

Rolfe Regular Council Meeting
Monday, September 11, 2023
Rolfe Community Center, 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Jim Pentico called the meeting to order at 5:33p.m at the community center. Mayor took roll call. Council present Lana Pratt, Al Minkler & Rob Jackson via telephone Dan Allen. Absent Connie Dewey.

Pratt/Jackson moved to approve consent agenda including bills, 8/14/23 minutes and building permit for Conney Dewey. All ayes.

De Sindergard gave treasurer's report. Pratt/Jackson moved to approve treasurer's report. All ayes.

No Council comments. City Clerk stated she got the grant to purchase a woodchipper. Mayor stated he is working on getting the tree pile cleaned up. Mayor also stated at the meeting on the drainage district 51 there is not enough information yet to make an informed decision. Petition is only a trouble report. If people had listened to the information the meeting probably would have been shorter. Mayor apologized and took responsibility for his actions. Mayor also stated there was wrong information printed in a letter to the editor. Criticism about selling backhoe/mudvac would fit the city's needs better. Mayor read ordinance on repairs/costs to homeowner's water lines. Also stated there are no grants for removing trees, just planting new ones.

No utility reports Tony is babysitting the water tower while it fills back up, but the new paint to the tower looks great.

Citizen Comments – Christina Larton addressed the council about the mayor's professional conduct held during the drainage meeting. His behavior at the meeting was unacceptable.

Complaint forms – One at 401 Walnut Street a car parked in yard, no license for 3 months. Mayor will talk to them. Second at 206 Cedar Street for junk in garage and long grass. Third at 401 Oak street about a rooster call that goes off all times of day. Mayor is waiting for date to go back to court for the rooster.

No sheriff update.

Pratt/Jackson moved to approve a 3-year service agreement with Iowa Pump Works for lift station. All ayes.

Russ Jergens. - county emergency management and zoning officer. Gave update about county ordinances zoning about nuisance properties. They are rewriting their ordinances for zoning. They don't have ordinances for grass/weeds, nuisance properties. They do have an ordinance for junk yards. They are discussing with MIDAS about getting a nuisance ordinance. Suggest getting together with the Laurens/Fonda group to work together to see what fits the county. There has been discussion the towns go together like a 28E agreement for a code enforcement officer.

Water/wastewater have had inquiries we have one resume that has been submitted. Minkler says we should exercise caution, make sure we get someone that will last. Discussion. Pratt/Allen moved to set up interview with applicant but to keep advertising.

Clerk stated that legislative changes to tax reform will also be impacting urban revitalization tax exemptions. Pratt/Minkler moved to have our bonding attorney make the amendments to the Urban Revitalization tax abatements. All ayes.

Mayor stated the house at 202 Grant Street is derelict. Has been bought by 3 different LLC's, none have done any repairs and just advertise to sell. City attorney says we have a good case in petitioning the court to get the house under Iowa code 657A.10A. Allen/Pratt moved to go forward with petitioning the court to give the property to the city. All ayes.

Minkler/Allen moved to set clean up days to October 9th and 10th. All ayes.

Nuisance abatements nothing new, waiting on a few from city attorney. There is a nuisance abatement company that is trying to clean up a property, and if they don't clean up the company will, and the city will assess to taxes if bill is not paid.

Pratt/Jackson moved to adjourn at 6:18pm. All ayes.

Jim Pentico, Mayor

ATTEST:

Angela Montag, City Clerk