

July 21, 2021

Mayor Flatness called to order the regular meeting of the Rockwell City Council at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 21, 2021. Council members present were Koob, Gauley, Wentz and Worley. Also present were Hensley and via Zoom Dick Fridley and Caroline McManigal.

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

Koob moved to approve the Library. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Caroline McManigal, Library Director, stated that things went well with the summer reading program, activities have picked up and Mayor Flatness has been doing a story hour on Saturdays and when it gets cooler this may increase with kids coming in. McManigal noted a grant received for \$5,000.00, some of this will be spent on expanding the library to the outside, with COVID in mind. McManigal stated she has purchased a table, chairs, canopy and outdoor heater and still wants to purchase a storage shed and security cameras for the back of the library. Mayor Flatness complimented McManigal on the work being done.

Mayor Flatness stated that Weier sent out request for proposals for an annual exam that were to be in by July 20th. The State Auditor's Office returned a letter stating they would not be able to perform an exam for this current year and no other proposals were received. Siefken noted that Weier will be following up with this. Wentz moved to table the audit. Motion seconded by Gauley, carried unanimously.

Siefken had quotes from Keeling Tree Service and Ries Excavating on removing the stump at 213 Main Street E. Siefken noted it will need to be quartered to get it hauled away. With discussion, Koob moved to not exceed \$2,500.00 for the work with Keeling and Ries for removal of the stump. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Hensley stated that he has not heard from Cutting Edge Tree Service and has a bid from Blanchard for the six trees in the Cemetery and three other trees that have been discussed at a cost of \$15,500.00. Worley moved to have Blanchard Tree Service take down the nine trees discussed for \$15,500. Motion seconded by Wentz, carried unanimously. Siefken stated that Keeling Tree Service had also given quotes on four other trees that have been looked at. Koob asked Hensley if he can have Blanchard give a price on these four as well since he will be working around town already. Koob moved to table the four trees until the next meeting for another bid. Motion seconded by Wentz, carried unanimously.

Worley noted the sidewalk removal request and felt that these few sections look fine as they are. Koob felt the sidewalk should continue on to Oak Street rather than being removed. Siefken noted that continuing with the sidewalk to Oak Street will interfere with drainage. With discussion from the Code stating abutting property owners are responsible for upkeep on

sidewalks and working to get sidewalks in the areas around the school and not allowing for sidewalks to be taken out. Worley moved to table the removal request and would like to talk to the resident. Motion seconded by Gauley, carried unanimously.

Siefken stated there has been a request to close Adam Street from 2nd to 3rd on August 21st from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm by Behr Auction to set up and have an auction in that location. Worley moved to approve the request to close the street for an auction on August 21st. Motion seconded by Koob, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness stated the new police car will have everything done in eight to ten weeks; Mason City Ford has allowed us to keep the old car to set out as I feel necessary. Mayor Flatness noted the E911 with Cerro Gordo County has allowed \$3,000.00 for the city to purchase a radio. Koob asked about GPS. Mayor Flatness said it is all there and the best available. Koob had pictures for the decals on the new car at a cost of \$560.00 installed. Mayor Flatness asked if this included all the decals: sides, back trunk and 911 numbers. Koob will confirm this amount and the decals. Gauley questioned if we have anyone yet. Mayor Flatness noted there is some interest.

Mayor Flatness told the Council he has been working with Steve O'Neil on the Emergency Preparedness Drill. This will be August 28th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Mayor Flatness stated this involves a lot of agencies with the school, Fire Department, EMS, Elevator, Nursing Home, Mid America, Cerro Gordo County and State Patrol. Mayor Flatness also noted that we need to have 35 adults and 25 kids to volunteer to be victims. Mayor Flatness has let the media know and contacting the above mentioned agencies.

Koob stated that the pool is running short on lifeguards, they will be changing the hours, shorter, to help with guards to cover. Wentz noted that some moms have voiced concerns with the new rules. Koob invited them to be on the board; they are losing four members next year!

Koob met with Mike Webb and walked the area for the playground. More trees will be taken down and they will clean up the area by the tower and remove the old fence and trim trees. Wentz noted he has heard good comments on the tennis and pickle ball courts. Gauley also noted the same positive comments. Koob noted the volley ball court is not the correct size, he will be fixing that. Koob also noted a couple of generous donations for the playground. Worley noted with the fall harvest coming up maybe the farmers would donate. Koob noted they had tried this before and it did not work out.

Worley stated that Heartland Asphalt did a good job on the street paving. The asphalt from Quince to First Street, which the City pays for, was a good job along with the County Road B60 work.

Gauley asked about the prior discussion with golf carts at the camp ground. Mayor Flatness stated it is a rule but felt they should be more polite getting their point across.

Gauley questioned the bump on Third Street South at the bridge. Mayor Flatness noted this has been discussed before and would like to discuss this with abutting property owners to close the street.

Gauley asked if the speed limit signs are here. Siefken not here yet, but should be on the way. Wentz stated people are not following the traffic rules at all!!

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

Michael Flatness, Mayor

Jay Siefken, Acting Clerk