

September 3, 2025

Mayor Wentz called to order the regular meeting of the Rockwell City Council at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3, 2025. All council members were present. Also present were Barret Werner, Don O’Conner, Megan Wentz, Pat Hurley, Gary Akins, Chadd Blanchard, Mike Perrott, Patrick Palmer, Michelle Bowden, Mike, Jay Nieson, Jon Roberts, Zach Laudner, and Chief Brunstein.

Mayor Wentz allowed for input from the public forum.

Pat Hurley spoke about garbage, sidewalks, safety with golf carts and scooters, Council spending.

Worley moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Emhoff noted that it is stated that the City was done picking up branches on the 15th of August. Motion seconded by Ditsworth, carried unanimously.

The following bills were presented for approval:

PUBLIC SAFETY

Astra Security.....	Camera/Monthly Billing.....	\$ 306.54
Cerro Gordo County Sheriff’s Office.....	Software.....	\$ 35.00
Galls	Police Clothing.....	\$ 355.91
Amazon	Ear Plugs	\$ 63.68
Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 95.08
Wellmark	Health Insurance	\$ 1377.05
Jonesy’s Stop and Shop	Gas/Supplies.....	\$ 162.22
Cody Brunstein	Cell Phone.....	\$ 30.00
Total Public Safety		\$ 2425.48

PUBLIC WORKS

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 1839.74
Jonesy’s Stop and Shop	Gas/Supplies.....	\$ 1008.77
Absolute Waste Removal.....	Monthly Service	\$ 6937.60
Don’s Auto Service.....	Ford Tractor Repairs	\$ 1431.87
Floyd & Leonard.....	Supplies	\$ 62.49
Menards.....	Supplies	\$ 97.86
Mayland Garage.....	Repairs.....	\$ 26.75
Metal Storm Mfg.....	Mower Repair.....	\$ 450.00
NIACOG	Zoning Ordinance	\$ 3000.00
Zach Laudner	Cell Phone.....	\$ 30.00
Jon Roberts.....	Cell Phone.....	\$ 30.00
Total Public Works		\$ 14915.08

CULTURE AND RECREATION

Jonesy’s Stop and Shop	Supplies/Pool.....	\$ 241.10
Total Culture and Recreation.....		\$ 241.10

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing/Memorial.....	\$ 22.50
City of Rockwell.....	LGCC Water Billing	\$ 444.75
Tyler Letellier Construction.....	Electrical/Sign	\$ 2979.53

Dahley Tree Service.....	Tree Damage/City Right of Ways	\$ 20400.00
Johanns Tree Service.....	Tree Damage/Cemetery.....	\$ 84000.00
John Ries Excavating.....	Trees Removal	\$ 9350.00
Total Community and Economic Development.....		117196.78

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 191.43
Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 24.76
NIACOG	Membership Dues	\$ 1092.42
Iowa Valley Plumbing.....	EMS Furnace/Air	\$ 11686.72
Column/Mirror.....	Publication.....	\$ 303.92
WebWise.....	Website Domain.....	\$ 22.00
Martin's Flag Company	Flags	\$ 258.43
SMG.....	Copy/Printer	\$ 40.00
Visual Edge.....	Final Billing.....	\$ 3.54
Total General Government.....		\$ 13623.22

BUSINESS UTILITY WATER

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....	\$ 419.85
Wellmark	Health Insurance	\$ 3442.65
Jonesy's Stop and Shop	Supplies	\$ 22.82
Hawkins	Chlorine/Cylinder.....	\$ 10.00
Eurofins.....	Water Test	\$ 40.00
John Ries Excavating.....	Water Leak.....	\$ 510.00
John Ries Excavating.....	Water Leak.....	\$ 510.00
FedEx.....	Shipping Samples.....	\$ 14.03
State Hygienic Lab.....	Testing.....	\$ 21.00
Postmaster	Mail Water Bills	\$ 261.69
Total Business Utility Water.....		\$ 5252.04

BUSINESS UTILITY SEWER

Visu-Sewer.....	Televising/Inspection.....	\$ 22177.45
Eurofins.....	Waste Water Test	\$ 132.80
Total Business Utility Sewer		\$ 22310.25

Linn Grove Recreation		
Rockwell Coop Telephone	Monthly Billing	\$ 90.95
Mid American Energy.....	Monthly Billing	\$ 1971.14
Carrico Aquatic Resources.....	Repair/Supplies.....	\$ 418.05
Rec Supply	Umbrella.....	\$ 136.27
Blazek Electric	Labor	\$ 95.00
Daley's Plumbing.....	Repairs.....	\$ 1468.57
Clear Lake Sanitary District.....	Samples	\$ 44.00
Hewett Wholesale	Concessions.....	\$ 1209.44

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

August Receipts: General \$10070.74; Road Use \$12247.91; Water Utility \$10975.04; Sewer Utility \$6232.56; Local Option \$18762.60; Debt Service Pool/Storm Water \$422.21; Storm Water \$2295.84; TIF \$0

Michelle Bowden was present on behalf of Absolute Waste Removal. Bowden stated she has been the sales representative and worked with Rockwell for the past nine years of the fifteen years we have done business together. Bowden told the Council she was here to take any questions on the proposal that had been presented. With no questions, Koob thanked Bowden and AWR for their quality service and noted that the change has nothing to do with performance. Michelle and Mike left the meeting.

