

June 21, 2023

Mayor Wentz called to order the regular meeting of the Rockwell City Council at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 21, 2023. Council members present were Worley, Meyer, Morrison and Emhoff with Koob via phone. Also present were Kylie Hare, Blake Pommrehn, Sean Hannah, Zach Laudner and Chief Brunstein.

Morrison moved to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2023 meeting. Motion seconded by Emhoff, carried unanimously.

Meyer moved to approve the minutes of the May 31, 2023 meeting. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Worley moved to open the public hearing at 7:05 p.m. to discuss the 2022-2023 Budget Amendment. Motion seconded by Emhoff, carried unanimously.

Weier reviewed the 2022-2023 Budget Amendment. With no other discussion, Meyer moved to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Emhoff, carried unanimously.

Morrison moved to approve the 2022-2023 Budget Amendment by Resolution 2023-5. Motion seconded by Emhoff. With roll call vote, ayes; Worley, Meyer, Morrison, Emhoff and Koob. Motion carried unanimously.

Blake Pommrehn was present on behalf of Five Star as the Energy Sales Manager. Pommrehn discussed what Five Star can offer for fuel service for the City of Rockwell. With discussions, Council will review this and discuss at the next meeting. Pommrehn left the meeting.

Meyer stated that he feels the City could host a Farmers Market, noting that interest has been out there and would like to see something like this in town. Emhoff noted that she has vendors and food trucks that are interested. Emhoff also noted that Chamber Acres may be a good place to hold this with electricity already there. Hannah felt that Main Street would be walkable for most people in town. Council agreed to look into doing something with a Farmers Market.

Kylie Hare was present to ask about removing the broken sidewalk in front of her residence, noting she does not want to replace this. Council noted they would like to look at the entire sidewalk, Morrison moved to table the sidewalk removal until Council could look at it. Motion seconded by Meyer, carried unanimously.

Mayor Wentz stated that July brings the annual two percent increase on the utilities billed by the City. With discussion, Meyer moved to approve the two percent utility rates. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Mayor Wentz asked for review and discussion on the City Policy and Personnel Policy. Emhoff noted the policy for the police car and the businesses for charges that need changes. With discussion, Meyer moved to make changes in the policy: 3. Police car shall be kept at the Police/EMT building or at the Police Chief residence. Also, on number five to eliminate the Rockwell Area Market for charge purposes. Motion seconded by Morrison, carried unanimously.

Council also discussed the overtime and comp time policy and felt at this time to leave it as stated.

Mayor Wentz discussed payroll raises for the City employees with the 2023 fiscal year starting July 1st. Emhoff moved to allow a three percent increase for employees: Chief Brunstein ninety-five cent increase; Laudner eighty cent increase and Weier seventy-two cent increase. Motion seconded by Worley. Meyer noted that the new employee started at a higher rate than we had originally planned and would like to have a pay scale in place for future use. Motion carried unanimously.

The following bills were presented for approval:

PUBLIC SAFETY

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Electronic Engineering..... | Monthly Service | \$ 9.90 |
| Cerro Gordo County | Software Service/May..... | \$ 35.00 |
| T-Mobile..... | Monthly Internet service/June..... | \$ 50.00 |
| Stop and Shop..... | Gas | \$ 141.25 |
| Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn..... | Monthly billing..... | \$ 78.15 |
| Cody Brunstein | Cell Phone..... | \$ 30.00 |
| Total Public Safety | | \$ 344.30 |

PUBLIC WORKS

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Stop and Shop..... | Gas | \$ 229.35 |
| Mid American Energy..... | Monthly billing..... | \$ 1981.80 |
| Absolute Waste Removal..... | Monthly Billing..... | \$ 12606.00 |
| Don’s Auto Service..... | Service pickup..... | \$ 303.20 |
| Huber Supply Co..... | Supplies | \$ 133.75 |
| Central Lock..... | Keys | \$ 32.00 |
| Jay Siefken | Cell Phone/Clothing Allowance..... | \$ 356.06 |
| Zach Laudner | Cell Phone..... | \$ 30.00 |
| Total Public Works | | \$ 15672.16 |

PUBLIC WORKS ROAD USE

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|--|--------------------------|------------|
| Titan Machinery/Productivity Plus..... | Repairs..... | \$ 3631.45 |
| John Ries Excavating..... | Haul Rock | \$ 712.78 |
| Heartland Asphalt | Rock | \$ 1357.82 |
| Barco Municipal..... | Street Sign..... | \$ 117.79 |
| Mercy One | Random Screen..... | \$ 57.00 |
| Deano’s Road Dust Control..... | Industrial Park Oil..... | \$ 884.00 |
| Total Public Works Road Use | | \$ 6760.84 |

CULTURE AND RECREATION

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|-----------------------------------|---|------------|
| Payton Plagge..... | Cemetery Mowing..... | \$ 4380.00 |
| Wellmark | June/July Premium Health Insurance..... | \$ 2862.34 |
| Total Culture and Recreation..... | | \$ 7242.34 |

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------|------------|
| Mid American Energy..... | Monthly billing/Memorial..... | \$ 29.48 |
| City of Rockwell..... | LGCC Course Water..... | \$ 31.87 |
| Dahley Tree Service..... | Tree Removal..... | \$ 4000.00 |
| Menards..... | Supplies | \$ 40.79 |
| Total Community and Economic Development..... | | \$ 4102.14 |

