

# Rockford Community Newsletter

April hopefully brings warmer weather and rain showers for May flowers and farmers. April Fool's Day is the 1<sup>st</sup>, partial solar eclipse for Iowa on the 8<sup>th</sup>, and tax day is the 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Rockford History

Elections have changed in some ways from one hundred years ago. They are still a lively affair. It is amazing there were many women casting their first votes. Below is taken from the Rockford Register on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1924.

**Municipal Election a Lively Affair.**

It has been a number of years since as much interest has attached to a municipal election as the one which was held on Monday. Two tickets had been placed in the field—People's and Citizen's—which designations had no particular significance. Word had been passed that a special effort was going to be made to defeat Mr. Crowell, candidate for mayor on the people's ticket and this resulted in bringing out a large vote, which totaled 401. Of this number 209 straight People's ballots were cast and 39 Citizens', which was headed by J. J. Wilson. Preference was expressed for the latter on 125 scratched ballots and Mr. Crowell on 24 mixed ballots. The standing of the several candidates on the two tickets was as follows:

People's—  
For Mayor—  
Crowell ..... 230  
Assessor—  
E. F. Briggs ..... 303

Treasurer—  
Johannaber ..... 330  
Councilmen—  
S. S. Lohr ..... 296  
Kornegor ..... 307  
F. R. Ayers ..... 328  
A. W. Lohr ..... 307  
Trigg ..... 293  
Citizens—  
Mayor—  
J. J. Wilson ..... 166  
Assessor—  
Schmidt ..... 83  
Councilmen—  
MaCartney ..... 63  
Porter Allen ..... 74  
Marker ..... 64  
Kline ..... 117  
L. Weigand ..... 92  
Of the 401 votes cast, 165 were polled by women. The Register understands that a number of women cast their first votes. The result of the voting was decisive and seems to have cleared the air some.

### ROCKFORD CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MARCH 14, 2024, 7:30 P.M.

1. The Rockford City Council met in regular session at the Rockford City Hall on Tuesday, March 12, 2024. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Present were Council Members Schlader, Seibert, Medlin, Johnson, and Enabnit. Also present were Citizens Janice Meyer, Spenser Gruis, and Employee Daniel Paulus.  
Motion Seibert, sec. Enabnit to approve the agenda as posted. Passed all ayes roll call vote.
2. Motion Johnson, sec. Enabnit to approve sewer credit of 8,970 gallons for March bill at the property of 109 1<sup>st</sup> Ave SE. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
3. Motion Schlader, sec. Johnson to approve the consent agenda consisting of February 13, 2024 Council Minutes, Monthly Reports, Claims and Expenses. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
4. Construction is set to start by the end of March for the Water Tower Project.

5. Rustin Lingbeek with SEH will be at the April meeting to discuss the Sewer Lagoon Project.
6. Discussion was held on the looking into renting a Rock Crusher.
7. Motion Medlin, sec. Enabnit to approve building variance on the set back at the property of 206 8<sup>th</sup> St NW. Passed with Ayes: Seibert, Medlin, Johnson, and Enabnit with Schlader abstaining. Motion carried.
8. Motion Schlader, sec. Medlin to approve donation of \$2,000.00 to the Rockford Summer Rec. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
9. Motion Seibert, sec. Enabnit to approve bid from Larry Pump, CPA of \$3,300.00 for the City of Rockford annual exam. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
10. Motion Enabnit, sec. Schlader to set public hearing date for Water Rate Increase Ordinance for April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 7:30 P.M. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
11. Motion Seibert, sec. Medlin to set public hearing date for Sewer Rate Increase Ordinance for April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 7:30 P.M. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
12. Discussion was held by the council on the garbage contract being done at the end of September this year and the possibility of switching over to bins rather than garbage bags with different quotes from surrounding waste collector businesses.
13. Motion Schlader, sec. Enabnit to approve Mayor Johnson's appointment of Daniel Miller as Trustee of the Rockford Municipal Light Plant Board for a six-year term, with term to expire on April 1, 2030. All ayes. Motion carried.
14. Motion Schlader, sec. Enabnit to approve Mayor Johnson's appointment of John Paulus as Trustee of the Rockford Municipal Light Plant Board for the remainder of John Pearson six-year term, with term to expire on April 1, 2028. All ayes. Motion carried.
15. Public Works Employee Dan Paulus reported on work that was done on a private sewer line, a new water hookup, and that so far, the city has cut down 16 trees with the rental of Sonberg Tree Service bucket truck.
16. Mayor Johnson reported on attending the Cerro Gordo and Floyd County 911 board meetings and more research on grants.
17. Motion Enabnit, sec. Schlader to adjourn at 8:01 P.M.

