

October 21, 2020

Mayor Flatness called to order the regular meeting of the Rockwell City Council at 7:00 p.m. Council members present were Gauley, Meyer, Wentz and Koob with Worley via phone. Also present were Dick Fridley, Jay Siefken and Chief Whitney.

Koob moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Meyer. Siefken stated that he was asked with the purchase of the new pickup in discussion it was stated that it would be serviced in Mason City. Mayor Flatness clarified that the warranty work would be done in Mason City but regular service would stay in town. Motion to approve the minutes as presented carried.

Wentz moved to approve the Library Treasurers report. Gauley asked about the billing with Wells Fargo. Weier noted they have a lease payment for the copier. Koob questioned if this could be done differently for cost savings. Gauley seconded, motion carried unanimously.

At 7:05 p.m. Koob moved to open the public hearing for the Codification of City Ordinance. Motion seconded by Meyer, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness stated as pursuant to state of Iowa this public hearing is to adopt the Rockwell Code of Ordinances of 2020. Mayor Flatness noted that North Iowa Area Council of Governments will follow up with this in publications. With no questions, written or oral comments, Wentz moved to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Gauley, carried unanimously.

Koob moved to adopt the Codification of the City of Rockwell Municipal Code of Ordinances 2020. Motion seconded by Meyer, with roll call taken. Ayes; Gauley, Meyer, Wentz, Koob and Worley. Motion passed unanimously.

Gauley moved to waive the second and third hearing in adopting the Code of Ordinances. Motion seconded by Wentz, with roll call taken. Ayes; Gauley, Meyer, Wentz, Koob and Worley. Motion passed unanimously.

Weier presented the renewal for the employee health insurance with Wellmark, stating this year we have a decrease in premiums of 5.40% for the same policy we have had. Koob moved to approve the renewal for the employee health insurance. Motion seconded by Gauley, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness asked the tree committee for their opinions on the requested tree removal. Worley felt the trees are nice looking, healthy trees but if the property owner wants to remove them at their cost he does not have a problem with that. Gauley questioned if we are setting precedents with allowing tree removal. Koob felt we are creating different issues with reasons for removing trees, and so moved to table this and ask the property owner to attend the meeting to discuss the tree removal. Motion seconded by Wentz, carried unanimously.

Koob moved to approve the liquor license renewal for Linn Grove Country Club. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness noted the survey has been finished on the property as discussed prior.

Mayor Flatness stated the sign replacement program with the DOT has been finished and paperwork submitted. Mayor Flatness noted this was a job well done by Hensley, Siefken and Chief Whitney.

Mayor Flatness stated the new pickup has been ordered.

Mayor Flatness noted that Chief Whitney had put his calls for service report in the Council boxes. Meyer asked Chief Whitney about the theft calls. Chief Whitney stated that there have been several unlocked vehicles gone through again with miscellaneous items taken.

Koob reported that the pool repairs have been done with the pool filled and water circulated and winterized for the year, and they are working on other things. Mayor Flatness thanked Koob and those involved in the work for a job well done.

Mayor Flatness stated that they had met with a Boland Recreation representative for the playground equipment and starting to set things up to be ready in the spring for ground work. Mayor Flatness noted that a 28E with the County will need to be prepared. Koob stated that this winter they want to get letters out asking for donations to keep the fund raising going.

Worley noted he has been going through the information for the 150th celebration and looking at activities from that era.

Gauley asked about hiring a second officer. Meyer noted that he will be putting together a proposal.

Meyer asked if Heartland Asphalt is finished in town. Siefken noted there were a couple of things they were called back on and will be looking at the basketball court as the rain water puddled on it. Worley asked if there has been good feedback on the bridge approach, and feels it is much better. Wentz asked if Heartland will be responsible for the patching done with the storm water project, he felt there is a slight dip in one area, as it maybe has settled. Siefken stated they had compacted things really well as they were digging and putting back together, and there is a two year warranty on the work from the project.

Wentz questioned a speed bump that was missing. Siefken stated that it has been put back in and Chief Whitney has the name of someone that has been spinning on these causing them to come up. Koob asked about taking these bumps out prior to snow and freezing to have the signs and all out of the way. Wentz noted that the DOT is behind on the bridge project and it will be the end of November prior to finishing the bridges. Siefken noted that there is a bridge to the South that they will be doing next year and they have talked about using First Street as the set detour. Mayor Flatness will look into this.

Koob noted that he has talked with Nuehring Concrete about a cost of cementing the area at the pool entrance.

Mayor Flatness stated that budget time is coming up and everyone needs to be thinking about upcoming expenditures that should be included in the budget.

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

Michael Flatness, Mayor

Lorna Weier, City Clerk