Mayor Wentz opened discussion for sidewalks. Koob stated that we are looking for input from residents on ways for updating, repairing and implementing sidewalks. Werner asked if there was a general plan of how the Council plans to implement sidewalks, and follow through with enforcement. With questions and discussion, Council was in agreement to put some plans together and work with NIACOG and start with the major streets in town for implementing repairs and sidewalks. Werner asked about his sidewalk that goes nowhere and he wants to remove it. Koob felt that at this time, the sidewalk could be removed, but should things change it may need to be replaced. Council will follow up to put together an agreement of sorts.

Mayor Wentz noted the DOT asking for a detour to come through on B60 during bridge work on Highway 65. With discussion, Council asked to deny this request and see if the detour can go up to B43. Mayor Wentz will check on this.

Emhoff asked to have more information on the Vacancy Tax and Fines for commercial and residential properties.

Ditsworth and Nieson left the meeting.

Laudner presented a proposed schedule for fees for permits and actions required by Ordinance. Meyer felt the cost could be summed up together more and re-structured the cost with the fees.

Laudner asked the Council what about their thoughts on the Third Street Bridge project that the engineer from Veenstra & Kimm INC. Laudner stated that the engineer cost for the planning would be \$9,500.00, this project could be budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year. Koob moved to approve the study for the Third Street Bridge to be done with Veenstra & Kimm INC at a cost of \$9,500. Motion seconded Emhoff, carried unanimously.

WHEREAS, per the Rockwell Zoning Ordinance, fees pertaining to permits and actions required by the Ordinance shall be in accordance with the Schedule of Fees adopted by resolution by the Rockwell City Council; and,

WHEREAS, the Schedule of Fees shall be adopted as attached to this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the City Council of Rockwell, Iowa hereby approve the above Schedule of Fees whereby permits shall be issued or other action as required for the enforcement of the Rockwell Zoning Ordinance.

ZONING SCHEDULE OF FEES:

<u>Construction Cost</u>	<u>Fee</u>
\$0 -- \$2,000	\$20.00
\$2,001 -- \$10,000	\$50.00
\$10,001 -- \$25,000	\$100.00

\$25,001 -- \$50,000	\$150.00
\$50,001 -- \$75,000	\$200.00
\$75,001 -- \$100,000	\$250.00
Over \$100,000	\$1.00 per additional \$1,000 cost (Maximum fee \$1,000)

Board of Adjustment fees:

Variance Request:	\$150.00
Conditional Use permit request:	\$150.00
Zoning decision appeal:	\$150.00

Planning and Zoning Commission meeting request:

Rezoning or Text Amendment	\$200.00
Preliminary Plat:	\$250.00 + \$10.00/lot>4
Final Plat:	\$250.00
Future Land Use Map Amendment:	\$150.00
Vacation request:	\$100.00

Administrative fee for non-compliance:	Equal to Zoning Permit fee in addition to Zoning Permit fee
Records request fee:	Same as general City Policy

Meyer moved to approve the fees for building permits and zoning fees as amended. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously by Resolution 2025-10.

Laudner stated that he and Jon feel they could utilize a trailer for hauling the lawn mower and such, he has looked at a 6 X 11 foot trailer for \$2,599.00. Koob moved to table this to look at other options and other uses for a trailer. Motion seconded by Emhoff, carried unanimously.

Koob moved by Resolution 2025-8 to approve the Fiscal Year 2025 Street Finance Report. Motion seconded by Emhoff. Roll call vote, Ayes; Koob, Worley, Meyer and Emhoff. Carried unanimously.

Koob moved by Resolution 2025-9 to approve the Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Report. Motion seconded by Meyer. Roll call vote, Ayes; Koob, Worley, Meyer and Emhoff. Carried unanimously.

Laudner also discussed with the Council the option from Veenstra & Kimm INC for smoke testing as a part of the water and wastewater system studies at a cost of \$22,700.00. Meyer moved to approve said work with Veenstra & Kimm INC. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Worley reported that the Chicken BBQ was great this year! Chadd Blanchard noted the pool is closed for the season, noting there is some work to be done: plumbing on the slides, cracks in the bottom of the pool, remodel in the concession stand as well as the ceiling. Blanchard also stated it was a great year for the pool with good leadership and management. Megan Wentz also noted the positive shout outs for allowing the Sheffield passes to be honored here when they had issues there. Worley also complimented the kids working for the pool that came out for the storm cleanup.

Amber Hurley came to the meeting.

Worley stated she would help with the website. Weier also noted she would contact WebWise to see about training.

Mayor Wentz reported that he is working with Microsoft to get government pricing to update software.

Emhoff asked to have the guys pick up the flowers on Main Street to be ready for the fall mums. Emhoff noted she would like to purchase the mums from a fundraiser.

Laudner asked the Council about the REDC property and how it is going to be cleaned out now from the tree pile and the remaining trees that need to be taken down. Meyer noted this will be taken to the REDC and follow up at a later meeting.

Laudner asked if the Council wanted to have the cemetery sprayed for broad leafs again this fall. Koob asked about the storm damage clean up there. Laudner noted that Johanns Tree Service are done now. Worley noted the fence needs to be fixed. Laudner stated that he is going to be getting in contact with someone for the fence repairs. Koob asked to have bids for the fall spraying of the cemetery.

Chief Brunstein noted he will need to replace his outer carrier vest. Council asked to have prices for this.

Weier stated that the Landfill of North Iowa will hold a Hazardous Waste pickup here on Monday, September 22nd from 3:30-5:30 pm. More information will be available soon.

Weier shared the letter with the Council that will be sent to residents from Waste Management in the transition with the garbage and recycle carts. This will be sent to residents soon.

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

Larry Wentz, Mayor

Lorna Weier, City Clerk