

March 6, 2024

Mayor Wentz called to order the regular meeting of the Rockwell City Council at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, March 6, 2024. Council members present were Meyer, Ditsworth and Emhoff. Also present were Frank Hanig, Mike Echelberger, Sean Hannah, Jon Roberts, Zach Laudner and Chief Brunstein.

Emhoff moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion seconded by Meyer, carried unanimously.

The following bills were presented for approval:

PUBLIC SAFETY

Electronic Engineering.....	Monthly Service	\$ 9.90
Cerro Gordo County Sheriff's Office.....	Monthly Service	\$ 70.00
Verizon.....	Police Data.....	\$ 41.32
Iowa Law Enforcement Academy	Training	\$ 25.00
Stop and Shop.....	Gas	\$ 144.83
Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.....	Monthly Billing	\$ 78.34
Mid American Energy.....	Monthly Billing cameras.....	\$ 155.11
Wellmark	Health Insurance	\$ 1223.21
Postmaster	Police Mailing	\$ 9.50
Cody Brunstein	Cell Phone.....	\$ 30.00
Total Public Safety		\$ 1787.21

PUBLIC WORKS

Stop and Shop.....	Gas	\$ 198.35
Mid American Energy.....	Monthly Billing	\$ 1970.24
Absolute Waste Removal.....	February Service	\$ 6601.50
Hefty Seed	Supplies	\$ 25.63
Zach Laudner	Cell Phone/Clothing.....	\$ 30.00
Jon Roberts.....	Cell Phone.....	\$ 30.00
Mason City Ford.....	Pickup.....	\$ 20000.00
Total Public Works		\$ 28855.72

PUBLIC WORKS ROAD USE

Stop and Shop.....	Gas	\$ 390.74
CJ'S Auto.....	Tires/Repair Tires.....	\$ 858.00
Best of Signs	Reflective Markers	\$ 44.89
Mason City Ford.....	Pickup.....	\$ 10000.00
Total Public Works Road Use		\$ 11293.63

CULTURE AND RECREATION

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly Billing	\$ 10.59
Iowa Parks and Rec	CPO/CEU	\$ 145.00
Total Culture and Recreation.....		\$ 155.59

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mid American Energy.....	Monthly Billing/Memorial.....	\$ 36.75
Astra Security.....	Camera Installation	\$ 708.21
Merritt Computer Service.....	Camera Network.....	\$ 150.00

Truex Electric.....	Camera/Power.....	\$ 940.14
Dahley Tree Service.....	Tree Removal February.....	\$ 10250.00
Display Sales.....	Supplies.....	\$ 790.40
Mason City Ford.....	Pickup.....	\$ 11485.00
Total Community and Economic Development.....		\$ 24360.50

EMPLOYEE HEALTH BENEFITS

Wellmark.....	Health Insurance.....	\$ 1223.21
Total Employee Health Benefits.....		\$ 1223.21

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Rockwell Coop Telephone Assn.....	Monthly Billing.....	\$ 97.01
Mid American Energy.....	Monthly Billing.....	\$ 706.15
Postmaster.....	PO Box Fee.....	\$ 120.00
WebWise Solutions.....	Hosting Fee.....	\$ 300.00
Auditor of State.....	Fees.....	\$ 175.00
Staples.....	Supplies.....	\$ 84.08
Cerro Gordo County Auditor.....	Election Expenses.....	\$ 763.29
Mirror Reporter.....	Publications.....	\$ 180.25
Total General Government.....		\$ 2425.78

BUSINESS UTILITY WATER

Stop and Shop.....	Supplies.....	\$ 14.82
Mid American Energy.....	Monthly Billing.....	\$ 577.81
Plumb Supply.....	Supplies/Equipment.....	\$ 79.84
Menards.....	Supplies.....	\$ 68.48
M&N.....	Supplies.....	\$ 172.01
Eurofins.....	Water Test.....	\$ 38.52
Van Wert Company.....	Install Water Meters.....	\$ 18075.00
K&H Cooperative.....	Tower/LP.....	\$ 100.36
Hach.....	Supplies.....	\$ 72.39
Hawkins.....	Chlorine Cylinders.....	\$ 30.00
Postmaster.....	Postage Mail Utility Bills.....	\$ 224.19
Fleet Farm.....	Kerosene.....	\$ 56.34
UPS.....	Water Test Shipping.....	\$ 15.51
Zach Laudner.....	Clothing.....	\$ 13.14
Total Business Utility Water.....		\$ 19538.41

BUSINESS UTILITY SEWER

Wellmark.....	Health Insurance.....	\$ 6116.58
Mason City Ford.....	Pickup.....	\$ 10000.00
Tractor Supply.....	Fencing/Lagoon.....	\$ 188.78
Total Business Utility Sewer.....		\$ 16305.36

Emhoff moved to approve the bills as presented. Motion seconded by Meyer, carried unanimously.

