

ROWAN RING

April 2023
Volume 2, Issue 3

City of Rowan—A small but friendly town

Musings from the Mayor.....

As your mayor, I feel like it is my responsibility to keep you informed of legislature that could have a significant impact on the city of Rowan. The legislature is currently working on tax reform and there are two pieces that would have an impact on the annual budget for the city of Rowan.

#1: LOST otherwise known as the Local Option Sales Tax.

- Currently the city of Rowan receives a 1% tax that was voted on by the citizens of Rowan. It was also voted on by the people as to how the tax revenue would be spent in each community.
- In the city of Rowan the revenue is divided evenly between the Fire Department, the Library, and the Road Fund. These funds comprise at least 10% of our small town revenue.
- The Road Use Tax that we currently receive each year does not even begin to cover the cost of city electricity and snow removal. Thus the condition of our streets. Several years ago the council voted to include 1/3 of the revenue into the Road Fund so we could begin to repair our city streets.
- Eliminating this tax could significantly affect our city budget and what we would be able to do for fire protection and our public library as well as maintenance of our streets.

#2: WET

- In 2018 the state established a WET (Water Excise Tax) Tax to create a fund for local water quality improvement projects. Previously water was subject to sales tax and those funds went into the state general fund. The proposed bill puts the wet tax entirely into the state general fund.
- If this tax is going to end up in the General Fund anyway why did they even bother setting up the WET Tax which was only five years ago.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS AT
THE
LIBRARY**

Wednesday, April 12th

5:00 p.m.

Board Meeting

Monday, April 17th

2:00 p.m.

Book Chat

**Bring a book that you
are reading.**

Librarian: Mandi Rink

641-853-2327

mandirink

@rowan.lib.ia.us

**“Censorship is the
child of fear and the
father of ignorance.” -
Laurie R. King**

New Reads at the Library

New Arrivals at the Library

Adult Fiction *Large Print*:

A Most Intriguing Lady by Sarah Ferguson

Unnatural History by J. Kellerman

I Have Some Questions for You by Rebecca Makkai

The Backup Plan by Jill Shalvis

Fields of Bounty by Lauraine Snelling

The Librarian of Burned books by Brianna Labuskes

Community Board by Tara Conklin

The House of Eve by Sadeqa Johnson

Someone Else's Shoes by Jojo Moyes

Adult Fiction:

Against all Odds by Irene Hannon

Wolf Hollow by Victoria Houston

Autopsy by Patricia Cornwell

Book Lovers by Emily Henry

The Bodyguard by Katherine Center

Finding Perfect by Colleen Hoover

Children's Books:

How to Make a Friend

A Monster is Eating This Book

Llama Rocks the Cradle of Chaos

Smile, Sophia

With a Little Help from My Friends

In my Heart

JR and Young Adult Books:

Junk Boy by Tony Abbot

The Project by Courtney Summers

Apartment 713 by Kevin Sylvester

The Islanders (Bk. 1 & 2) by Mary Alice Monroe

Wilder Boys (Bk. 1&2) by Brandon Wallace

Hiking and Camping: The Definitive Interactive Nature Guide
by Jennifer P. Davis

Scenes from St. Patrick's Day



Schedule of Events

Monday, April 3:

7:00 p.m. Rowan City Council Meeting.

Friday, April 8th:

4:00—7:00 pm
Dows Legion Fish Fry
Dows Legion Hall

Saturday, April 9:

10:00 a.m. Easter Egg hunt at the Main Street playground. Toddlers through 6th grade. Donated wrapped candy can be left at the library and the United Church of Rowan. Sponsored by Ours and Hours Club.

Wednesday, April 12th:

5:00 p.m. Library Board Meeting

Friday, April 14th:

5:00—7:00 p.m.
Clarion Legion Fish Fry
Heartland Museum in Clarion

Monday, April 17:

2:00 p.m. Book Chat at the Library

Sunday, April 22nd:

11:30—1:00 p.m.
Dows Legion Dinner at Dows Legion Hall.
Hamburgers & Hot Dogs

FOR SALE!

The City of Rowan is accepting sealed bids for the 121 Main Street Property.

Include your name, address, phone number, and bid amount in a sealed envelope and mark on the outside: "SEALED BID-121 MAIN STREET"

Mail to : pO Box 182, Rowan, IA 50470 or deliver to Rowan City Hall. Due by noon on April 1st. Bids will be opened at the City Council Meeting on April 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

Bidders are welcome to attend and would have the opportunity to increase their bid, only if they have submitted a sealed bid on time.

PAY UTILITY BILLS ONLINE
Go to
cityofrowan.com
And click on
MAKE PAYMENT

Office Hours:
Thursday 2:00 -5:00 pm
1st & 3rd Saturdays
9 a.m.—Noon
Tuesday after regular council meeting 10:00 a.m.—Noon

Rowan City Hall
101 Main Street
Rowan, IA 50470
(641) 853-2345
cityofrowan.com

City Clerk: Aimee Miller
cityofrowan@gmail.com
Mayor: Lennea Groom
(515) 293-1657
rowanmayor@outlook.com

From the Clerk's Corner.....

The Rowan City Council met on Monday, March 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center. Four council members were present on one absent.

During Public Input, Nancy Hofmeister, representing the Rowan Lions Club, presented a program for recycling soft plastic. If 500 lbs. are collected in a six month period a free park bench will be awarded. The Lions was asking for permission to put a receptacle for the bags in the Community Center. The motion was made by Hollman to allow, it was seconded by Bosch and approved. More details will be available once the Lions Club has more information. Luanne Krabbe was also present and handed out the schedule for 2023 for the Iowa River Players. She will be on the Agenda for the April meeting.

