

in this issue >>>

Tree Lighting Ceremony

Trick or Treat Night in Steamboat Rock

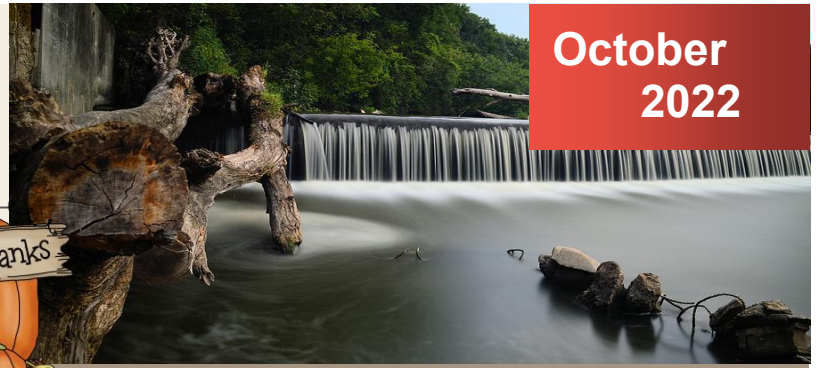
The Rest of the Story

Happy Birthdays

New to the Library

and Much More !!!

October  
2022



Published by Pride & Betterment

# Friendly Valley Times

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!”

~ Psalm 100:4

## The Mouse Trap

A mouse looked through the crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife open a package. “What food might this contain?” the mouse wondered. He was devastated to discover it was a mousetrap. Retreating to the farmyard, the mouse proclaimed the warning: “There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!”

The chicken clucked and scratched, raised her head, and said, “Mr. Mouse, I can tell this is a grave concern to you, but it is of no consequence to me. I cannot be bothered by it.” The mouse turned to the pig and told him, “There is a mousetrap

in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!” The pig sympathized, but said, “I am so very sorry, Mr. Mouse, but there is nothing I can do about it but pray. Be assured you are in my prayers.”

The mouse turned to the cow and said, “There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!” The cow said, “Wow, Mr. Mouse. I’m sorry for you, but it’s no skin off my nose. So, the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the farmer’s mousetrap alone.

That very night a sound was heard throughout the house – like the sound of a mousetrap catching its prey. The farmer’s wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see it was a venomous snake whose tail the trap had caught. The snake bit the farmer’s wife. The farmer rushed her to the hospital, and she returned home with a fever.

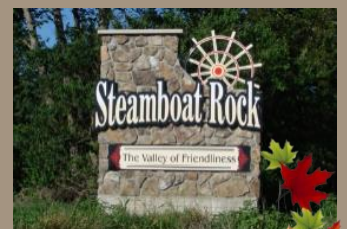
Everyone knows you treat a fever with fresh chicken soup, so the farmer took his hatchet to the farmyard for the soup’s main ingredient. But his wife’s sickness continued, so friends and neighbors came to sit with her around the clock. To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig. The farmer’s wife did not get well; she died. So many people came for her funeral; the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide enough meat for all of them.

The mouse looked upon it all from his crack in the wall with great sadness. So, the next time you hear someone is facing a problem and think it doesn’t concern you, remember, when one of us is threatened, we are all at risk. We are all involved in this journey called life. We must keep an eye out for one another and make an extra effort to encourage one another. Each of us is a vital thread in another person’s tapestry.

## Miscellaneous News

Friendly Valley Times – Would you like your Friendly Valley Times emailed to you? Please send your email address to sign up to [srcityhall@heartofiowa.net](mailto:srcityhall@heartofiowa.net) ; subject: FVT.

Let’s Save A Tree OR go to the city website – [www.steamboatrockiowa.net](http://www.steamboatrockiowa.net) and sign up there at the bottom of the Home page.



Look within... committees, volunteer work, and lots more.

# Steamboat Rock

Monday, October 31, 2022



5:00pm – 7:00pm

PLEASE JOIN US FOR  
HARDIN COUNTY CONSERVATION'S

# FALL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15  
10AM-2PM

297 10TH ST. STEAMBOAT ROCK, IA

FOOD - DRINKS - MUSIC  
PETTING ZOO - FISHING DERBY  
GAMES - PUMPKIN CARVING  
HAY RACK RIDES & MORE!

THIS EVENT IS A PART OF THE  
BARLOW FAMILY FOUNDATION COMMUNITY CHALLENGE  
QUALIFIED DONATIONS WILL GO TOWARDS THE RENOVATION OF THE LODGE

Scan the code for a map to the Fall Festival location

Scan the code for The Lodge Information

PRSRRT STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
EDDM Retail

Local Postal Customer

Thank You for your SUPPORT

PayPal accepted at

Please apply my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the  
Hardin County Conservation - Lodge Renovation

- Donors must be individuals, not groups.
- Donations must be "new money", not dues or pledges.
- Minimum donation is \$25; Maximum donation is \$100 per person, to qualify for matching funds.
- No donations after closing date of October 26, 2022.
- Drop off or mail donation to Iowa Falls State Bank.

