

Rockford Community Newsletter

May flowers are coming up along with warmer temps. Mother's Day on the 14th, last day of school on the 23rd, and Memorial day on the 29th marks the unofficial beginning of summer.

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.

We learned that the family had retired at half past nine and the light that we had a glimpse of was from the candle which Mr. Bailey had placed in a new position just before extinguishing it. Mrs. Bailey was soon up cooking us a supper, the quantity of which she knew well would be the most important part for us. We got to bed a little after twelve, two in the small loft and three on the floor around the cook stove in which we kept a fire nearly till morning. We had plenty of buffalo and blankets and slept not uncomfortably till sunrise. Cole and Bailey were the first out to see and feed the livestock and team. When I went out soon after I saw a very unusual spectacle in the yard near the shed. Cole and Bailey were hurrying towards each other with large stakes in their hands, running that way I soon found the cause of the strange proceedings. Mr. Baily, against Cole's wishes, had turned his team of work oxen out of their warm stalls and put our team in their places. One of the oxen had lain down on a heap of manure in the yard and had become cast, Cole and Bailey were trying to turn him over to possibly save him as he was yet quite warm, but to no purpose, he was quite dead, and the great, strong useful animal was a sad loss. Baily said that the oxen often spent colder nights in the yard and the accident might happen almost any day or night, he refused remuneration but slightly charged us for our entertainment. He showed us the way to Green's Grove about three miles north-west of his place, which we made in the clear, cold morning, arriving at Green's about ten a.m., where we put our team in a stable and accompanied by Mr. Green, proceeded at once to several tasks.

Rockford City Council Minutes

ROCKFORD CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 11, 2023, 7:30 P.M.

1. The Rockford City Council met in regular session at the Rockford City Hall on Tuesday, April 11, 2023. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Present were. Council Members Schlader, Seibert, Hoffarth, Enabnit & Medlin absent. Also present were Citizens Derek Steere, William Schmidt, Mark & Andy Heard with Rockford Insurance and Employees Randy Schweizer and Daniel Paulus. Motion Hoffarth, sec. Enabnit to approve the agenda as posted. Passed all ayes roll call vote.
2. Motion Schlader, sec. Enabnit to open Budget Hearing at 7:30 P.M. for the purposed 2023-2024 City Budget as published. Passed all ayes roll call vote. Mayor Johnson asked for any written or oral objections or comments: there being none, Motion Enabnit, sec. Seibert to close Budget Hearing at 7:31 P.M.

3. Motion Hoffarth, sec. Enabnit to approve resolution #2023-12 adopting the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024. Passed with the following roll call vote: Ayes: Hoffarth, Enabnit, Schlader, and Seibert
4. Motion Hoffarth, sec. Enabnit to approve amending the consent agenda consisting of March 14, 2023, council minutes with adding Lee Dodge to the list of citizen's present to Line item #1 and also approving March 24, 2023 council minutes, monthly reports, claims and expenses and Yesway tobacco license. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
5. Motion Hoffarth, sec. Enabnit to approve the city insurance deductible to be moved up to \$5,000.00. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
6. Motion Seibert, sec. Schlader to put city property's RFD E20' W44' Lot 7 & RFD W1/2 Lot 8 both in Block 12 out for bid. Sealed bids are due back into city hall by Monday, May 8th by 4:00 P.M. All sealed bids received will be opened at the Tuesday, May 9th, 2023, council meeting at 7:30 P.M. The city does have the right to refuse any and all bids. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
7. Motion Enabnit, sec. Hoffarth to approve a one-time \$5.00 utility credit to fill out the city's Lead & Copper Survey. Those who are eligible must have city water connection to their property. The project deadline is October 2024. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
8. No action was taken on Railroad Crossings.
9. Discussion was held on asbestos grant and removal for property of 109 W. Main Ave.
10. Motion Hoffarth, sec. Enabnit to approve sealed bid from JC Construction in the amount of \$17,800 to remove and replace the west park sidewalk. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
11. No action was taken on Campground rates.
12. Motion Hoffarth, sec. Schlader to approve purchasing a commercial sprayer from Mark's Tractor & Imp. Inc. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
13. Motion Hoffarth, sec. Enabnit to approve Wedeking Electric LLC estimate for underground electrical work at the city's Public Work building contingent on that their October 2022 estimate price is the same and when they can start. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
14. Motion Enabnit, sec. Seibert to approve Resolution #2023-13 SEH professional Service Agreement for Contract Administration. Passed all ayes roll call vote.
15. Motion Hoffarth, sec. Schlader to approve Resolution #2023-14 to fix public hearing date on proposal to enter into a Water Revenue Loan and Disbursement Agreement. Passed all ayes roll call vote.
16. Discussion was held with council on applicants for the Deputy Clerk position.
17. Motion Enabnit, sec. Seibert to fix public hearing date on conveying property Lots 3 & 4 W. C. Johnson First Addition. Passed all ayes roll call vote.
18. Motion Schlader, sec. Seibert approved to get quotes on the cost of the City Budget Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023, for Annual Exam. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
19. Public Works Employee Randy Schweizer reported on getting the campground & west park water turned on and parks ready to go, filling potholes, the street sweeper ready, getting new rock and grading the alleys, and picking up tree limbs.
20. Mayor Johnson reported on working on another grant for the 109 W. Main Ave property.
21. Motion Hoffarth, sec. Seibert to adjourn at 8:34 P.M.

