equipment.

Meyer noted that the guys need some tools. Council agreed to them purchasing tools needed.

Chief Brunstein reminded all that National Night Out is Tuesday, August 6th from 5:00-8:00 pm. Chief Brunstein stated that he will be ordering a tent for National Night Out.

Chief Brunstein also noted that the county is moving to new firearms and he would like to trade his current firearm for the same to continue working with the county. Council felt this was good to move forward with.

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

Larry Wentz, Mayor

Lorna Weier, City Clerk