The Barlow Foundation  
COMMUNITY CHALLENGE 2022  
Oct. 12-26

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Iowa Falls State Bank

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOOOUU!!!

*May you live a long life, Full of Gladness and Health, with a pocket full of gold as the least of your wealth, May the Dreams you hold dearest, be those which Come True, May the kindness you spread, keep returning to YOU!*

October 19 <sup>th</sup> Kimberly Mullins	October 21 <sup>st</sup> Aarron Stahl	October 22 <sup>nd</sup> Katie (Rolph) Brown
October 24 <sup>th</sup> Dawn Doolaard	October 25 <sup>th</sup> TJ Hall	October 26 <sup>th</sup> Nicholas Pieters
November 4 <sup>th</sup> Jennifer Stahl	November 12 <sup>th</sup> Amber Smith	November 24 <sup>th</sup> Ryan Stupp



## STEAMBOAT ROCK COMMUNITY RESOURCES

**City of Steamboat Rock**  
PO Box 366  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2240  
[srcityhall@heartofiowa.net](mailto:srcityhall@heartofiowa.net)

**Steamboat Rock Baptist Church**  
107 2<sup>nd</sup> St.  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2458  
[church@steamboatbaptist.org](mailto:church@steamboatbaptist.org)

**Steamboat Rock Cemetery**  
19325 Z Ave.  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-751-5096  
[50672cemetery@gmail.com](mailto:50672cemetery@gmail.com)

**Steamboat Rock Fire & Rescue**  
PO Box 174  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2314  
[srchief@heartofiowa.net](mailto:srchief@heartofiowa.net)

**Steamboat Rock Historic Society**  
409 W. Market St.  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-858-6085  
[jimkramer@heartofiowa.net](mailto:jimkramer@heartofiowa.net)

**Steamboat Rock Presbyterian Church**  
401 Market St.  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2292  
[srpresby@gmail.com](mailto:srpresby@gmail.com)

**Steamboat Rock Pride & Betterment**  
PO Box 356  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2025  
[team64@heartofiowa.net](mailto:team64@heartofiowa.net)

**Steamboat Rock Public Library**  
511 W. Market St.  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2300  
[srocklib@heartofiowa.net](mailto:srocklib@heartofiowa.net)

**Steamboat Rock Visionary Group**  
PO Box 185  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2182  
[bhutchcroft@hotmail.com](mailto:bhutchcroft@hotmail.com)

# *from the Mayor*

## **Winter:**

Winter is likely to come again this year. The Farmer's Almanac has called for a longer, colder, and snowy one for this upcoming winter. Just a reminder to check out your own gear before it becomes immediately necessary to be functional: windshield wipers, ice scrapers, shovels, will your snow blower start? How about that car battery that has been a little fussy? In my personal experience, it is a lot easier to change a car battery out at 50+ degrees as opposed to -20 degrees.

Now is also a good time to put stuff away that when froze down is hard to get loose. Remember to disconnect your garden hoses and drain them.

Remember that your City will mechanically remove snow of greater than 2" off the streets. To make that job more efficient, please remember to move your stuff off the street.

## **Grant Applications:**

Our small community, like most in rural America, is thin on financial ability to do projects. Therefore, we make an effort to apply for grants to do all or part of most projects we need to accomplish. For each grant applied for, we try to assess the amount of effort it will take to accomplish the myriad of boxes to check, and questions to answer, the extra costs of engineering, the extra costs of landscape architecture, the extra costs of environmental and archeological studies, and hours of administrative time, compared to the amount and percent of the grant for the project and the value it is to the City. In many cases the grant application takes so long to be approved that the project cost estimate is no longer even close- that needs to be factored in also.

Following is a short synopsis of the grants we are in the middle of right now:

- 1) New sewer lift station standby generator: FEMA Hazard mitigation grant. Existing unit is 50+ years old and replacement parts are becoming unavailable. New one needs to be elevated above the 500-year flood plain. Preliminary cost estimate is \$50,000. Estimate grant will cover 85%.
- 2) Sewer line on west side of river. Several homes are currently un-served on that side of the river and a new large customer would be the County campground and Lodge. Application has been made for a USDA Rural development grant for 75% of the project. The City sanitary sewer fund would put some \$ in and the County has suggested they would loan the City some money at favorable terms because it is very important to them for the campground and Lodge to be able to use it. Preliminary project cost estimates are in the mid \$500,000 range.
- 3) Standby generator for the City wells. Presently there is no direct connection of a generator to the wells. City has been approved for an Iowa Innovation Grant for the purchase of the generator itself. The generator has been on order for months, and hopefully will arrive any day now. The grant covers 100% of the generator, but all the switches, concrete pad, and electrical connections qualify to come out of the American Recovery Plan money already received and earmarked for this project. The whole project is \$20-25,000.
- 4) Storm water diversion project at the northeast corner of East Market St and 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Have been calling dirt contractors for a couple of years to come work on this project. The project qualifies to be funded 100% by the American Rescue Plan money already received.
- 5) Keep Iowa Beautiful grant from Diamond Vogel. Simple application and we have received \$250 worth of paint to do the floor in the north entrance to the old school gym. The paint is on hand and ready to be applied.
- 6) Brownfield Grant in the amount of \$10,000 to do a hazardous substance (read asbestos) study of the old schoolhouse. This is a 100% reimbursement grant to hire Impact 7G to begin the study next Tuesday.
- 7) New Gym lights. This is a rebate program through Alliant Energy. New LED lights are ordered and should be installed in the next 60 days or so. These lights are not inexpensive but will be a huge upgrade to the gym lighting. Significant rebate from Alliant and the energy savings will pay for the cost after rebate, in about 2 years.

