

May 5, 2021

Mayor Flatness called to order the regular meeting of the Rockwell City Council at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 5, 2021. Council members present were Gauley, Meyer, Wentz and Worley with Koob via Zoom. Also present were Wendy and Mike Perrot, Josh Dannen, Adam Wedmore, Tom Hensley and Jay Siefken.

Wentz moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion seconded by Gauley, carried unanimously.

The following bills were presented for approval:

PUBLIC SAFETY

Electronic Engineering.....	Monthly Service.....	\$
9.90		
Central Square.....	Annual fee.....	\$
131.00		
US Cellular.....	Police Phone.....	\$
66.25		
Don's Auto Service	Police Car.....	\$
739.20		
Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.	Monthly billing	\$
92.23		
Hobby Lobby	Police.....	\$
21.30		
Hy-Vee	Police.....	\$
63.45		
Total Public Safety		\$
1123.33		

PUBLIC WORKS

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing	\$
1851.27		
Dearborn Group	Life Insurance	\$
69.60		
Huber Supply Co.....	Annual Lease	\$
100.00		
Tractor Supply Co.....	Supplies.....	\$
26.97		
John Ries Excavating.....	Demolition/Dump Clean Up.....	\$
8930.00		
Jay Siefken	Cell Phone.....	\$
30.00		
Tom Hensley	Cell Phone.....	\$
30.00		

Total Public Works\$
11037.84

CULTURE AND RECREATION

Weier's Lawn ServiceCemetery/Grass Seed\$
52.50

Floyd & Leonard.....Cemetery/Supplies\$
55.58

Total Culture and Recreation\$
108.08

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mid American Energy.....Monthly billing/Memorial\$
29.49

John Ries Excavating.....Demolition/Trees\$
800.00

Wellmark Blue CrossMonthly premium health insurance ...\$
904.42

Rockwell Public Library.....Monthly payment\$
3833.33

Total Community and Economic Development.....\$
5567.24

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.Monthly billing\$
102.65

Mid American Energy.....Monthly billing\$
385.10

Dearborn GroupLife Insurance\$
34.80

First Security BankBox Fee\$
47.00

Mid-America Publishing.....Publications.....\$
211.46

Mid-America Publishing.....Subscription\$
43.00

Postmaster.....Postage\$
55.00

Lorna Weier.....Clothing\$
570.00

Total General Government.....\$
1449.01

DEBT SERVICE

UMBStorm Water Bond Payment.....\$
55897.50

UMBPool Bond Payment\$

61250.00	
Total Debt Service.....	\$
117147.50	
<u>BUSINESS UTILITY WATER</u>	
Mid American Energy.....	Monthly billing.....\$
455.74	
Hawkins, Inc.....	Chemicals.....\$
858.45	
Eurofins.....	Water Test.....\$
45.00	
UPS.....	Postage Water/Waste Water Test.....\$
39.52	
Postmaster.....	Water Bills.....\$
150.12	
K & W Coatings LLC.....	Tower Repair/Cleaning.....\$
11800.00	
Total Business Utility Water.....	\$
13348.83	

BUSINESS UTILITY SEWER

Wellmark Blue Cross.....	Monthly premium health insurance...\$
6783.27	
Eurofins.....	Waste Water Test.....\$
165.16	
Sensus.....	Autoread Support.....\$
1715.95	
John Ries Excavating.....	Sewer Clean Out.....\$
1000.00	
Total Business Utility Sewer.....	\$
9664.38	

Meyer moved, including the additional bills turned in from John Ries Excavating and K & W Coatings, to approve the bills as listed, Motion seconded by Gauley unanimously.

April Receipts: General \$112270.73; Road Use \$27921.98; Water Utility \$9813.20; Sewer Utility \$5294.09; Local Option \$12205.64; Debt Service Pool/Storm Water \$50757.70; Storm Water \$2038.00; TIF \$2943.42; EMS \$1978.42; Benefits \$7913.84.

Siefken stated in reference to the request of purchasing the city right of way that we shouldn't sell property that has city utilities under it. Siefken asked about setting signs that would allow for no traffic, and tickets could be written if traffic drives there. Mayor Flatness noted we can confer with the City Attorney as to what we can do for signage.

Mayor Flatness presented a tax abatement application from Don and Carrie Brown for new home construction. Wentz moved by Resolution 2021-6 to approve the tax abatement application as

presented to be forwarded to the County Assessor's Office. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Adam Wedmore and Josh Dannen were present on behalf of the Fire Department to discuss the street dance for the 150th celebration. Wedmore noted that last year the Council allocated \$5,000 for the department to use for the street dance. Wedmore also noted they are requesting to close Main Street, waive the noise ordinance for the duration of the event. Wedmore also asked about porta-potties and explained their plan for security for the event.