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

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|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn..... | Monthly billing..... | \$ 37.52 |
| Mid American Energy..... | Monthly billing..... | \$ 256.42 |
| First Security..... | Lock Box..... | \$ 47.00 |
| WebWise Solutions, Inc..... | Website..... | \$ 240.00 |
| Postmaster..... | Postage..... | \$ 63.00 |
| Iowa League of Cities..... | HR Zoom Meeting..... | \$ 25.00 |
| B&B Home Improvement..... | Library..... | \$ 3778.00 |
| Ron Petersen..... | Central Lock Keys..... | \$ 28.80 |
| Hewett Wholesale..... | Community Center Supplies..... | \$ 95.55 |
| Iowa League of Cities..... | Annual Membership..... | \$ 969.00 |
| Mid-America Publishing..... | Publications..... | \$ 272.39 |
| Total General Government..... | | \$ 5812.68 |

BUSINESS UTILITY WATER

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|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Stop and Shop..... | Supplies..... | \$ 9.99 |
| Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn..... | Monthly billing..... | \$ 58.95 |
| Mid American Energy..... | Monthly billing..... | \$ 548.23 |
| Menards..... | Supplies..... | \$ 209.14 |
| Midwest Pipe Supply..... | Hydrant Diffusers..... | \$ 392.00 |
| Tractor Supply..... | Hydrant Paint..... | \$ 314.87 |
| Plumb Supply..... | Supplies..... | \$ 93.32 |
| Hawkins..... | Chlorine Cylinders..... | \$ 30.00 |
| Iowa One Call..... | Locates..... | \$ 27.90 |
| Eurofins..... | Water Test..... | \$ 94.50 |
| Dollar General..... | Bleach..... | \$ 7.22 |
| Hach..... | Supplies..... | \$ 279.18 |
| Postmaster..... | Mail Bills..... | \$ 204.48 |
| UPS..... | Shipping Water Test..... | \$ 56.60 |
| Trish Kellogg..... | Seeding..... | \$ 179.67 |
| DNR..... | License Renewal..... | \$ 60.00 |
| Total Business Utility Water..... | | \$ 2566.05 |

BUSINESS UTILITY SEWER

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|-----------------------------------|---|-------------|
| Eurofins..... | Waste Water Test..... | \$ 95.08 |
| Clear Lake Sanitary District..... | Test..... | \$ 74.40 |
| Visu-Sewer..... | Televis/Clean..... | \$ 1046.25 |
| Wellmark..... | June/July Premium Health Insurance..... | \$ 12880.28 |
| UPS..... | Shipping Waste Water Test..... | \$ 31.22 |
| DNR..... | License Renewal..... | \$ 60.00 |
| Total Business Utility Sewer..... | | \$ 14187.23 |

Morrison moved to approve the bills for payment as presented. Motion seconded by Meyer, carried unanimously.

May Receipts: General \$11585.88; Road Use \$13293.45; Water Utility \$9726.41; Sewer Utility \$6207.44; Local Option \$28315.12; Debt Service Pool/Storm Water \$1507.03; Storm Water \$2226.94; TIF \$; EMS \$91.87; Library Benefits \$212.40; Property Ins \$212.40; Police Benefits \$119.16; Emergency Management \$17.52; ARP \$0.

Emhoff noted she has been asked when the Council approved the extra training for Chief

Brunstein if that was to be a part of his forty hours. Mayor Wentz stated that yes it is.

Mayor Wentz stated that there is a lot of under age kids driving golf carts in town as well as not legal this is a safety concern. Hannah also noted he has seen a lot of this and has witnessed some close calls with cars. Chief Brunstein stated he has talked with some kids and parents, parents can be fined for allowing minors to drive on public right of ways.

Worley asked when Heartland Asphalt will be doing the street work. Meyer noted that the first week in August is a busy time in town and would not want it to be going on then.

Mayor Wentz presented a note from Siefken noting his final pay. Meyer asked if this is the correct way of paying out time and vacation. Weier will check with the Auditor. Morrison moved to allow for the request as written pending approval with the Auditor. Motion seconded by Meyer, carried unanimously.

Meyer noted a nuisance area as well as needing mowed. A letter can be sent. Other nuisance and mowing concerns were discussed.

Morrison noted that the dog issues continue as well. Chief Brunstein asked what the Council wanted to set the fine at as the Code reads an amount up to \$750.00.

Laudner asked the Council about attending the fall water conference for CEU credits, the conference is \$170 with hotel cost additional. Council approved the conference for Laudner.

Laudner stated he and John put together the benches and the trash cans at the playground. Mayor Wentz noted that John Roberts started on Monday and welcomed him aboard.

Chief Brunstein told the Council he had granted permission to a property owner, at the edge of town, to take care of skunks.

Chief Brunstein reported on the National Night Out meeting. With the cost of a DJ being high, the committee is asking to purchase speakers with the donations and sponsorships they have. Brunstein noted the speakers could be used elsewhere as well. Council approved this. National Night Out is August 1st.

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

Larry Wentz, Mayor

Lorna Weier, City Clerk