

August 6, 2025

Mayor Wentz called to order the regular meeting of the Rockwell City Council at 5:30 p.m. Council members present were Worley, Meyer and Emhoff. Also present were Jay Nieson, Jeremy Poole, John Robbins, Jon Roberts, Zach Laudner and Chief Brunstein.

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

The following bills were presented for payment:

PUBLIC SAFETY

Astra Security.....	Camera/Monthly Billing.....	\$ 306.54
Electric Engineer.....	Quarterly Service.....	\$ 29.70
Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 22.00
Dearborn.....	Life Insurance	\$ 31.05
Wellmark	Health Insurance	\$ 1377.05
Jonesy's Stop and Shop	Gas/Supplies.....	\$ 158.73
Cody Brunstein	Cell Phone.....	\$ 30.00
Total Public Safety		\$ 1955.07

PUBLIC WORKS

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 1882.41
Dearborn.....	Life Insurance	\$ 62.10
Jonesy's Stop and Shop	Gas	\$ 842.32
Floyd & Leonard.....	Supplies	\$ 169.25
Zach Laudner.....	Cell Phone.....	\$ 30.00
Jon Roberts.....	Cell Phone.....	\$ 30.00
Total Public Works		\$ 3016.08

PUBLIC WORKS ROAD USE TAX

Frank Dunn Co.....	Hot Mix.....	\$ 989.00
Casey's.....	Diesel.....	\$ 35.77
Total Public Works Road Use Tax		\$ 1024.77

CULTURE AND RECREATION

Jonesy's Stop and Shop	Supplies	\$ 183.07
Makenzie Fessler.....	Cemetery Mowing.....	\$ 2420.00
Poolweb.....	Supplies	\$ 227.64
Total Culture and Recreation		\$ 2830.71

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing/Memorial.....	\$ 22.12
City of Rockwell.....	LGCC Water Billing	\$ 1120.96
Janssen Construction.....	Remove Sign	\$ 500.00
Northland Manufacturing	Sign	\$ 1767.50
Johanns Tree Service.....	Tree Damage/Home	\$ 45150.00
Total Community and Economic Development.....		\$ 48560.58

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Wellmark	Health Insurance	\$ 4849.70
Total Employee Benefits		\$ 4819.70

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 171.27
Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 96.63
Dearborn.....	Life Insurance	\$ 34.80
Staples.....	Supplies	\$ 86.47

Postmaster	Postage Stamps	\$ 73.00
Storey Kenworthy	Office Supplies.....	\$ 150.45
Hewett Wholesale	Building Supplies	\$ 186.80
Iowa Valley Plumbing.....	EMS Air	\$ 1161.37
ServPro.....	Library	\$ 2998.03
Column/Mirror.....	Publication.....	\$ 377.80
Total General Government.....		\$ 5336.62

BUSINESS UTILITY WATER

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 412.09
Wellmark	Health Insurance	\$ 3442.65
Jonesy's Stop and Shop	Supplies	\$ 7.00
Hawkins	Chlorine/Cylinder.....	\$ 1909.73
Iowa One Call	Locates	\$ 21.70
Martin Marietta	Rock/Water Leak	\$ 663.63
DSG	Supplies	\$ 646.06
John Ries Excavating.....	Water Leak.....	\$ 1497.50
Eurofins.....	Water Test	\$ 43.20
Postmaster	Water Bills.....	\$ 262.30
Total Business Utility Water.....		\$ 8905.86

BUSINESS UTILITY SEWER

Iowa DNR.....	Waste Water Permit	\$ 210.00
Total Business Utility Sewer		\$ 210.00

LINN GROVE RECREATION

Rockwell Coop Telephone	Monthly Billing	\$ 90.85
Mid American Energy.....	Monthly Billing	\$ 11.21
Carrico Aquatic Resources.....	Repair/Supplies.....	\$ 35.90
Carrico Aquatic Resources.....	Repair/Supplies.....	\$ 197.35
Kiefer Aquatics	Supplies	\$ 210.84
Total Linn Grove Recreation		\$ 546.15

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

July Receipts: General \$10176.20; Road Use \$11760.08; Water Utility \$11719.89; Sewer Utility \$6957.46; Local Option \$24693.30; Debt Service Pool/Storm Water \$506.23; Storm Water \$2383.98.

Laudner presented quotes to pave a walking/bike path along Main Street East from Seventh Street to connect with the current added street width for said use. With discussion Meyer moved to approve only the street patch work and the Jefferson Street resurfacing for this budget year at a cost of \$56,746.80. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

At 5:35 p.m. Emhoff opened the public hearing to discuss the updated Zoning Ordinance. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously. John Robbins with NIACOG reviewed the updates made to the Zoning Ordinance. With no further discussion, Meyer moved to close the public hearing at 5:44 p.m. Motion seconded by Emhoff, carried unanimously.

