

Rockford Community Newsletter

November marks the end of harvest season and the beginning of winter temps. Nov 5th daylight savings time ends, Nov 7th is election day, Nov 11th is Veterans Day, and Nov 23rd is Thanksgiving Day. Enjoy your Thanksgiving Holiday. We have so much to be grateful for.

Rockford History

Section II Rockford Histories, Chapter 3- from the Story of Rockford by Michael Vala.

Fischer's Chevrolet was preceded by W.P. Martin's Meat Market in the 1880's. The Fischer building was erected by C. J. Elliot around 1915 or 1916 and operated by him as a garage until 1920 when Ott Fischer purchased it and opened a Ford dealership. Hank Smith used the premises for a used car business in the late 1920's and 1930's, also operating a service station next door. Joe Witter operated an ice and coal business behind the Elliot building and about 1940 purchased the building from Mr. Smith. He operated a skating rink in it. Carl Bahnsen used the premises briefly but since the late 1940's it has been in the Fisher family. In the pic below, for homecoming in Rockford 1922, they really decked out the vehicles.



Rockford City Council Minutes

ROCKFORD CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

October 10, 2023, 7:30 P.M.

1. The Rockford City Council met in regular session at City Hall on Tuesday, October 10, 2023. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Present was Council Members Hoffarth, Enabnit, Schlader, Medlin and Seibert absent. Citizens present were Scott Gruis, Spenser Gruis and Elizabeth Enabnit with Farm Bureau Financial Services. Employee present was Randy Schweizer.
Motion Enabnit, sec. Hoffarth to approve the agenda as posted. Passed all ayes roll call vote.
2. Motion Schlader, sec. Medlin to approve the agenda consisting of September 12, 2023 Council Minutes, Monthly Reports, Claims & Expenses. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. No action was taken on the Water Tower Project.
4. No action was taken on the Sewer Lagoon Project.
5. Motion Enabnit, sec. Medlin to approve purchase of a V-Plow for \$10,500.00 from Stellar Truck & Trailer for the public works Ford Pickup. All ayes. Motion carried.
6. Elizabeth Enabnit with Farm Bureau Financial discussed with the council her concerns about the property of 109 W. Main Ave. She informed the council that she has turned in several complaints about the condition of the property over the last couple of years. She told the council that she had done some remodeling this spring to the inside of her office and that there were some ceiling tiles ruined due to water from the roof leaking. She also had her roof inspected to be replaced this fall and was told in order to have it done correctly the roof would need to be terminated in the adjacent walls to the East and West and that any termination of the structure would not be eligible for any kind of manufacture or workmanship warranty because of the disrepair of 109 W Main Ave building. The council briefly reminded her of the inspection the city had done in October 2021 by SEH Engineering for the property and that they were looking into the complaint. The council discussed with her that they hired Iowa Wall Sawing Company in November 2022 for the removal of the unstable bricks on the west side of the property to ensure it was stable for her to be able to fix her roof immediately. The council discussed their concerns about the shared common wall between her property and 109 W. Main Ave. They would like to research grants to offset expenses and to plan a scheduled timeframe to budget for the removal of the building in the future.
7. Motion Enabnit, sec. Schlader to approve moving forward with the planning of a timeframe to budget expenses and to apply for grants to help pay the cost to demolish the property at 109 W. Main Ave. All ayes. Motion carried.
8. Motion Hoffarth, sec. Enabnit to approve the Rockford Holiday Stroll on Main Street on December 9th, 2023, and to block off streets during the event. All ayes. Motion carried.
9. Discussion was held on different options for where the Rockford Historical Society can store some of their items.
10. Motion Schlader, sec. Hoffarth to approve the Annual Financial Report. All ayes. Motion carried.
11. Motion Schlader, sec. Enabnit to approve Resolution #2023-37 setting standard mileage rate at 65.5 cents per miles. Passed all ayes roll call vote.
12. Discussion was held with Mayor Johnson getting quotes from Jendro on going to garbage carts for garbage rather than using their orange garbage bags. The council mentioned to look into Red Can as well to see what their cost would be as well.
13. Public Works Employee Randy Schweizer reported on calls, waterline work by the property of the Dollar General Store, spraying of weeds, filling in the sides of the new sidewalks with dirt at Central Park, fixing the storm sewer on 4th St. S.E., and that First Link with the Dollar General Store plans to have material here and to start on the outside frame of building around October 16th.
14. Mayor Johnson reported on the 109 W. Main Ave property, the garbage rates with Jendro, and working with Pappa Johns on some different grants.
15. Council member Schlader discussed with the council his thoughts on helping offset expenses for the Senior Center. Before any further discussions the council would like to see their revenue & expense financials. Council members Enabnit and Hoffarth informed the council that they have the paperwork turned into the Floyd County Community Foundation for the Rockford West Park Improvement Phase II project.
16. Motion Hoffarth, sec. Enabnit to adjourn at 8:35 P.M.

