

# TOWN OF HUXLEY

Huxley, Iowa  
May 1st 1968

## Resolution No-18

Be it Resolved by the council of the Town of Huxley Iowa,  
That the attached History of the Town of Huxley as written out  
By Ira J. Hendricks be Approved to be Placed in the corner stone  
to be Layed at the new Court House of Story County at Nevada Iowa,

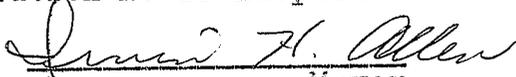
A motion was made by Harold Rittgers and Seconted by Ralph Kalsem  
that the Above Resolution No 18 be Adopted,  
By Roll call Vote,

Voteing Aye - Harold Rittgers - Ralph Kalsem - Gary Davis - Ronald Dobbe  
Paul Hennick

Voteing Nay - None

Absent - None

The Mayor then Declared the Resolution No 18 Adopted

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attested

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

HUXLEY - STORY COUNTY - IOWA

"CHRONOLOGY"

ON FEB. 16th 1882 - WAS THE FIRST RECORDING, OF THE FIRST SURVEY, OF THE NOW KNOWN TOWN OF "HUXLEY"- (BOOK L. PAGE 43) BY THE MILWAUKEE LAND COMPANY - S.S.MERRILL-PRESIDENT; P.M. MYERS - SECRETARY; AND ROSWELL MILLER - VICE PRESIDENT.

IT WAS S.S.MERRILL, WHO NAMED THE NEW TOWN AS "HUXLEY" IN HONOR OF HIS RELATIVE - THOMAS HENRY HUXLEY - WHO WAS A NOTED ENGLISH BIOLOGIST - (1825 - 1895) .

THIS PLAT CONSISTED OF LOT - 1, AND BLOCKS 1-2-3-4 (ALL - 300 Ft. BLOCKS) ORIGINAL TOWN, THEN ON MAY 26th 1885 WAS ADDED BLOCK 5, TO THIS PLATTING, CAUSING THE TOWN OF HUXLEY TO BE ONE HALF MILE LONG (EAST TO WEST). ALL OF WHICH WAS RECORDED AT THE STORY COUNTY, COURT HOUSE.

HUXLEY REMAINED A VILLAGE, FROM 1882 UNTIL FEB.12th 1902 WHEN AFTER MANY ELECTION ATTEMPTS, THAT ON THIS DATE IT WAS TO BECOME INCORPORATED, FINAL JUDGEMENT WAS APPROVED AUGUST OF 1902 BY-JUDGE J,R, WHITAKER .

THE CHICAGO MILWAUKEE & ST.PAUL RAILROAD WAS ALSO SURVEYED BY THE MILWAUKEE LAND CO. AND ALSO STARTED TO MAKE ROAD BED & LAY TRACKS ON THEIR WAY WEST FROM CHICAGO, AT THE SAME TIME AS HUXLEY WAS PLATTED

THE HUXLEY CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERY WHICH WAS INCORPORATED ON FEB. 19th. 1902 WAS ONE OF OUR LARGEST BUSINESS PLACES AND DUE TO THE CHANGING TIME IS NOW OUT OF BUSINESS.

IN THE BEGINNING MOST OF HUXLEY WAS POPULATED BY NORWEGIANS OR OF NORWEIGIAN DESCENDANTS - IN 1900 THE U.S. CENSUS SHOWED HUXLEY TO HAVE A POPULATION OF 199, WHILE IN A SPECIAL CENSUS OF 1965 THERE WAS COUNTED 629 POPULATION.