What's Happening

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

Grant Writing-Monthly grant writing on Friday, May 5th at 8:00am at City Hall. Anyone interested in applying for a grant is welcome to attend.

Rockford Library- During the month of May, the library will receive some updating. The library will be closed May 1-6. After that, the library will only be open Tuesdays and Thursday from 1-4PM until June. We have an informational website found by googling "Rockford Public Library" and we are on Facebook.

North Central Iowa Genealogical Society (NCIGS) will hold its monthly meeting/ program on Saturday, May 13, 2023. The Program will be a Refresher Training Session regarding the use of ANCESTRY Site. Our fantastic and passionate researcher, Rod Hungerford, will host the Session and provide TOPICS & TECHNIQUES to access Information (CLUES). An Example: Bits of Information from a Family Story (Verifiable??). Awaken the History Detective!! Location: NCIGS Resource Room, 75 S Georgia, Mason City IA. (Masonic Lodge across from MC Police Department. 2nd floor, elevator available). Program begins 1:30 PM, with refreshments to follow. Need not be a member to attend!!

Obituaries: Bernadine Howe born Dec 31, 1925, passed Apr 1, 2023. Michael D. Paulus born Feb 15, 1946, passed Apr 5, 2023.

Shout Outs: Liz Everts for her service as the library director. Liz will retire effective May 1st.

Now that the weather is warming up, check out all the activities Rockford's parks have to offer. Wyatt Park and campground has a new playset along with a Gaga ball court, Disc Golf course, and bags.

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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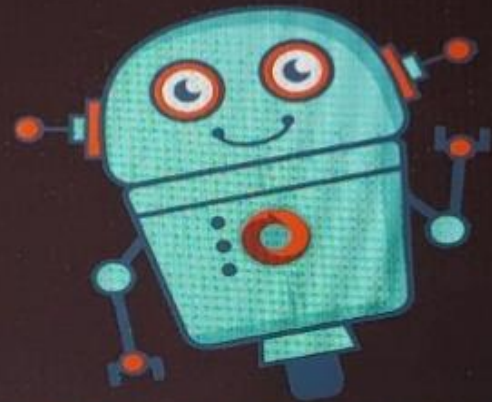
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Contact:

Mark, Andrew, Whitney and Sheile for all your insurance
and real estate needs

To place an advertisement or an upcoming event 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](tel:6417563718)

Call for Community Meals [\(641-756-3581\)](tel:6417563581)

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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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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Tony's A+ Pest Services
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Jess Demaray
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815-291-7897

Rockford Public Library

202 W Main Avenue

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

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.