

# Rockford Community Newsletter

July starts out with a bang. On the 4<sup>th</sup> we celebrate our country's birthday. The 11<sup>th</sup> annual Jon Tumilson Go Crush It 5k Challenge and Rockford Fun Day is Jul 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Rockford History

Prewar settlement in Rockford – Excerpt from the Story of Rockford by Michael Vala.

The next few months will be the account of Alvah R. Prescott's first trip to Rockford to survey and plat our town.

On my return to our party, I found them all at the house of Mr. Horace Stearns just below the mill site on the riverbank, where I laid before them all the case of Mr. Walker. Our several missions having been served as best we could, we found dinner waiting for us at Mr. Green's, after which we were soon ready for our homeward ride. Just as we were hitching the team Mr. Walker came along with a bag of furs, concluding to send them to market by me, as he did not think a better opportunity would offer, as a neighbor, a Mr Dean and wife, had arrived at his house and would stay till he returned. I accepted the trust and was pleased to return to him the sum of forty-four dollars for his furs.

## Rockford City Council Minutes

**ROCKFORD CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING    JUNE 13, 2023 7:30 P.M.**

1. The Rockford City Council met in regular session at the Rockford City Hall on Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Present was Council Members Seibert, Hoffarth, Enabnit, and Schlader with Medlin absent. Also present were Citizens William Schmidt, Spenser & Heidi Gruis, Dusten Rolando with Heartland Asphalt and Employee Daniel Paulus.  
Motion Enabnit, sec. Hoffarth to approve the agenda as posted. Passed all ayes roll call vote.
2. Motion Schlader, sec. Seibert to open the Public Hearing at 7:30 P.M. to open sealed bids for City Lot RFD E20' W44' Lot 7 Block 12. Passed all ayes roll call vote. Mayor Johnson asked for any written or oral objections or comments: there being none, Motion Hoffarth, sec. Enabnit to close Public Hearing at 7:31 P.M.
3. Motion Hoffarth, sec. Enabnit to approve Resolution #2023-23 approving sealed bid from S&S Investments LLC for City Lot RFD E20' W44' Lot7 Block 12 property at 122 W Main Ave for \$500.00. Passed all ayes roll call vote: Ayes: Hoffarth, Enabnit, Schlader, and Seibert.
4. Motion Hoffarth, sec. Seibert to approve Resolution #2023-24 to fix public hearing date and time for July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:30 P.M. for conveying city property Lot RFD E20' W44' Lot 7 Block 12. Passed all ayes roll call vote: Ayes: Enabnit, Schlader, Seibert, and Hoffarth.
5. Motion Schlader, sec. Enabnit to open the Public Hearing at 7:34 P.M. to open sealed bids for the 2023 Street Improvement Project. Passed all ayes roll call vote. Mayor Johnson asked for any written or oral objections or comments: there being none, Motion Seibert, sec. Enabnit to close Public Hearing at 7:40 P.M.

6. Motion Schlader, sec. Enabnit to approve Resolution #2023-25 approving sealed bid from Heartland Asphalt for the 2023 Street Improvements for \$145,270.35. Passed all ayes roll call vote: Ayes: Schlader, Seibert, Hoffarth, and Enabnit.
7. Motion Enabnit, sec. Hoffarth to approve the consent agenda consisting of May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, council minutes, monthly reports, claims and expenses and the Liquor License for the Rockford Fire Department. All ayes. Motion carried.
8. Motion Enabnit, sec. Schlader to approve Resolution #2023-26 Authorizing Expense Line Corrections. Passed all ayes roll call vote. Ayes: Seibert, Hoffarth, Enabnit, and Schlader.
9. Motion Schlader, sec. Seibert to approve renting 1 dumpster from Dash Farms for Rockford Fun Days. All ayes. Motion carried.
10. Tractor tabled until next meeting.
11. 115 West Main Avenue tabled until a later date.
12. Motion Schlader, sec. Hoffarth to approve the use of Central Park and to block off streets near central park and some of Main Avenue for Rockford Fun Days/JT Days on July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and to also have a copy of the license of the firework provider and liability insurance paper paperwork into City Hall for that night's firework show. All ayes. Motion carried.
13. Motion Seibert, sec. Enabnit to approve Mac & Seth Hirv to paint & put new screens in the enclosed shelter at West Park for their Eagle Scout Project. All ayes. Motion carried.
14. Motion Seibert, sec. Enabnit to approve Resolution #2023-27 to fix public hearing date and time for July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:30 P.M. for conveying city property Lot RFD W1/2 Lot 8 Block 12. Passed all ayes roll call vote: Ayes: Hoffarth, Enabnit, Schlader, and Seibert
15. Motion Enabnit, sec. Seibert to approve Resolution #2023-28 transfer of LOST Funds to Capital Water Meter Loan Fund. Passed all ayes roll vote: Ayes: Hoffarth, Enabnit, Schlader, and Seibert.
16. Public Works Employee Daniel Paulus reported on mowing and spraying.
17. Discussion was held on the burning ordinance and the procedure on what residents should do if they have a complaint on someone illegally burning.
18. Motion Schlader, sec. Enabnit to adjourn at 8:04 P.M.