Enjoy the beautiful fall in Iowa as much as you possibly can!

Thanks  
Tim Stearns, Mayor





# Steamboat Rock Fire Department

National Fire Prevention Month/Week October 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>

The 15<sup>th</sup> of October the Hardin County Conservation is having activities down at the Lodge (Boat Club). They are trying to raise funds for improvements. The improvements are for building renovations, sewer, campgrounds etc. There will be many activities for the youth to participate in; pumpkin carving, petting zoo, hayrack rides, fishing derby just to name a few.

Come down to see the rendition of the building improvement and campground additions, enjoy some beverages, and answers to questions you may have.

They are accepting donations and they are raising funds through the Barlow Foundation. The Barlow Foundation is a matching fund, from \$25 up to \$100/donation. IF you wish to donate more than \$100, just make sure the donation is listed with an individual name and \$100 is marked, i.e., \$500 donation would need five donation forms filled out with one name on each form, marked for \$100 ea.

Beggar's night is Monday, Oct. 31st from 5 -7 p.m. Remember if you WANT them at your door, please turn your porch light on. Keep a watchful eye out if you are driving.

October is also the time that leaves begin to fall. If you choose to burn, please be considerate of your neighbors. Also watch the wind direction and NEVER leave any embers. Make sure your pile is completely out before leaving it for the night. This would also be a good time to clean out your gutters. If you are no longer able to check them, make a call to someone that can assist you.

The Haunted Hospital will be hosting nights to attend. Those nights are October 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup>, please check your local listings for times. Please go and support them as they give back to the communities!!

We would like to thank the community for the continuous support with pop cans. If you are going to drop off cans and realize the container is not there that's because it has been moved. We are going to move it down to the fire station. We are asking that you keep your cans in the bags and place it in the drop off area.

As always be fire safe,  
Chief Williams

\*\*\*\*\*

## AUTO PAY YOUR UTILITY BILLS (NO Fees!)

Fill out this form and email or drop it off at City Hall please

### Direct Deposit Authorization Agreement AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT FOR DIRECT PAYMENTS (ACH DEBITS)

I (we) hereby authorize City of Steamboat Rock, hereinafter called COMPANY, to initiate debit entries to my (our) \*Checking Account \*Savings Account (select one) indicated below at the depository financial institution names below, hereinafter called DEPOSITORY, and to debit the same to such account. I (we) acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my (our) account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law.

Depository Name _____	Branch _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	
Routing Number _____	Account Number _____
Type of Account: [ ] Checking [ ] Savings	
This authorization is to remain in full force and effect until COMPANY has received written notification from me (or either of us) its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford COMPANY and DEPOSITORY a reasonable opportunity to act on it.	
Name(s) _____	ID Number _____
Date _____	Signature _____
<b>NOTE: ALL WRITTEN DEBIT AUTHORIZATIONS MUST PROVIDE THAT THE RECEIVER MAY REVOKE THE AUTHORIZATION ONLY BY NOTIFYING THE ORIGINATOR IN THE MANNER SPECIFIED IN THE AUTHORIZATION</b>	

## Pastor Lynn Arends, Steamboat Rock Presbyterian Church and East Friesland Presbyterian Church



**I KNOW THAT VOICE!** And now you know... the. Rest. Of. The story.

If you're like me, in just reading those lines, you can hear the distinctive, one and only voice of the late, great Paul Harvey.

There are certain voices that we've heard in our lives that we can immediately recognize, right? Of course, there's family and friends, but I mean famous, well-known voices that are so unique, they can only belong to one person. A few that come to mind for me are the afore-mentioned Mr. Harvey, Howard Cosell, John Wayne, Casey Kasem and Vin Scully. Whose golden-throated tones do you immediately recognize?

How about the voice of God? I mean, God does speak to us, doesn't He?

Oh yes, God does speak to us. We are assured of that many times in the Bible. In one instance, Jesus says in John 10:27 in the NASB, "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."

One would think that should God speak; it would be instantly recognized by all of us. Unfortunately, I don't believe that's always the case.