## What's Happening

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**Grow Rockford Together**-The next meeting will be on Sunday **May 5th** at 7:00pm at City Hall. Everyone is invited to attend.

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**Grant Writing**-Monthly grant writing on Friday, Apr 5th at 9:00am at the mayor's residence. Anyone interested in applying for a grant of any kind is welcome to attend.

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**Sunset Generation of Rockford**-Is seeking cooks for Rockford Congregate Meals. Monday through Friday, the hours are 7:30am till 1:00pm. Duties include preparing meals for 15-18 people daily according to a menu from Elderbridge Agency. Meals are packed for delivery and served in the City Hall dining room. Wages start at \$13.00 per hour with a review after 6 months. No heavy lifting required. Interested applicants please call 641-756-3581 and leave a message, or contact Harry White, 641-257-8541, or Donna Smith at 641-40-9493. This is a vital service to our community.

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**North Central Iowa Genealogical Society**-Did you know that Iowa was home to numerous German, Italian and Japanese POWs during the years of WWII? There were several POW camps in the state, including Algona and Charles City. There were “main camps” and satellite camps.

The North Central Iowa Genealogical Society's April 2024 program will be WW2 IOWA POW CAMPS. The presenter is Society member Larry Paul. Program will be held beginning at 1:30 PM on Saturday, April 13 in the NCIGS library/ research room, located on the second floor of the Mason City IA Masonic Temple building at 75 S Georgia (Elevator available). Come learn about the camps, the POWs, and the communities involved. Society members and the public are welcome to attend; refreshments will be served.

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**Floyd County Conservation**- Please visit Floyd County Conservation Facebook page and/or [floydcoia.org](http://floydcoia.org) to stay current on events and information.

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**Welcome to Rockford!** Welcome to the community all who made Rockford your new home. We hope you thrive here and are happy you chose Rockford as your home.

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**Obituaries**-Tammie Hirv born Jan 21, 1971, passed Feb 26, 2024.

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**Rockford Public Library**- The Library Board is seeking a board member starting in July. Board member is a volunteer position and must live in city limits. Board meetings are held monthly. Book Club on Thur Apr 11th at 11:00am. Knitting/Crochet Club Tues Apr 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00p and Tues Apr 23rd at 1:00p.

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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!

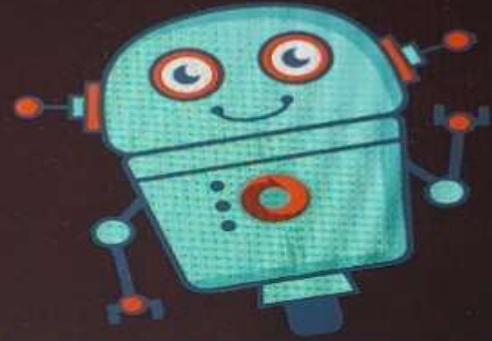
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**NORA SPRINGS LOCATION**

608 E Congress St  
Nora Springs, IA 50458  
**641-749-2531**  
Business Hours  
Monday-Friday: 7AM-6PM



**LOBBY HOURS:** Monday – Thursday  
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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:6417563718) Call for  
Community Meals [\(641-756-3581\)](tel:6417563581)

**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.  
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  
zionstpaul Lutheranparish@gmail.com  
805 East Main Ave. PO Box 55 Rockford, IA 50468  
Sunday Worship 10: am

**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 10:00am 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)

**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.



**Lorie Wilson**  
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