## What's Happening

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**Grow Rockford Together** will have their next meeting on Sunday Jul 9th at 7:00pm at City Hall. Come see what's happening.

**Monthly Boulevard** workday 7/1/23 9am-11am.

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**Grant Writing**-Monthly grant writing on Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am at City Hall. Anyone interested in applying for a grant is welcome to attend.

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**Rockford Library**- Welcome to the new Library Director, Emily Dietz. The hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9am-4pm, Wednesday 12pm-6:30pm, and Saturday 9am-12pm.

We have an informational website found by googling "Rockford Public Library" and we are on Facebook.

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**North Central Iowa Genealogical Society (NCIGS)** North Central Iowa Genealogical Society (NCIGS): July meeting is Saturday July 8, at 12:30 PM. No formal meeting: we will have our annual [indoor] potluck picnic. Avoid those bugs, the wind, the humidity, the local geese! This will be in the lower level of the Masonic Temple, 75 S Georgia, Mason City IA (elevator available).

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**14th annual Rockford Fun Days July 15, 2023**, will start off with JT run/walk at the Fossil Park. There will be at Central Park. The support we have received in past years is deeply appreciated and we would like to thank everyone for their generosity. To keep this community celebration successful, there is an opportunity for you to help this year. If you'd like to volunteer your time, call Kristi, 641-430-4474. If you'd like to sell a product, call Paula 641-425-5414. If you'd like to make a monetary donation, please send to Monica Murray 606 1st Ave. NE., Rockford, IA 50468. At Fun Days, there will be a drop off site to benefit the 1133<sup>rd</sup> Iowa National Guard Soldiers. They need travel size personal care items, puzzle books and other items like that plus lots of ready to grab snacks for either a female or male soldier. Watch for flyers around town and on Facebook, for all the activities happening for Fun Days!

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**Community Vacation Bible School 2023** will be held at First United Methodist Church, Sun Jul 9-Wed Jul 12. Serving a light supper at 5:30pm – VBS activities from 6:00pm-8:00pm. Sponsoring churches are Rockford First United Methodist, Marble Rock United Methodist, Zion Lutheran, Rockford, ST Paul's Lutheran, Marble Rock, and Holy Name Catholic, Rockford. It's a Food Truck Party on a roll with God! The program is free. For more information, please contact your church.

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**Rockford First and Marble Rock United Methodist Churches** are excited to announce the appointment of Pastor Chan Gok Kim as our pastor beginning July 1, 2023. Pastor Chan is an elder with the Iowa Conference and has served several churches throughout Iowa. He comes to us from his most recent appointment with the Parkersburg and New Hartford United Methodist Churches. Help us welcome Pastor Chan and his wife Joy to our church families and our communities!

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**Welcome to Rockford!** Welcome to the community Lacey Holtz.

We hope you thrive here and are happy you chose Rockford as your home.

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**Obituaries:** Glenn Biggs, born Feb 14, 1934, passed Jun 21, 2023. Thomas Stufflebeam, born Jul 13, 1941, passed Jun 21, 2023.

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**Shout Outs:** To the city public works department for keeping the parks and common areas looking good. To the volunteer watering crews that water the flower barrels on Main Street! And to the volunteers doing the weeding and upkeep of the Boulevard. It is a lovely feature of Rockford.