God speaks to each of us in numerous ways. Sure, Moses was lucky enough to get the in-your-face burning bush. It doesn't always happen that way for each of us. Sometimes we hear Him in our heads. Other times it could be from someone speaking to us or a verse in the Bible that catches our eye. Hearing God shouldn't be limited to our way of thinking because God has no limits.

So, you might say, "Well, yes, Lynn, I hear voices and things." And as I look at you, in a very non-judgmental way, you quickly add, "But how do I know that's God speaking to me?"

Legit question. After all, God doesn't necessarily sound like Paul Harvey, does He?

I like the three ways the website [godconversations.com](http://godconversations.com) gives to help us determine whether or not it's God that's speaking to us. They say, "Every word we hear, vision we see or feeling we have needs to be tested. There are three ways we can do this: Would Jesus say this?"

Has the Holy Spirit confirmed it through the witness of others in my community?

Has the Holy Spirit provided supernatural signs or indicators that it is from him?"

I also believe that our faith helps us determine when God speaks to us. John 8:47 in the NLT says, "Anyone who belongs to God listens gladly to the words of God. But you don't listen because you don't belong to God."

Faith and hearing God go hand in hand. When we have faith, we are more likely open to hearing God. In fact, we tend to welcome it. Hearing God then reinforces our faith even more. It's a cycle that only makes us stronger.

Yes, it would help immensely if God had a voice we could recognize. But as we've affirmed, that's not always the case. However, when we do hear God speak, in whatever way that is, and we've determined that it really is God speaking to us, we need to listen. We need to pay attention. Hebrews 2:1 in the NIV says, "We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away."

My prayer is that you will hear God speak to you this month and that you will not drift away.

And now, friends, you know the rest of the story.

# Steamboat Rock Public Library

The new bookcases for the biography and non-fiction part of the library and the north wall of the adult fiction part of the library have been installed. A very big thank you to James Ogden for getting them put together and to Jack Boelman for firmly attaching them to the top of the wall. As with any 100-year-old building the walls and the floor are not level, plumb, true, or straight plus we only received the first page of the instructions so there were some challenges. But the largest thank-you needs to go to the Hardin County Endowment Foundation and Heart of Iowa Telecommunications (Aureon) for the grant money they gave us for this project. How nice it all looks, and we don't have books sliding onto the floor now.

We have a new front entrance door that pushes out, so the building is now to state code. It is a full glass door, and we love the light that comes in. And Mayor Tim repaired the library sign and re-installed it. A big thank you to the Friends of the Library and Mayor Tim.

We have Paper crafting on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> of this month starting at 12:00. Along with doing 2 crafts we are providing a lunch box from Subway. There is no cost to patrons to attend.

Book club will be on October 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 2:00. If the weather holds it will be on the back patio or inside by the fireplace. We do not read the same book, so the different book reviews are fun to listen to.

Remember we are a non-profit organization so any donation you give can be used as a tax write-off. Thanks to all for your assistance in any way.

511 W. Market St; Steamboat Rock Phone/Fax: 641-868-2300

[www.youseemore.com/nile/steamboatrock](http://www.youseemore.com/nile/steamboatrock)

or on Facebook @SteamboatRockLibrary



## Hours are as Follows

Tuesday	1:00-6:00 PM
Wednesday	2:00-5:00 PM
Thursday-Friday	12:00-4:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

## New to the Library

### Adult Fiction

*The Fall Girl* by Marcia Clark

*Suspect* by Scott Turow

*The Winners*

by Fredrik Backman

*Lucy by the Sea*

by Elizabeth Strout

*Long Shadows*

by David Baldacci

*Mad Honey* by Jodi Picoult

### Historical Fiction

*The Killing Code*

by Ellie Marney

### Mystery

*Blow Back* by James Patterson and Brendan DuBois

*Forsaken Country*

by Allen Eskens

*Santa's Little Yelpers*

by David Rosenfelt

*Righteous Prey*

by John Sandford

### Romance

*Virgin River* by Robyn Carr

### Junior Fiction

*I Survived the Wellington*

*Avalanche* by Lauren Tarshis

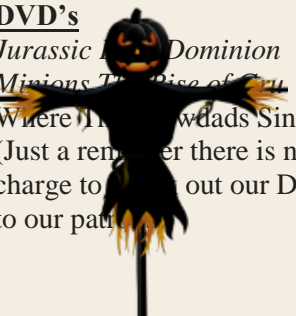
### DVD's

*Jurassic World Dominion*

*Minions The Rise of Gru*

*Where the Wild Things Are*

(Just a reminder there is no charge to check out our DVDs to our patrons)



## Steamboat Rock Historical Society

**President:** Jim Kramer **Vice President:** Dennis Holmes **Secretary:** Janet Folkerts

**Treasurer:** Kitty Hemmen **At Large:** Keith Griffen

Email: jimkkramer@heartofiowa.net

### **OUR Mission:**

“To preserve and promote the history of Steamboat Rock and the surrounding area”

### Museum Open on Appointment Only

We have now closed the museum again for the summer. However, if you are in town and would like to stop in for a visit, please contact me at the address above and I would be happy to find a time to meet you there and show you around.