Worley moved to allow the \$5,000.00 for the department towards the street dance. Motion seconded by Meyer, carried unanimously.

Wentz moved to close Main Street from 3:00 p.m. Saturday, June 19th until 3:00 a.m. Sunday June 20th for the street dance. Motion seconded by Gauley, carried unanimously.

Meyer moved to waive the noise ordinance from 6:00 p.m. Saturday, June 19th until 1:00 a.m. Sunday June 20th for the street dance. Motion seconded by Wentz, carried unanimously.

Wedmore noted that prior it was discussed to have porta-potties for other events that maybe going on during the event. Wedmore will see what they feel is needed for porta-potties and get back to the Council. Koob questioned where other events may be, the pool will be open for regular use and concessions. Worley stated he has not had much response from anyone. Wedmore told the Council about their security plan, if any issues arise the Sheriff's Office will be contacted. Wedmore and Dannen thanked the Council as they left the meeting.

Mayor Flatness presented a request from Chief Whitney, as per the personnel policy to be paid for unused sick days. Mayor Flatness stated the policy allows for \$10.00 per unused days and Whitney had thirty-five days. Koob moved to approve the request to pay Whitney \$350.00 for unused sick days. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness asked the Council if they want to continue with an hourly rate for the Police Chief position or set it at a salary, noting we need to have this in place when we start with interviews. Koob stated we need to have a written policy for expectations of an officer with a salaried position. Following discussion, Wentz moved to make the Chief position a salaried position, as discussed with a policy written, with compensation considered in the starting salary. Motion seconded by Meyer, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness asked the Council what they are thinking of for a salary for the position. Mayor Flatness noted that from prior research, the average salary was \$51,000. Meyer stated we could start with an uncertified officer at \$51,400.00 and with certification and each year of service and increase of \$1,000 at five years being capped at \$56,400.00. Koob asked if there is a probationary period. Mayor Flatness noted there is by the city personnel policy. Following discussion, Meyer moved to base the salary for a Police Chief on the scale discussed, starting at \$51,400.00 and with certification and each year of service and increase of \$1,000 at five years

being capped at \$56,400.00. Motion seconded by Koob, carried unanimously. Mayor Flatness noted the police policy needs to be in place.

Mayor Flatness told the Council that employee evaluations are in the process. Mayor Flatness asked about changing the Superintendent position to a salary position rather than hourly. Council agreed to wait until that position is open. Mayor Flatness asked for discussion on employee raises. With discussion, Gauley moved to give a three percent increase to the employees for the next fiscal year. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Gauley asked about the large item pickup. Siefken stated it is curb side pickup, May 22nd and they will not be stationed to take appliances.

Siefken reported back on street work with Heartland Asphalt noting they will address the radius of First Street and Madison Street, without charging if we are going to go ahead with the other work on Madison Street as discussed at the prior meeting. Mayor Flatness noted that there will need to be work done on First Street following the second unofficial detour. Wentz asked if Heartland Asphalt will give bids on driveway work while they are in town. Siefken stated they will take names for estimates, names and addresses can be left at City Hall. Following discussion, Meyer moved to have Heartland Asphalt pave Madison Street from Quince, the City limits, to First Street South and to also pave the Main Street East to the rail road tracks as well as Elm Street starting at First Street going West, approximately three blocks, at a total cost of \$260,492, using the remaining bond issue and road use tax funding from the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget. Motion seconded by Wentz carried unanimously.

Worley noted the nuisance house. Mayor Flatness noted the house is down and cleaned up.

Koob reported that the pool cleanup day was held Saturday, still some repair work to finish, but getting closer to opening.

Koob stated that he has received word of donations from Rockwell Coop Telephone and grant funding from Walmart as well as other request out there for the playground.

Worley asked the Council to help make the decision on events for the 150th celebration. Worley knows there is interest in the parade and the churches will work together for a breakfast and the street dance that evening. Meyer stated we shouldn't over think this; people may want to go to the pool, golf or have family time. Worley felt this was fine and we could have the car/tractor show on Sunday in the school parking lot. Worley will have fliers made to get out in the area. Worley asked about getting the tables, he has six reserved. Council agreed to have them deliver and pickup four tables.

Koob asked about garbage left by the dumpster. Mayor Flatness noted this has been taken care of for now.

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

Michael Flatness, Mayor

Lorna Weier, City Clerk