February Receipts: General \$9199.97; Road Use \$11029.52; Water Utility \$9947.82; Sewer Utility \$6538.23; Local Option \$24095.76; Debt Service Pool/Storm Water \$416.34; Storm Water \$2274.51; TIF \$0; EMS \$25.96; Library Benefits \$86.54; Property Ins \$86.54; Police Benefits \$34.62; Emergency Management \$5.58; ARP \$0

Frank Hanig was present to discuss a property development and stated that following a discussion with a neighbor, he has decided to not follow through with this project. Mayor Wentz thanked Hanig and noted it is unfortunate as we are land locked and always have people looking for property in Rockwell. Hanig left the meeting.

Mike Echelberger was present to discuss the lighting project at the Veterans Memorial in the Cemetery. Mayor Wentz stated that we did receive the Barkama grant for the \$1,600.00 for the updated lighting. Echelberger will move forward to have the lights replaced. Echelberger left the meeting.

Laudner presented a quote to have the street markings done on Elm Street from Highway 65 to First Street and Madison Street from Highway 65 to Quince Ave at a cost of \$3,200.00. Laudner noted that for the stop bars it would be \$55.00 each. With discussion, Emhoff moved to accept the quote of \$3,200.00 for the markings and to also do the five stop bars at \$275.00. Motion seconded by Ditsworth, carried unanimously.

Laudner reported to the Council that one of the recommendations from the DNR inspection was to take care of the weeds growing in the rocks around the lagoon. Laudner stated that he had researched to find a chemical that could be used there to take care of this issue at a cost of \$538.10. Ditsworth moved to purchase the chemical and Laudner to spray the said area at the lagoon. Motion seconded by Meyer, carried unanimously.

Laudner presented the bid from Heartland Asphalt for the First Street project with the first part from the North limits to Main Street at \$204,535.80, which has been approved and would have been done this previous fall, and adding on from Main Street thru the Madison Street intersection at \$101,638.20. With discussion, Meyer moved to approve the project with the Main Street thru Madison Street cost being billed after June 30th. Motion seconded by Emhoff, carried unanimously.

Meyer reported that he has talked with the County Conservation about allowing deer hunting at the Linn Grove County Park. Meyer noted that they would like to know what the DNR feels about issuing licenses for this. Emhoff noted that she has had others ask about hunting too. Council will follow up further.

Meyer noted that the pickup was an additional \$400.00 to add an additional battery. Meyer stated it will be about eight weeks out, and they will take the red pickup in trade.

Mayor Wentz stated he had attended the 911 Board meeting, budget was discussed.

Ditsworth noted the noon and six whistle is working!

Mayor Wentz noted a recommendation from a resident that the City Code for dogs being out be reviewed. Rockwell City Code states that dogs need to be on a leash or at heel by a competent person and obedient to that person's command.

Meyer asked about the water and sewer at the property soon to be taken down. Laudner stated

that it is disconnected and ready. Emhoff also asked about the Legion building as it has been talked about that it will be taken down later this month. Ditsworth stated that he has been asked about the Fire Department burning specific properties. Mayor Wentz noted that City Attorney Berry plans to be here to visit with Chief Brunstein and himself next week about nuisance properties.

Laudner reported that we have expended more than the original amount set for removing the dying Ash trees and asked Council if they wanted to approve more of the local option funds to continue taking down they dying Ash trees. Council asked to put this on the next agenda.

Chief Brunstein stated he needs to get more ammunition. Council agreed to allow for Chief Brunstein to purchase what is needed.

Chief Brunstein also stated that he would like to have \$1,500.00 for the National Night Out funds, making this an additional \$1,000.00 from prior years. Council asked to have this on the next agenda.

Chief Brunstein stated the Fire Department and EMT are still looking at the purchase of an UTV for the three departments to utilize. It would be labeled as an emergency response vehicle. Chief Brunstein noted the cost for each department would be about \$23,000.00.

Weier reported that the Rockwell Lions Club had given their annual donation, through their farm account, to the Linn Grove Recreation and the Rockwell Cemetery as well as the Linn Grove Country Club. Weier also noted the dividend of \$2,500.00 received from Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities, through EMC Insurance, from the safety group program.

Weier asked for some clarification on the advertisement to be placed for the bids for the Rockwell Cemetery. Ditsworth felt that we could state one spring cleanup, along with the mowing for the season and allow for up to three fall cleanup times for leaves.

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

Larry Wentz, Mayor

Lorna Weier, City Clerk