

Rockford Community Newsletter

April, the 3rd month already. Planting season will start this month. Tax Day is the 15th, Good Friday on the 18th, and Easter is on the 20th.



Rockford History

From the Story of Rockford by Michael Vala, Biographical chapter.

Lewellyn Whitney

Little is known about Mr. Whitney, who came from Maine to Rockford in 1858. When Mr. Whitney came to Rockford the first time in 1858, he had a rather rough beginning. He was crossing the river on the ferry when his horses bolted, upsetting the ferry and spilling Mr. Whitney, his wagon and contents, horses, etc into the water and over the (Robbins)dam. The horses were lost and Mr. Whitney barley escaped drowning himself. He had a nursery in the 1860's and for most of his life operated a funiture business in A. L. Bristol's former store (later Commercial Hotel and present site of C. W. Graper's station). Around the turn of the century he, and his family moved to Minneapolis, MN. Mr. Whitney is remembered especially for the great number of homes and stores he built in early Rockford.

ROCKFORD CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 11, 2025, 7:30 P.M.

1. Rockford City Council met in regular session at the Rockford City Hall on Tuesday, March 11, 2025. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Present were Council Members Seibert, Johnson, Enabnit, and Schlader. Medlin was absent. Also present were citizen Spenser Gruis and employee Daniel Paulus.
Motion Enabnit, sec. Seibert to approve the agenda as posted. Passed all ayes roll call vote.
2. Motion Schlader, sec. Johnson to approve the consent agenda consisting of February 11, 2025 Council Minutes, Monthly Reports, Claims and Expenses. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
3. Motion Johnson, sec. Schlader to approve Soil Boring Proposal through Chosen Valley Testing, Inc. for the Sewer Lagoon Project. Passed all ayes roll call vote.

4. Motion Enabnit, sec. Seibert to approve donation of \$250.00 to the RRMR After Prom. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
5. Motion Enabnit, sec. Schlader to approve a bid from Larry Pump, CPA of \$3,400.00 for the City of Rockford annual exam ending June 30, 2025. Passed all ayes. Motion carried.
6. Motion Johnson, sec. Seibert to approve Resolution #2025-09 Setting Public Hearing date for the General Fund Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 for April 8th, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. Passed all ayes roll call vote.
7. Motion Enabnit, sec. Johnson to approve Resolution #2025-10 Employee Handbook & Benefits. Passed all ayes roll call vote.
8. Motion Johnson, sec. Schlader to approve Resolution #2025-11 contract with Banyon Data Systems for software and support for office software programs. Passed all ayes roll call vote.
9. Public Works Employee Daniel Paulus reported truck maintenance and water main breaks.
10. Mayor Johnson reported on upcoming meetings with the county.
11. Councilman Schlader reported on getting estimates for the tennis court to be possibly turned into a pickle ball court as well.
12. Motion Schlader, sec. Enabnit to adjourn at 7:49 P.M

What's Happening

Grow Rockford Together-The next meeting will be on Sunday Apr 6th at 7:00pm at City Hall. Everyone is invited to attend.

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

Public Hearing-Proposed Property Tax Levy-The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax 4/8/2025 at 7:00p at City Hall.

Grow Rockford Together-Easter Egg Sale. 50 easter eggs, 25 filled with candy and 25 filled with toys can be purchased for \$25.00. Please contact Heidi Reams at 641-220-0264 to schedule a pick up time. For local area only. Great for hiding in your yard for Easter morning.

North Central Iowa Genealogical Society- April 12, 2025. Program Session titled: MEMBERS' MEMORABILIA ITEMS. Members and attendees are asked to bring/share Information regarding Items that have been 'passed along. A Bit of History is ALWAYS attached. Program starts at 1:30 p.m. within the Society Library (TOP FLOOR of the Mason City IA MASONIC TEMPLE 75 S. Georgia Avenue).

Rockford Farmer's Market-The Farmer's Market located in West Park's open shelter, will begin on May 1st from 4-6pm. This would be a great opportunity for some May Baskets.

Project Aware River Cleanup-This is not a Grow Rockford project, but a great opportunity for volunteering to clean up our town's rivers. Cleanup on the Winnebago and Shell Rock rivers will take place the July 13-18. Information is available at www.iowaprojectaware.org/the-cleanup/this-years-route.

Rockford Public Library- Sat Apr 26th at 10a will be a sensory bin day for kids. Mon Apr 28th from 5:30-8p watercolor painting class hosted by NIACC. Sign up no later than Apr 21st. Class is limited to 10 people.

Shout outs-Pam Hopper and Heidi Stufflebeam! They keep Rockford running smooth all week long. And they print the Newsletter every month along with providing information for the newsletter. Their help is greatly appreciated.

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!





COMMUNICATIONS

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Nora Springs Business Office

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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](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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Rockford Public Library

202 W Main Avenue

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

Open: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9:00am – 4:00pm, Wednesday 11:30-6:00pm, Saturday 9:00 – 12:00 noon.

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 INSURANCE & REALTY INC.

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REV. ROBERT SCHEURER

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Sunday Worship 10:00AM