NOW THE ABOVE MENTIONED ORIGINAL TOWN AS WAS PLATTED LAY SOUTH OF SECTION LINE 23/26 and EXTENDED FROM SECTION CORNER WEST FROM SECTION CORNER 23/26 TO QUARTER SECTION 23/26 THAT THE FIRST DWELLING WAS BUILT WHICH WAS NORTH OF THIS LINE BY RAINERT N. SYCHUS IN MARCH 1891. AND IT WAS BEING PLATTED NOW IN SECTION 23. IN 1904 A BRICK BUILDING WAS BUILT FOR A BANK ON LOT 9, OF BLOCK 6

THE FIRST TOWN WELL IN HUXLEY WAS LOCATED ON LOT 1, OF BLOCK 3, ORIGINAL TOWN, IN 1900 - AND IT WAS PUMPED BY A WOODEN WINDMILL, A WOODEN TROUGH FOR LIVE STOCK DRINKING WAS REPLACED IN 1910 BY A CEMENT TANK (FOR BETTER FIRE PROTECTION) AS PER THE MINUTES BOOK.

THE FJELDBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH WHICH WAS LOCATED ONE MILE SOUTH OF HUXLEY, IOWA WAS MOVED BY WINCH AND HORSES ACROSS THE LEVEL FARM LAND IN 1906 TO LOT 1, BLOCK 6, IN THE TOWN OF HUXLEY, AND AFTER SOME RE-MODELING WAS THEN DEDICATED THE FALL OF 1907.

THE FT. DODGE DES MOINES & SOUTHERN RAILWAY WHICH HAD PURCHASED THE NEWTON & NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY WHOSE TRACKS RAN FROM NEWTON THRU CUSHMAN (NOW KNOWN AS MIDVILLE) TO FT. DODGE, DISBANDED THE TRACKS FROM NEWTON TO CUSHMAN AND PURCHASED RIGHT OF WAY FROM CUSHMAN TO DES MOINES. THIS PURCHASE OF LAND WAS RECORDED JULY 13 1906. THIS AN ELECTRIC RAILWAY AND THEY RAN INTERURBAN CARS ON THE HOUR THRU HUXLEY, BEGINNING IN 1907.

THE FIRST SCHOOL HOUSE IN HUXLEY WAS LOCATED ON LOTS 10 & 11, BLOCK 5, ORIGINAL TOWN OF HUXLEY. IN 1906 THERE WERE 29 CHILDREN ATTENDING THIS SCHOOL. MR. THORP AND MESS EGENESS WAS THE TEACHERS. ON MAY 17th ~~###~~ 1907 A NEW SITE WAS PURCHASED FROM ALBERT CHELSVIG COSTING \$ 264.92 , THE DEED WAS RECORDED ON 6-3-1907 AND CONTRACT FOR A BRICK SCHOOL BUILDING WAS LET 7-5-1907 AT A TOTAL COST OF \$6444.00 FIRST SUPERINTENDENT WAS C.N.THORP & THE TEACHERS WAS MISS CLARA LARSON & MISS MYRTLE JEFFRIES THE FOUR UPPER ROOMS WAS FINISHED AUG. 11th 1909, AND THERE WAS NOW 10 GRADES, ON MARCH 21st 1910 THE SCHOOL BOARD DECIDED TO ADD GRADE 11 FOR THE COMING SCHOOL YEAR.

IN AUGUST OF 1908 THE TOWN INSTALLED A GAS LAMP ON THE INTERSECTION OF MAIN AVENUE AND FIRST STREET. THIS WAS REMOVED IN JUNE OF 1917.

ON SEPT. 9th 1912 A FRANCHISE WAS GRANTED TO THE IOWA ELECTRIC POWER AND LIGHT CO. TO INSTALL A 220 VOLT, WITH 25 CYCLE ELECTRIC LIGHT LINES IN HUXLEY

DURING 1912 AND 1913 THE MILWAUKEE RAIL ROAD LOWERED THEIR ROAD GRADE THRU HUXLEY, CAUSING THE FT. DODGE AND DES MOINES SOUTHERN TO ELEVATE THEIR ROAD , SO AS TO MAKE AN OVERPASS OVER THE MILWAUKEE RAILROAD

ON NOV. 24th 1919 WE HAD A DISASTER, FIRE NEARLY WIPED OUT ALL OF THE BUSINESS PLACES ON THE EAST SIDE OF MAIN AVENUE, WHICH HAVE NEVER BEEN REBUILT.