Last month, I started reprinting an article about our town of Steamboat Rock. The following is a continuation of that article. Hope you enjoy!

### **Saturday Night in Steamboat Rock**

One of the two town pumps was located on the corner of the Chevy garage. Across the street was the barber shop. Otto Filbrant was the town's barber for many years. He was followed by Merle Sherburn, Claude Heard, and George Hemmen. The building which currently houses the library was the office of the Central Iowa Telephone Company. Hattie Tholen, Betty VanDornam, and Emma Williams were operators.

Heading east, the next building was Ruppelt's Meat Market. Dr. J. Willard Caldwell's office was next door. Eiler's Store was on the corner where the second town pump was located.

Across the intersection was the Farmers Savings Bank. In 1909, J.A. Holmes went to work for D.W. Turner's Farmers Exchange Bank in that building. The Turner family owned the bank for many years. Harry Turner followed his father as bank president until he was killed in an automobile accident. His sister Nellie then became president, a pioneer as a woman in that position. Elda Christians was cashier, followed by Holmes, and Ben Jaspers. Beatrice Cramer, Frances Gast, Alvin Jaspers, Doris Ruppelt, Anna Doolaard, and Bernice Heard worked at the bank. Later the Ruppelt family secured the majority interest in the business.

*Cont'd on next page*

## *Cont'd from previous page* **Steamboat Rock Historical Society**

The next building east was the old Potgeter Lumber Yard office. Henry Schwitters managed this business for a number of years. After the lumber yard was moved to the elevator site, the house became the home of Albert Kruse. Frank and Barbara (Bobby) Fredericksen lived in the vine covered home next door...The back side of the house was made into an apartment which was occupied by a family Card and later Sharp Hathaway. The Presbyterian/Congregational/Presbyterian church was on the corner.

Some businesses located off Market Street included a restaurant south of the DX station. It was called Wally's Wagon when it was operated by Wally Heffelmeir...Later Ed Frerichs operated it. The post office later moved to this area and the old blacksmith's shop rounded out the businesses in this area. It was later used as an industrial arts shop by the school, and it also served as a restaurant for a time.

Sam Volk ran a repair shop on the intersection of Highway 118 and Main Street. Later Ray Diamond opened his shop there and sold Dino gasoline as well.

Joe Cervetti ran a successful construction business for a number of years. One of his specialties was building churches. He also made violons as a hobby. Other carpenters were John Gast, Harry Folkerts, and Bill Eckel.

The Potgeter Elevator was a family institution for much of Steamboat Rock's history. George was an avid reader and was pretty much self-educated. He appeared before a Congressional Committee advocating private enterprise rather than cooperatives. Local folks looked forward to the "Yellow Sheet" which Potgeter printed weekly.

Leonard DeVries and George Harms operated hatcheries and Charles and Orville Asher did electrical work.

Some of the old phone numbers might be familiar to a few.

Orville Asher - #5   Farmers Savings Bank - #58   Eiler's Store - #40   Drug Store - #37   Luiken Chevy - #54  
Luiken Hdwe - #39   Potgeter Elevator - #24   Knight Locker - #56   Wally's Wagon - #4

### Additional Comments on the Above Article

1. We have the butcher's block in our museum that was used at Ruppelt's Meat Mkt.
2. I can remember going into Eiler's Store with my mom to buy clothes.
3. As a child, I remember getting my hair cut from Claude Heard. And then later on by George Hemmen.
4. My wife and I had the privilege to live next to Joe and Lillian Cervetti before they both passed away. They were awesome people and great neighbors.
5. I can remember going down to Potgeter's Elevator to get a bottle of pop. Oh, it tasted so good!!!

Hopefully, this article brings up a few memories of your own as you remember your time living in Steamboat Rock.

Jim Kramer—Steamboat Rock Historical Society

## **Steamboat Rock Visionary Group / Pride & Betterment**

### **Christmas in Steamboat Rock!**

After much deliberation, our committee has decided we cannot leave our community with no Christmas lighting. The expense for lighting the uptown tree has been nearly too much for our finances but we have decided to dip into our reserves to keep our popular tree lighting tradition going. We have purchased new lighting that is more robust than the lighting we have used in the past. The new lighting has a seven-year warranty and will be placed in the tree by the company that sells the lighting. This cost is significant so anyone who appreciates our lighting efforts is asked to help us with this cost. Send donations to PO Box 185 in care of the Visionary Group. These donations may be tax deductible as we are a 501c3 under the IRS. Thank you!

### **Tree Lighting Ceremony!**

Our annual tree lighting will be held on Wednesday, November 23, beginning at 6 pm. We will once again be working with the Rock Stop to give gift certificates. Make a minimum \$10 gas purchase and enter in the drawing. We will give four certificates this year, so chances of winning are even better. (You must be present to win.) Come and see our new lights and enjoy the start of the Christmas season. Watch for flyers with more details!

