

September 20, 2023

Mayor Wentz called to order the regular meeting of the Rockwell City Council at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, September 20, 2023. All Council members were present. Also present were Mike Echelberger, Jason Dick, Mary Ingham, Luke Loney, Sean Hannah, Pat Hurley, Jon Roberts, Zach Laudner and Chief Brunstein.

Morrison moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion seconded by Worley, carried unanimously.

Mary Ingham, with Crisis Intervention Service, presented their free pantry project. Ingham stated that they have received a grant through the Cerro Gordo County Foundation to build, place and stock pantries in each town in Cerro Gordo County. With discussion, Council agreed that this could be placed by City Hall. Council thanked Ingham as she left the meeting.

Jason Dick and Mike Echelberger were present on behalf of the Veterans Memorial. Dick noted the lighting and landscaping needs to be updated with an approximant cost of \$6,000.00. Dick asked if the City would contribute local option dollars to fund these improvements. Koob asked about some grant funding. Dick noted he has written grants on behalf of the Legion for their new building project. Koob felt that we could try for some funding and go from there. Dick and Echelberger thanked the Council as they left the meeting.

Luke Loney, with Astra Security of Ankeny, presented a proposal for security cameras within the community. Council discussed the locations noted and partnering with businesses. Koob moved to table this for the next meeting with updated figures with less camera locations. Motion seconded by Morrison, carried unanimously. Loney thanked the Council as he left the meeting.

Emhoff moved to approve the liquor license for Jonesy's Stop and Shop. Motion seconded by Meyer, carried unanimously.

Laudner stated he has a cost of \$900.00 from CJ's Auto to replace the tires on the skid loader. Koob asked about keeping the old tires. Launder noted we don't have rims to switch the tires to. Meyer noted that rims are about \$40.00 each, and so moved to purchase the new tires at \$900.00 from CJ's Auto and keep the old tires. Motion seconded by Koob, carried unanimously.

Weier asked about a request to put a memorial bench in the Rockwell Cemetery. With discussion, Worley moved to allow the bench, set on a cement pad. Motion seconded by Koob, carried unanimously.

Chief Brunstein presented information on body cameras. With review Koob moved to purchase the Axon body camera for the Police Department at a cost of \$801.60 per year for a five year term. Motion seconded by Morrison, carried unanimously.

Chief Brunstein noted the speed radar signs that have been discussed prior. Council also discussed the lighted stop signs. Chief Brunstein noted that another community has a 28E with the County for these. Koob asked about the DOT grant funds for replacing signs, Weier will pull that information.

Meyer reported that they will be changing out services in the Linn Grove campground, and taking down the ash trees, if residents are looking for firewood, they will bring it to you.

Mayor Wentz asked about the construction at the school, noting the street is looking rough.

Laudner reported that Steve Brush, with Van Wert, was here this week to go over all that is needed for the meter replacement program. Letters will be going out next week to schedule resident's installation starting October 16th.

Laudner also noted that the LP tank at the North tower will be replaced. Laudner also reported on the water leak that was taken care of early Wednesday morning. Laudner stated that they plan to start the process of replacing several fire hydrants next week.

Meyer stated that the Fire Department will give the skid and tank to the City for cleanout use when they get their new truck and skids. Council discussed the use of this.

Chief Brunstein reported that he, Fire Chief and EMT's have discussed a UTV/Polaris as a shared purchase with the three departments, this would be something to consider and budget in the 2024 year.

Chief Brunstein noted that he will be needing to get ammo for training, he will purchase this from Sun Set in Ackley.

Weier asked the Council for ideas to have an emergency contact number. Weier also noted the Cities participation in the County Emergency Management Plan. Council agreed that most everything would be the same procedures and concerns as the past plan includes.

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

Larry Wentz, Mayor

Lorna Weier, City Clerk