

September 15, 2021

Mayor Flatness called to order the regular meeting of the Rockwell City Council at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 15, 2021. All Council members were present. Also present were Jay Siefken, Cody Brunstein and Zach Laudner, with Dick Fridley via Zoom.

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

Mayor Flatness welcomed and introduced Cody Brunstein as the Police Chief for Rockwell.

Mayor Flatness gave each of the Council members the updated Police Policy, stating this has been reviewed by the City Attorney and feels this document is to protect the City as well as the Officer. Meyer moved to approve the Rockwell Police Policy and Procedure manual as of September 15, 2021. Motion seconded by Koob, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness stated that he will be going with Chief Brunstein to purchase some equipment, vest and uniforms that will be needed from Galls. Worley moved to purchase the needed equipment and uniforms for Chief Brunstein. Motion seconded by Meyer, carried unanimously. Mayor Flatness noted that the police car is still in parts and pieces, we are at their mercy with the suppliers.

Mayor Flatness presented a liquor license renewal from Jonesy's Stop and Shop. Wentz moved to approve the license renewal for Jonesy's Stop and Shop. Motion seconded by Gauley, carried unanimously.

Wentz reported that the committee has interviewed applicants for the Public Works position, noting they had a good talent pool to choose from making this a hard decision. Wentz stated the committee has selected Zach Laudner to fill the position. Meyer moved to accept the committee's recommendation to hire Zach Laudner for this position. Motion seconded by Koob. With a roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Koob asked about hiring a second public works person. Mayor Flatness stated that would need to be budgeted into the next fiscal year's budget. Meyer noted that hiring a second employee now, with Siefken considering retirement, would allow for training two at the same time with classes to attend and such. Siefken noted that an employee has to work in the system for six months before taking their water and wastewater test for licensing. Koob noted that we will need to have a CPO as well.

Weier reported on the Street Finance Report, noting the Road Use Tax revenue and expenditures for the previous fiscal year. With discussion, Wentz moved to approve the Street Finance Report by Resolution 2021-10 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness stated that we have received the first half of the American Relief Plan funding of \$73,700.00, the other half will be at this time next year. Mayor Flatness stated there are set guidelines on the use of this funding, noting the documents he has read through. Mayor Flatness noted that Water and Sewer Infrastructure and related projects along with improvements and meeting safe guidelines for meeting rooms could be some projects we can do. Siefken noted the fencing around the water tower for well head protection and the lagoon fencing repairs as well as some sewer line work and repairs can be projects to use these funds on. Mayor Flatness noted this needs to be a separate line item to be tracked for reports in the years to come. Wentz moved to set an additional line item for the American Relief Plan funds. Motion seconded by Meyer, carried unanimously.

Mayor Flatness noted that COVID has caused us to change things for Council meetings, with distancing and Zoom capabilities. Wentz will get some cost on cameras and mics to use. Worley moved to set the Council meetings in the Sr Room for the indefinite future. Motion seconded by Wentz, carried unanimously.

Siefken noted he will get the cost for the sewer line repairs needed to use with the ARP funds. Mayor Flatness also noted that controls for the tower could be updated with these funds. Mayor Flatness asked to have a finance committee meeting to review the guidelines for using these funds.

Koob stated that the pool is ready to be sandblasted then painted, the winterizing can start too. The waxing and caulking of the slides will be next season.

Koob asked about the speed limit signs. Siefken stated that is on the list. Koob asked about the DOT funding for signs, if this could be used for street signs. Mayor Flatness noted it is just replacement of traffic control signs.

Wentz asked if Mosquito Control has been around, he has had issues as well as others. Weier will contact them.

Wentz noted he has had conversations with residents on Elm Street and they are certainly happy with the paving but have asked about speed control. Wentz asked if we could get the County's speed trailer to park there.

Worley noted the light out at the bridge. Siefken will get this fixed.

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

Michael Flatness, Mayor

Lorna Weier, City Clerk