### **Summer!**

Summer once again sped by. Where did it go?? Thanks to generous donations at our brisket supper the committee was able to provide new mulch for the playground, pay for repairs and electricity at the basketball court, provide a porta pottie at the park, and pay the electric bill for the shelter house. Once again, the park got good usage all summer long. It's so great to see all the people who make good use of our facilities, many from out of town. (The basketball lights will remain lit till the end of October.) Wishing you all a great fall season!

MAYOR  
Tim Stearns  
  
"A Valley  
of  
Friendliness"



COUNCIL MEMBERS  
Adam Blackburn  
Dave Mull  
Kevin Pieters  
Cory Schurman  
Jon Schurman

The Steamboat Rock City Council met in regular session October 10th, 2022, 6:30 p.m. in the City Council chambers and available via zoom. Present were Mayor Stearns and the following council members: Adam Blackburn, Dave Mull, Kevin Pieters, Jon Schurman. Absent: Cory Schurman. Also present were Melissa Johanson, Scott Williams, JD Holmes, and Renee Oltrogge.

Mayor Stearns called the meeting to order. Pieters moved, seconded by Mull to approve the posted agenda. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: C. Schurman.

Blackburn moved, seconded by J. Schurman to approve the minutes from September 19th, 2022. Motion carried unanimously, Absent: C. Schurman. Pieters moved, seconded by Mull the motion to approve City bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously, Absent: C. Schurman. Hours were presented for Renee Oltrogge, City Clerk and Kelly Haskin, Water/Sewer Supervisor. Pieters moved, J. Schurman seconded the motion to approve hours as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: C. Schurman.

Public comments: Mayor Stearns advised we have 9 Oak trees growing by the solar panels of all sizes with eight of quality to move to another location in town. A local individual recently purchased a tree spade for commercial use and we will ask him the cost. Veld would like a few planted at the river landing to replace the Ash trees that have died. Bob Hutchcroft would like some in the school yard. The library had one of the new ones just planted that did not take. Melissa will discuss it with the board. Mayor Stearns and Bob Hutchcroft will take a tour this week to see if we want them anywhere else.

Melissa Johanson, Librarian presented the library report. The new shelving was installed thanks to James Ogden and Jack Boelman. The new front door is installed. Sign is fixed and re-hung thanks to Mayor Stearns. Working on adult programming for the 14<sup>th</sup>. Making event plans to coincide with the tree lighting.

Fire Department report was presented by Fire Chief Scott Williams. Recent successful grain bin rescue. Uniforms are starting to come in and will need assistance disseminating the billing with Renee. Plan to help with the County Conservation Fall Event at the Lodge October 15<sup>th</sup>. Discussing activities to coincide with the tree lighting. Updated by-laws have been passed. Department has a large hand-held concrete saw, a skill saw, and a small gasoline generator they no longer use and plan to sell. Mayor Stearns advised since the money will stay in the department for equipment, they should sell as their association sees fit. Williams asked about replacing a few broken windows now, and then finding a grant for new siding. Presented PO's 82 for Sandry \$1,1528.00. Blackburn moved, seconded by Mull to approve the PO's as presented. Motion carried unanimously, Absent: C. Schurman. Pieters was called away at 6:52pm.

JJ Veld was not present to provide the public works report. Oltrogge advised Veld has help lined up for a short time in November while he is out of town. Thanks to Veld for putting down rock on Main St & 7<sup>th</sup> and fixing the manhole on 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Mull advised there is a manhole at Market St and 3<sup>rd</sup> St that needs addressing.

Mayor Stearns advised on distressed properties; No new activity except 308 6th St & 601 W Sycamore: New nuisance letter sent which requires some kind of action every 30 days, was delivered on 09/21/2022 by Sheriff, gives them until 10/24/2022 to respond. No response as of yet.

Nuisance Reporting sheets were reviewed then shredded.

Grant status per Oltrogge: FEMA Hazard Mitigation assistance Grant for the lift station backup generator is on phase 4 of questions and still need quotes. Application for a USDA Grant to be used for a sewer line on the west side of the river has been submitted. Waiting on additional information request. The asbestos grant for the school building is moving forward. The gym lights should be coming soon.

Hardin County Conservation & Sewer Hook Up: Mayor Stearns advised they are moving forward with remodeling the lodge. Hardin County Conservation sent out flyers this week for The Fall Festival lodge fund raiser on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 10am – 2pm at The Lodge (formerly known as The Boat Club).

Proposed River road sewer installation & USDA Rural Innovation Grant: No new news



MAYOR  
Tim Stearns

"A Valley  
of  
Friendliness"



COUNCIL MEMBERS

Adam Blackburn  
Dave Mull  
Kevin Pieters  
Cory Schurman  
Jon Schurman

J. Schurman reported on street repairs activity. Everything has been measured to get quotes.

Nuisance Ordinance Update. In process but no report tonight.

