

January 20, 2021

Mayor Flatness called to order the regular meeting of the Rockwell City Council at 7:10 p.m. after technical difficulties with Zoom. Council members present were Koob, Meyer and Wentz with Gauley and Worley via phone. Also present were Tom Hensley and Chief Whitney.

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

Wentz moved to approve the Library report as presented. Motion seconded by Gauley. Koob asked about the \$3,000.00 transfer. Weier noted it was from savings to cover expenditures and grant funds for supplies. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness presented a Tax Abatement application from 503 Elm Street East, Kelly and Deb Laudner. Wentz moved to approve the application to be forwarded to the County Assessor by Resolution 2021-1. Second by Meyer, carried unanimously.

Weier reviewed the 2021-2022 Budget and Max Hearing. With discussion, Koob moved to set the public hearing for February 17, 2021 at 7:05 p.m. for the proposed property tax levy. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness stated that the City of Rockwell has been awarded title to the property at 213 Main Street East. After January 22, 2021 the City can follow through with what the Council determines for the said property. At 7:20 p.m. Wentz moved to go into closed session per Iowa Code Chapter 21.5 section j to discuss property sale. Motion seconded by Meyer, carried unanimously.

At 7:41 p.m. Council reconvened with the open meeting. Koob moved to have the property at 213 Main Street East cleared, with any items of value removed, have the structures leveled and back filled. Motion seconded by Wentz, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness stated that we have received two sealed bids for the demolition of the buildings. With discussion, Worley moved to open the sealed bids. Motion seconded by Wentz, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness opened the bids with McKiness Excavating, Inc. bidding \$9,789.00 and John Ries Excavating bidding \$6,950.00. Both bids were for the demolition of the structures, capping the sewer and water lines, and back filling the property. Worley moved to accept the bid from John Ries Excavating for \$6,950.00 for the demolition. Motion seconded by Koob, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness stated that he had made the changes discussed on the Operations Order. Following discussion, Wentz moved to adopt the Operations Order for Catastrophic Event for Rockwell, Iowa, by Resolution 2021-2. Motion seconded by Gauley. Roll call vote: Ayes; Koob, Meyer, Wentz, Worley and Gauley. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness stated that he has met with an arborist in reference to the tree at 213 Main Street East. The arborist recommended that the tree be trimmed and let it stand, he provided a bid for cleaning up the tree as well as removing the tree. Mayor Flatness felt we should have a second bid for trimming and removal of the tree. Koob asked that the tree committee get a second quote and bring their recommendation to the Council. Worley noted that he has been approached about using a bid process for tree removal.

Koob stated that he has an offer to have the bell at the front of the building powder coated. Council was in agreement to have Koob follow up with this.

Mayor Flatness stated that he has had City Attorney, Matthew Berry, review the Use Agreement and Hold Harmless agreement with Cerro Gordo County Conservation Board and has given some guidance to consider.

Koob noted that he is trying to put together some policy, procedures, and expectations for updates with State Code references for a Public Safety policy. Mayor Flatness stated this could be approved by the Public Safety Committee.

Wentz noted complaints about snowmobiles running on resident's private property. Chief Whitney stated the snowmobilers are pretty good about policing themselves, so he will talk to some when he sees them to remind all that they are to ride on the right of way only.

Worley noted he is putting together ideas for the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration.

Chief Whitney had cost for a shot gun rack. Koob felt that if we are looking at changing squad vehicles, we should wait as they all fit differently.

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

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Michael Flatness, Mayor

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Lorna Weier, City Clerk