Meyer moved to approve the adoption of the Zoning Ordinance 2-2025. Motion seconded by Worley. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 2-2025

On August 6, 2025, the City Council of Rockwell, Iowa adopted Ordinance No. 2-2025 entitled “AN ORDINANCE REGULATING AND RESTRICTING THE LOCATION, CONSTRUCTION, AND USE OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES, AND THE USE OF LAND IN THE CITY OF ROCKWELL, IOWA, AND FOR SAID PURPOSES, DIVIDING THE CITY INTO DISTRICTS AND CREATING A BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT, REPEALING ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT WITH THIS ORDINANCE, AND PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THE REGULATIONS.” The Ordinance repeals and replaces the previous Zoning Ordinance in its entirety. In compliance with Section 380.7 of the Code of Iowa, the City of Rockwell has prepared this Summary of Ordinance No. 2-2025 for publication, in lieu of publishing the entire text of the Ordinance.

1. The descriptions in this paragraph and in paragraph #2 constitute a summary of the essential elements of the Ordinance. The Ordinance is adopted in accordance the City of Rockwell Comprehensive Land Use Plan and is intended to meet the objectives of Chapter 414, Code of Iowa, to provide for the orderly use and development of land and related natural resources within the incorporated city limits of Rockwell Iowa for residential, commercial, industrial, and recreational purposes. The Ordinance further intends to preserve the availability of agricultural land; to consider the protection of soil from wind and water erosion; to encourage efficient urban development patterns; to lessen congestion in the street; to secure safety from fire, flood, panic, and other dangers; to promote health and the general welfare; to provide adequate light and air; to prevent the overcrowding of land; to avoid undue concentration of population; to promote the conservation of energy resources; to promote reasonable access to solar energy; and to facilitate the adequate provision of transportation, water, sewerage, schools, parks, and other public requirements.
2. The Ordinance further details permitted and conditional uses within six established districts within the incorporated city limits of Rockwell, Iowa for the purpose of promoting the health, safety, morals, and the general welfare of the community or for the purpose of preserving historically significant areas of the community. To carry out this purpose, the Ordinance regulates and restricts the height, number of stories, and size of buildings and other structures, the percentage of a lot that may be occupied, the size of yards, courts, and other open spaces, the density of population, and the location and use of buildings, structures, and land for trade, industry, residence, or other purposes.

Under the Ordinance and Chapter 414 of the Code of Iowa, the City will be authorized to use its authority to enforce this Ordinance to prevent such unlawful erection, construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, conversion, maintenance, or use and shall institute any proper action or proceedings to prevent, restrain, correct or abate such violation, to prevent the occupancy of said building, structure, or land, or to prevent any illegal act, conduct business, or use in or about such premises in violation of the Ordinance.

The full text of the Ordinance may be inspected at the Office of the Rockwell City Clerk; Rockwell City Hall; 114 3rd Street N; Rockwell, Iowa, 50469, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

The Ordinance will become effective upon the publication of this Summary.

Emhoff moved to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance 2-2025. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Jay Nieson was present to present a cost and service with Waste Management for garbage and recycling. Nieson stated that Waste Management has a transfer station in Mason City, they offer

32 or 96 gallon garbage carts and 64 gallon recycle carts, with an automated system. Nieson noted that recycle is picked up every other week. Nieson stated that they could keep our regular pickup day, Thursday. Nieson left the meeting. Following discussion, Meyer moved to accept the quote from Waste Management with service starting October 1st, for a three year contract. Motion seconded by Emhoff, carried unanimously.

Jeremy Poole, of Iowa Valley Plumbing, presented quotes for replacing the heating and air conditioning in the EMS building. With discussion, Worley moved to replace the system with a new furnace and air conditioning unit at a cost of \$12,504.00. Motion seconded by Emhoff, carried unanimously.

Mayor Wentz thanked the City Employees, community members, volunteers and all that came together to help with the continuing clean up from the storms. Mayor Wentz also thanked Hy-Vee for the water and sandwiches provided and Cerro Gordo County and the DOT for coming in with trucks to help move out the trees. Mayor Wentz felt that things went smoothly and all worked together during this process. Laudner stated that they are not allowing anymore trees at the temporary tree dump! Residents can take trees to the city tree dump, with caution, as it is burning. Laudner also stated that they will pick up branches curbside until August 15th!

Laudner asked the Council about thoughts on what the Engineer presented at the previous meeting. Meyer felt the Third Street Bridge project should be put on the next agenda to get started with the permits and paperwork.

Mayor Wentz questioned water standing at a residents. Laudner noted that it is from their sump pumps running. Mayor Wentz asked to have a cost to tile this so the water can move.

Worley noted this is Chicken BBQ weekend. Emhoff also noted there will be a farmers market on Main Street Sunday.

Emhoff asked to discuss the vacancy tax on abandoned buildings at the next meeting.

Chief Brunstein noted his vest is nearing the five year mark and will need to be updated. Mayor Wentz approved for him to purchase a new vest.

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

Larry Wentz, Mayor

Lorna Weier, City Clerk