Municipal Infractions Ordinance Update. In process but no report tonight.

Animal Control Code Ordinance update. In process but no report tonight.

Siren may need to be moved due to a potential change in ownership of the land it is presently located on. If required to be relocated, the tower, and electrical cost estimate is \$5,500. Mayor Stearns has discussed with Tom Creighton (Hardin County EMA/911) about this potential move. The County is considering changing the way all of the sirens in the County are funded and Steamboat Rock should wait for that decision prior to any agreement. City Attorney has been contacted about any possible existing easements.

Halloween beggars night date to be Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022 from 5pm – 7pm.

Mayor Stearns discussed The Visionary Group Tree Lighting, fundraiser, and request for street closure the evening of 11/23/2022. A company has been contacted that would remove the old lights, install new lights, and provide a 6 year warranty for \$6250. Blackburn moved, seconded by Mull to approve the street closure as requested for half a block on Market St by the tree. Motion carried unanimously, Absent: C. Schurman, Pieters. The Visionary Group is asking for donations to assist this project.

Making the 4-way stop intersection at the end of the River's Edge Trail and adjacent to the Rockstop safe for pedestrian and bike traffic was discussed. Anticipation of many bikers patronizing the Rockstop leads this discussion. Much of the vehicle traffic doesn't come to a full stop at this intersection. Mayor Stearns discussed with County Engineer, Taylor Roll different ideas of signs, flashing yellow lights, or rumble strips- all of which have limited success per Roll. Mayor Stearns asked everyone to think about other ideas. Blackburn suggested a pedestrian walk.

Blackburn asked if the city should consider creating zoning codes. Specifically discussed Market St being coded commercial since we are experiencing more folks planning residential in the "downtown" area which may leave the City short on locations for businesses to locate there.

Mayor's comments: Welcome sign on the south side has received damaged and more lighting will be replaced.

"Engineering the Future Economy of Hardin County". Since Tam Elerding, HCCEF Program Director was unable to attend. Mayor Stearns presented a second flyer for this event on November 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in Eldora, IA. The purpose of these meetings is for our Communities/ County to put a plan in place focused on making the economy grow faster than the population.

Blackburn moved to adjourn the meeting, Mull seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: C. Schurman, Pieters. Meeting adjourned at 7: 18 pm.

Handwritten signature of Timothy A. Stearns in black ink.

Timothy A. Stearns, Mayor

Handwritten signature of Renee Oltrogge in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Renee Oltrogge, City Clerk

City of Steamboat Rock Claims To Be Approved 10/10/2022

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
Check	10/10/2022	ACH	United States Treasury	Payroll	\$ 579.50
Check	10/10/2022	ACH	IPERS	Payroll	\$ 570.07
Check	10/10/2022	ACH	Iowa Department of Revenue	WET Tax	\$ 228.67
Check	10/10/2022	ACH	Iowa Department of Revenue	State Tax withholding - 2022 2nd quarter	\$ 48.00
Check	10/10/2022	ACH	State of Iowa	Payroll	\$ 16.00
Check	10/10/2022	ACH	Alliant Energy	Electric/gas	\$ 2,592.75
Check	10/10/2022	ACH	Heart of Iowa	\$181.55 City, \$34.75 FD, Water \$34.75, \$57.68 Library	\$ 308.73
Check	10/10/2022	ACH	Culligan	Library \$10.00, City \$14.45	\$ 24.45
Check	10/10/2022	ACH	1st Interstate Bank CC	\$596.03 IT, Maintenance \$479.36, Sewer \$162.50	\$ 1,237.89
Check	10/10/2022	ACH	Grundy National Bank	Community Center Loan Payment	\$ 2,115.00
Transfer	10/10/2022	Transfer	Library	City contribution & tax levy	\$ 300.00
Check	10/10/2022	2425	VOID		
Check	10/10/2022	2426	Heart of Iowa	Library	\$ 70.00
Check	10/10/2022	2427	USPO	Box rental City, Library	\$ 152.00
Paycheck	10/10/2022	2428	Baker & Taylor	Library	\$ 315.82
Paycheck	10/10/2022	2429	Baker & Taylor	Library	\$ 314.33
Paycheck	10/10/2022	2430	Haskin, Kelly	Payroll	\$ 390.30
Paycheck	10/10/2022	2431	Johanson, Melissa M	Payroll	\$ 1,021.11
Check	10/10/2022	2432	Oltrogge, Renee	Payroll	\$ 1,418.98
Check	10/10/2022	2433	Vandervoort, Darlene K	Payroll	\$ 376.51
Check	10/10/2022	2434	AgVantage F5	Propane	\$ 24.00
Check	10/10/2022	2435	Blythe Sanitation	D \$405, Res \$1,036, T \$607.75, Rec \$0	\$ 1,643.75
Check	10/10/2022	2436	Iowa Central Electric	Sewer Pump Motor	\$ 337.50
Check	10/10/2022	2437	JCJDW Investments LLC	Solar FD \$75.48, City \$1975.58	\$ 2,051.06
Check	10/10/2022	2438	Veld, JJ	Contractual earnings	\$ 2,300.00
Check	10/10/2022	2439	JJ Veld (cleaning)	Cleaning Contract	\$ 200.00
Check	10/10/2022	2440	Veld, JJ (mileage)	Mileage	\$ 288.13
Check	10/10/2022	2441	Oltrogge, Renee A.	Mileage	\$ 44.44
Check	10/10/2022	2442	Mid America Publishing	Publishing	\$ 192.13
Check	10/10/2022	2443	Rock Stop	FD 122.50, Snow 114.82	\$ 143.04
Check	10/10/2022	2444	Stockdale Law, LLC	City Attorney charges	\$ 282.50
Check	10/10/2022	2445	Superior Welding	Oxygen & Acetylene	\$ 90.00
Check	10/10/2022	2446	T & T Computers	I Drive	\$ 54.99
Check	10/10/2022	2447	Shield Pest Control, LLC	Pest control	\$ 35.00
Check	10/10/2022	2448	Hardin County Sheriff	County Sheriff Contract	\$ 613.54