AS THE HUXLEY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL VOTED FOR AN ENLARGEMENT OF THE CONSOLIDATION IN 1918, THIS CALLED FOR ENLARGEMENT OF THE SCHOOL BUILDING. IN 1919 BONDED WAS VOTED AND THE START OF BUILDING THE NEW ADDITION TO 1907 SCHOOL BUILDING. THIS WAS COMPLETED FOR THE FALL SCHOOL TERM OF 1921. THERE NOW WAS APPROXIMATELY 225 STUDENTS IN SCHOOL, IT WAS NOW A FULLY ACCREDITED 12 GRADE SCHOOL. THE TEACHING STAFF WAS-SEWEL- SUPERINTENDENT; MISS MABLE OSBORN; MISS MARY BASSETT; MRS WAKEFIELD; MISS CESSNA; MISS SHANELINE; MISS MARIE LUNDE; MISS GUNDERSON; MISS HELEN TRISSEL; HERBERT HERST-COACH; BENTLEY LANDE-JANITOR.

IN 1920 THE TOWN OF HUXLEY DID MUCH BUILDING, FIRST THEY PURCHASED LOTS 14-15-16, OF BLOCK 6 AND PROCEEDED TO ERECT A TOWN HALL. THEN TO A DEEP WELL (FROM 800 TO-1000 FT. DEEP), THEN TO ERECT A WATER TOWER, ALL ON THE AFORE MENTIONED LOTS, THEN TO DIG AND INSTALL IRON WATER WATER MAINS, WITH FIRE HYDRANTS ON EVERY BLOCK CORNER.

IN 1918 THE TOWN PARK WAS PLATTED, AND RECORDED UNDER (ITEM 14, BOOK 39, PAGE 266) PLANNING AND MUCH DISCUSSION WAS STARTED ON THIS PROJECT IN 1913. THEN CAME THE JOB OF LANDSCAPING AND THE PLANTING OF TREES. AND FINALLY A SHELTER HOUSE WAS ERECTED, FOR THE USE OF THE PUBLIC, TO HOLD THEIR CLAN MEETINGS, AND THE COMMUNITY CLUB.

IN 1959 A SEWER SYSTEM AND TREATMENT PLANT WAS INSTALLED THE COST OF WHICH WHEN COMPLETED WAS \$175,931.23 BY BONDED INDEBTNESS, AND WHICH WILL BE PAID FOR BY 1970.

IN 1962 STORY COUNTY LAID ASPHALT CONCRETE PAVEMENT ON SECTION LINE 23/26 OR FIRST STREET, BEGINNING AT HIGHWAY 69 THENCE WEST ON FIRST ST. TO THE INTERSECTION OF FIFTH AVENUE, THENCE NORTH ON FIFTH AVENUE TO JOIN UP WITH HIGHWAY 69 THIS WAS DONE FREE BY STORY COUNTY. THE TOWN ISSUED ASSESSMENT BONDS TO PLACE STORM SEWERS, CURB AND GUTTERS

HUXLEY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CHANGED THEIR NAME TO BALLARD COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT. AND CONSOLIDATE CAMBRIDGE, SLATER, AND KELLEY. THIS WAS STARTED ON JULY 9th 1957. WHILE IT WAS DECIDED TO CARRY ON THE SAME BUILDINGS IN EACH TOWN, IT BE NECESSARY TO BUILD A NEW HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING AND HUXLEY WAS DECIDED AS THE PLACE. ON SEPT. 1962 THE NEW BUILDING WAS DEDICATED.

I HAVE SEARCHED THE RECORDS OF THE "STORY COUNTY-THE TOWN OF HUXLEY-THE BALLARD COMMUNITY SCHOOL DIST." FOR MY DATA ON THE ABOVE.

  
I.J. Hendricks 4-27-1968