

August 21, 2019

Mayor Flatness called to order the regular meeting of the Rockwell City Council at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 21, 2019 in the Council Chambers. Council members present were Worley, Gauley, Wentz and Meyer. Also present were Dick Fridley, Tom Hensley, Jay Siefken and Chief Whitney.

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

Wentz moved to approve the Library financial report. Motion seconded by Gauley, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness told the Council with the current police car having had some repairs, he went to research cars for future replacement. Mayor Flatness noted that when the budget was set they talked about replacing the 1997 pickup, so he also looked at pickups. Council reviewed the information to consider makes and cost.

Siefken told the Council the pipe samples he has here are to show the size differences from what is currently the storm water line and what he feels would work for replacing it. With this being smaller than the Engineers planned for, would save about \$250,000 just on the pipe, the smaller pipe would also bring the line up so there would not be as much rock to dig through. Council discussed the pipe size and options. Mayor Flatness stated that the Council needs to decide if they are going to start the process again, and commit to doing it with changes and contact the Engineers with what we feel will work for the City. Mayor Flatness stated it will still cost the tax payers, but with changes there would be a substantial savings from the original cost. Council was in agreement, Siefken will talk to the Engineers to see what they can provide with smaller pipe for the project.

Mayor Flatness talked with the City Attorney about an agreement for the property for a new welcome sign. The Attorney suggests a permanent agreement, with a survey done, for the exact location. Siefken suggested a solar light rather than having to have a meter box too.

Mayor Flatness asked for any thoughts on how to approach sidewalk repairs. Siefken noted he has someone coming in that does repairs and is interested in knowing what they do. Mayor Flatness has contacted NIACOG to see if we can use the TIF fund that is building to help with a repair fund. Wentz stated the he felt it is important to educate the public with information on the up keep and repairs for sidewalks and that code states it is the property owner's responsibility. Wentz noted if we can use the TIF funds that would be a good financial boost to start something.

Mayor Flatness noted that Congressman Steve King was here last week for the Cerro Gordo County town hall meeting. Mayor Flatness thanked the city employees for their work on getting the building spiffed up with some exterior cleaning and painting.

Mayor Flatness told the Council that Siefken and Hensley have started working on the frost boils to have them dug out and rock in prior to Heartland coming in to pave.

Worley stated that he and Gauley have put together some ideas for a 150th celebration for next year. Gauley listed a parade, street dance, car show, and more for activities. With discussion, all felt June 13, 2020 was a good time to have a celebration!

Meyer felt it has been a good season for the pool and they will be open evenings and weekends until Sunday, September 1st weather and attendance permitting.

Hensley noted that it has been confirmed that there is Emerald Ash Borer in Franklin County. Council agreed something to be aware of. Siefken stated they will be going around trimming trees on the street edge and will need to have Nuehring Tree Service follow with their grinder. Siefken also noted a dead tree on Walnut for the tree committee to look at.

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

Michael Flatness, Mayor

Lorna Weier, City Clerk