Mark Bruns reported that the Fire Department has been going through hazmat classes. Virgil Park reported that the furnace filters in the Community Center has been changed, the batteries changed in the security cameras and he is working on mounting the AED in the Community Center on the wall.

Mayor Groom closed the regular meeting and opening the Public Hearing for the FY24 budget. No public input for FY24 budget or Ordinance 2023-01 for Pest and Dust Control. Mayor Groom closed the public hearing and re-opened the regular meeting. A motion was made by Park to approve the FY24 Budget, 2nd by Bruns, approved unanimously by roll call vote. A motion was made by Hollman, seconded by Bruns to waive the 3rd reading of the FY24 Budget. A motion by Bruns, 2nd by Bosch to approve Ordinance 2023-01, roll call vote, 3 Ayes, 1 Nay. There will be a 3rd reading of Ordinance 2023-01 at the April meeting.

Ordinance amendment 23-02 Chapter 35 Fire Department Motion by Hollman to approve and set public hearing date for April 3rd at 7:00 p.m., second by Bruns. Motion carried.

Resolution 2023-5 setting pay rates for volunteer firefighters. Motion by Hollman, 2nd by Park. Motion carried.

Ordinance Amendment 2023-03 Add Chapter 36 Establishing a Fire Board of Trustees—Motion by Hollman to approve and set public hearing for April 3rd at 7:00 p.m., 2nd by Bruns. Approved.

Motion by Hollman to hire a seasonal employee for lawn mowing and pay \$15.00, purchase a weed eater by the city, 2nd by Bruns, Approved.

Discussion was held about vacating Ballou Street between Main Street and Bingham Ave. and the donation of the previous Barber Shop lot to the city. An originally plotted street has never been used for a street and never will be. The Community Center leech field is located within the boundaries of the street and there is also a tower erected on the plotted street. The adjacent Historical Society Property has been leveled and they would like to donate that property to the city as well. Motion by Bruns to vacate Ballou Street and accept the Historical Society property, 2nd by Hollman, approved.

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From the Clerk's Corner continued.....

Support for the generator at the church was next on the list for discussion. Items such as insurance, maintenance, etc. It was decided that there should be a Written Agreement between the Church Council and the City of Rowan regarding responsibilities, liabilities, etc.

The city has been awarded the property at 121 Main Street in Rowan. Motion by Hollman to have a "sealed-bid to live auction" sale, 2nd by Bruns was approved. Sealed bids will be accepted until noon on April 1st and opened at the April 3, 2023 City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Bidders are welcome to attend the meeting and will have the option of increase their bids if they submitted a sealed bid on time.

Hollman brought it to the attention of the council that there are some issues with new siding on the south side of the Community Center that need to be addressed and also with the roof on the Water Department. Evidently the roof is not sealed along the back edge of the façade and is leaking into the building. Maintenance will get it taken care of.

Samantha Hanson, Wright County Naturalist, met with Mayor Lennea Groom regarding the Outdoor Classroom to be constructed in the empty lot vacated by the old city hall and library. She suggested the lot just be seeded for this year and allowed to settle. The Mayor has discussed this project with Rhonda Benton who is taking a Master Gardener Class and needs a community service project. She would be willing to head up a Committee of area Community Members to develop several designs for the area that could be voted on the Community. Motion by Bruns, second by Park to set up the committee, approved.

Meeting was adjourned.



Food Pantry Hours Monday

10:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Friday

10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Saturday

10:00 a.m.-Noon

ROWAN RING

To subscribe

via email, please send
your email address to

[rowanmayor@](mailto:rowanmayor@outlook.com)

outlook.com

Or

[cityofrowan@](mailto:cityofrowan@gmail.com)

gmail.com

**2023
Easter Egg Hunt**

**Saturday, April 8, 2023
10:00 a.m.
City Playground
On Main Street**

**In case of inclement
weather the hunt will
be moved to the
Community Center**

Musings from the Mayor cont...

Please contact our legislators and ask them not to vote for these changes. I encourage you all to call, email or send letters to our representatives and let them know how you feel. Reference Senate File 550 when you make contact.

Rowan's representatives are:

Dennis Guth: dennis.guth@legis.iowa.gov. 1007 S. Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50319, 515-281-3371

Mark Thompson: mark.thompson@legis.iowa.gov, 515-281-3221

If you have more questions about any of this our city clerk, Aimee Frohling is well informed about how all this works and would answer your questions or tell you where to get additional information.

APRIL'S RECIPE OF THE MONTH: Amish Breakfast Casserole

Great for Easter Morning Breakfast

Prep Time: 15 Min. Cook Time: 1 hr. Makes 15 Servings

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1 lb. sliced bacon, diced | 1 1/2 C. small curd cottage cheese |
| 1 med. Sweet onion, chopped | 1 1/4 C. Swiss cheese, shredded |
| 6 large eggs, lightly beaten | 1 lb. mild, bulk sausage |
| 4 C. frozen hash browns,
Shredded, thawed | 1/2 red bell pepper diced |
| 2 C. cheddar cheese, shredded | 1/2 green bell pepper diced |
| | fresh, snipped chives for garnish |

1. In a large skillet, cook bacon and onion until bacon is crisp, drain.
2. In a separate skillet cook sausage and bell peppers until sausage is cooked through
3. In a very large bowl combine the remaining ingredients, stir in bacon and sausage mixtures.
4. Transfer to a greased 13 in. x 9 in. x 2 in. baking dish. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 35-40 minutes or until set and bubbly. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.