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**Reminder:** City code 105.05 Open Burning Restricted. No person shall allow, cause or permit open burning of combustible materials where the products of combustion are emitted into the open air

without passing through a chimney or stack, except that open burning is permitted in the following circumstances: Disaster Rubbish, Trees and Tree Trimmings, Flare Stacks, Landscape Waste, Recreational Fires, Training Fires, Pesticide Containers and Seed Corn Bags, Agricultural Structures, Controlled Burning of a Demolished Building, and Variance. Please see City Hall for the restrictions on each of these categories, and if necessary, to fill out a complaint form for possible violation.

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**The Freedom Rock** light structure project started two years ago. Federal law says anything with a flag on it should be lit at night. Al Christeson and the local veterans got together, toured other freedom rocks in other counties to get ideas for a lighted structure over our rock that has a large U.S flag on it. Concerns about blocking the bandstand structure were considered. Due to covid, the materials for the project took two years to arrive. Wayne Martin of Industrial Piping in Nora Springs welded the stainless-steel piping that will contain the 110 led lights to automatically light the Freedom Rock when the city streetlights come on. Mike Ross will do the wiring once all the lights have arrived. The Rockford light plant will set them up once wired. All funds for this almost \$6,000.00 project were raised through the JT motorcycle ride, Thunder on the plains. This years event is coming up in August, details will be in the next newsletter.

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Donations of paper for printing the Newsletter are appreciated and can be dropped off at City Hall. Monetary donations for the Newsletter can be made at First Security bank to the Grow Rockford account. Note that the donation is for the Newsletter. Thank you!

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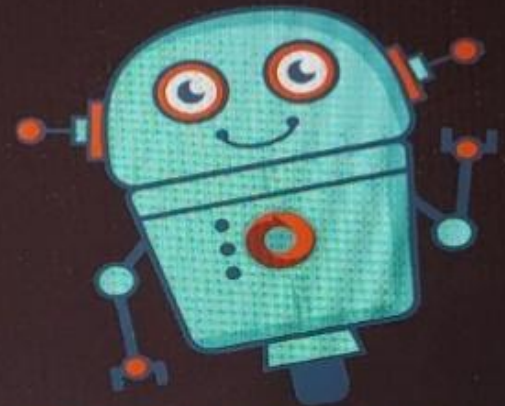
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Nora Springs, IA 50458  
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## RUDD HISTORICAL SOCIETY BREAKFAST

**Every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month**

7:30-9:30 a.m.

400 Chickasaw (Main Street)

Take outs available.

Many Omelets, biscuits & gravy

**H & H Lawn Service**  
 Lawn maintenance: spraying, fertilizing, and seeding  
**Mike & Tony Harden**  
 1341 Red Ball Road  
 Rockford, IA 50468  
 Mike 641-330-0789 Tony 641-430-0040  
 E-mail: [mphrmh1@myomnitel.com](mailto:mphrmh1@myomnitel.com)



**TAPS**  **Tony Harden**  
 Owner/Operator  
 641-430-0040   
 [tonysapluspestservices@gmail.com](mailto:tonysapluspestservices@gmail.com)   
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To place an upcoming event or an advertisement to be published in the monthly newsletter, please email [darangels@comcast.net](mailto:darangels@comcast.net) or call Darlene Eaton at 641-756-2441.

### Rockford Community Center

206 West Main Avenue

Call for Reservations [\(641\) 756-3718](tel:641-756-3718)

Call for Community Meals [\(641-756-3581\)](tel:641-756-3581)

Every July 4<sup>th</sup>, the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia is tapped, although not actually rung in honor of the original 13 American colonies.



**4<sup>th</sup> JULY  
INDEPENDENCE  
DAY**

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**Rockford Newsletter July 2023**

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**Sunday Worship 10:30 am (Summer 10:00) Facebook 10:30**



**LOCAL POSTAL  
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**Rockford Churches**

**First United Methodist Church**

21 3rd St NW  
Worship 10:30am Sundays or on  
Facebook  
[641-756-2360](tel:641-756-2360)

**ZION Lutheran Church**

805 East Main Ave  
Worship 10:30am Sundays  
[641-756-3850](tel:641-756-3850)

**Holy Name Catholic Church**

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**Rockford Public Library**

202 W Main Avenue  
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Open: Monday, Tuesday, and Friday 1:00 – 5:30 P.M. and Saturday 9:00 – 12:00 noon  
Open: Wednesday at noon until 6:30 P.M.