TOTAL TOTAL

\$ 20,380.19

Alliant Energy Breakdown

21.11	Ball Field
21.13	Welcome Sign
1134.60	Street Light
87.13	Lift Station
133.02	Fire Department
358.72	Water
57.03	Community Center
643.06	Sewage Treatment Plant
136.95	Library

\$ 2,592.75 TOTAL

# Recipe

Title \_\_\_\_\_

by Grandma.....

## Ingredients:

- \* 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- \* 1 teaspoon baking powder
- \* ¼ teaspoon baking soda
- \* ¼ teaspoon salt
- \* 2 teaspoon ground dried ginger
- \* 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- \* 1 egg
- \* ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- \* ¼ cup molasses
- \* 1 ½ cups water

## Method:

1 Whisk the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, ginger, and cinnamon in a bowl. Beat the egg in a separate mixing bowl with the vanilla and molasses until smooth. Whisk in the water until completely incorporated. Stir the flour mixture into the molasses mixture until just combined – a few lumps are okay.

2 Heat a lightly oiled griddle over medium-high heat. Drop batter by large spoonfuls onto the griddle, and cook until bubbles form and the edges are dry. Flip, and cook until browned on the other side. Repeat with remaining batter.

## The Ultimate Halloween Word Search



batwings	lizardfeet
blackcat	moans
bones	monster
broom	moon
caldron	mummy
coffin	night
costumes	owl
creepy	potions
crypt	pumpkin
dracula	scary
frighten	screech
frogeyes	skeleton
ghosts	spider
ghoul	spirits
goblins	spooky
grave	tombstone
groans	trick or treat
halloween	vampire
haunted	webs
hoot	werewolf
howl	witch
jackolantern	zombie

y	f	t	i	s	p	i	d	e	r	c	r	y	p	t	m
i	k	r	g	h	o	u	l	h	b	t	h	g	i	n	u
n	s	p	o	o	k	y	s	s	t	i	r	i	p	s	m
h	n	g	b	g	n	i	k	p	m	u	p	n	o	o	m
c	a	g	l	w	e	r	e	w	o	l	f	o	t	x	y
r	o	n	i	z	z	y	l	t	i	j	g	r	i	b	v
e	m	e	n	c	s	b	e	w	a	a	i	d	o	d	a
e	o	t	s	e	m	u	t	s	o	c	j	l	n	r	m
p	n	h	n	b	r	o	o	m	k	k	k	a	s	a	p
y	i	g	a	w	m	p	n	o	t	o	w	c	h	c	i
r	f	i	o	l	i	o	r	s	a	l	x	a	a	u	r
a	f	r	r	q	l	t	n	s	e	a	u	j	e	l	e
c	o	f	g	z	r	o	c	s	g	n	i	w	t	a	b
s	c	r	e	e	c	h	w	h	t	t	o	o	h	r	u
l	i	z	a	r	d	f	e	e	t	e	i	b	m	o	z
z	s	t	s	o	h	g	d	h	e	r	r	h	o	w	l
t	p	g	t	o	m	b	s	t	o	n	e	v	a	r	g

# looking Ahead...

Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> & October 24<sup>th</sup>

*Curbside Recycling @7:00am*

Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> **Happenings Halloween Party**

*Live Music with One Track Mindy 9:00pm-1:00am*

Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> **TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT 5-7PM**

Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup> *City Council Meeting 6:30pm @city hall*

Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> **Tree Lighting Ceremony**

*Beginning at 6:00pm on W Market St.*



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1120 Edgington Avenue  
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(641) 858-2318  
www.toninederhoff.com

803 G Avenue  
Grundy Center, IA 50638  
(319) 825-2318 Bus  
(888) 320-9487 Toll Free



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