What's Happening

Grow Rockford Together will have their next meeting on Sunday Nov 5th at 7:00pm at City Hall.

Grant Writing-Monthly grant writing on Friday, Nov 3rd at 8:00am at City Hall. Anyone interested in applying for a grant of any kind is welcome to attend.

Floyd County Conservation-Please visit Floyd County Conservation Facebook page and/or floydcoia.org to stay current on events and information.

North Central Iowa Genealogical Society-NCIGS will present a program on Mason City's East Park and the Isolation Hospital that was located within the park. The program begins at 1:30 PM, on Saturday, Nov 11, in the NCIGS rooms located on the second floor of the Masonic Lodge, 75 S Georgia, Mason City IA (elevator available). Need not be a member to attend; refreshments provided.

Election Soup Supper-Sponsored by Methodist youth group. Tue Nov 7th 5:00-7:00p at Rockford Methodist Church. Chili, chicken noodle, veggies, bar, and drink. Free will donation. All are Welcome!

Rockford Public Library-Nov 1st, hours are 11:30a-6:00p. Nov 2nd the Girl Scouts will be having a sign-up event from 5:30-6:30p. Book club on Nov 7th at 10:00am.

Welcome to Rockford! Welcome to the community. Liliana Balbuena Perez & Roberto Balbuena Lozano. We hope you thrive here and are happy you chose Rockford as your home.

Obituaries: Natalie Ann French 81, born Mar 9, 1942, passed Oct 14, 2023.

Mark your calendars: Dec 9th, 3rd Annual Rockford Holiday Stroll. Contact Bobbi Hinrichsen or Kasey Ott if you are interested in helping, sponsoring an activity, or have any ideas for this year's stroll.

Shout Outs: To all the boulevard volunteers this summer. The boulevard was gorgeous!

Reminder: City code 105.05 Open Burning Restrictions. Only yard waste or recreational fires are permitted to burn in Rockford City limits. Contact City Hall with any questions.

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!



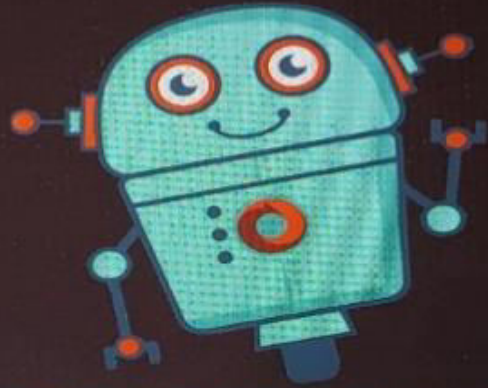


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To place an upcoming event or an advertisement
to be published in the monthly newsletter, please
email darangels@comcast.net or call Darlene
Eaton at 641-756-2441.

Rockford Community Center
206 West Main Avenue
Call for Reservations (641) 756-3718
Call for Community Meals (641-756-3581)

RUDD HISTORICAL SOCIETY BREAKFAST
Every 1st Saturday of the month
7:30-9:30 a.m.
400 Chickasaw (Main Street)
Take outs available.
Menu: Omelets, biscuits & gravy,
scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage
links, homemade bread and jam, rolls,
coffee cake & sweet breads.

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office 641-756-3850

zionstpaulslutheranparish@gmail.com

805 East Main Ave. PO Box 55 Rockford, IA 50468

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

LOCAL POSTAL
CUSTOMER

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

507 1ST Ave NW

Mass 5:30 pm on Saturdays

[641-756-3569](tel:641-756-3569)



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Contact: Mark, Andrew, Kylee and Sheile for all your
insurance and real estate needs.

Rockford Public Library

202 W Main Avenue

[641-756-3725](tel:641-756-3725)

Open: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9:00am – 4:00pm, Wednesday 12:00-6:30pm, Saturday 9:00 – 12:00 noon.