

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, January 16, 2023

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. with Chick, Kirchner, Mather, Sauer and Sorensen present. Chairperson Sauer presiding.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the agenda was approved as presented. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Mather, the Board approved the Treasurer's Report of Fees Collected for the quarter ending December 31, 2022 on the amount of \$391,058.44. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the Board approved the publication of the Muscatine County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report for July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the minutes of the January 9, 2023 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

All Supervisors received an email from Susan Johannsen of League of Women Voters regarding the Clean Energy District meeting on January 26, 2023 at the Musser Public Library. Sorensen stated he attended a Zoom meeting held by Johnson County regarding their Clean Energy District to obtain more information.

Sauer received an email from a family member of a local veteran stating Veteran's Affairs Director Eric Sanders goes above and beyond to assist Veteran's and should be recognized for his work.

Chick received a request from a resident to discuss the bridge conditions on 245th Street, Conesville, Iowa and requested to be place for discussion on the Board meeting agenda for an upcoming meeting.

Kirchner received several calls regarding the bridge conditions on 245th Street, Conesville, Iowa.

Kirchner received a call from a resident with questions regarding solar panel permits. Kirchner sent an email to Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas regarding the call.

Committee & Meeting Reports:

Sorensen and Chick attended a Housing Council meeting on January 10, 2023.

Discussion was held regarding the proposals for replacement of existing fire alarm systems at the Maintenance Building and the Sheriff's Office. The Board tabled the proposals until more information is obtained regarding current contracts and escape clauses.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Mather, the Board authorized the Chair to sign an American Rescue Plan Act grant agreement with the Community Foundation for the New Physician Clinic. Ayes: All.

The Board reviewed two applications for the Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission to fill a vacancy for a term ending June 30, 2025. The action item to fill the vacancy will be placed on next week's meeting agenda.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber reminded the Board there is a vacancy on the Muscatine County Compensation Board for one of the two Board of Supervisor representative positions and there also is a vacancy on the Muscatine County Compensation Commission.

County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky stated he has contacted the City of Muscatine regarding the over weight truck load limitations and permits for commercial and farm vehicles. Horesowsky reported the City of Muscatine is still in the evaluation process and stated the current law states cities do not get any percentage of additional revenue for these permits. Horesowsky stated the new limitations and permits have been required since January 1, 2023, however the Department of Transportation has not updated the maps on their website.

The Board recessed at 9:18 A.M. and reconvened at 9:28 A.M.

GIS Manager Mark Yerington reviewed the FY23/24 MAGIC budget stating a budget item for \$5,000 is for a server hard drive (one time) purchase for transitioning and hosting inside the Muscatine Power and Water environment. Yerington stated MAGIC will be working with Bi-State and will partner with Scott County and Rock Island County for new aerial imagery. Yerington stated the partnership with other counties will save an estimated cost reduction of 30% as the airplanes will be able to image a larger area. Yerington stated the new aerial imagery is on a five-year cycle with the last imagery completed in 2019.

County Recorder Sarah Hearst reviewed the FY23/24 budget request for the Recorder's Office stating the Microfilming/Imaging line item has been removed as a capital project for the digitizing of all the recorder books is nearly completed. Hearst stated the Records Management budget item of \$10,000 is for Iowa Land Records maintenance, storage of microfilm or a scanner replacement if needed.

County Treasurer Amy Zybarth reviewed the FY23/24 budget request for the Treasurer's Office stating interest rates on investments are on an increase. Zybarth stated she has a good relationship with the local banks to negotiate money market and Certificate of Deposits interest rates. Zybarth stated the postage and mailing line item is increased due to rising cost. Zybarth stated the tax statement printing is out sourced and there is a substantial savings with this process. Zybarth stated the request for \$2,000 for Office Equipment and Furniture is to enhance and improve the counter work stations and add additional monitors. Sorensen stated there is a proposed administration building remodel in review and all work spaces will be reviewed. Zybarth stated she is predicting an amendment for FY22/23 interest on investment budget item as the interest rates have increased. Zybarth requested the additional revenue for interest should be reviewed to allow for additional salary increases for her staff.

County Attorney Jim Barry reviewed the FY23/24 budget request for the Attorney's Office stating a change in service of papers line item with separating litigation expenses and service of papers as a result of service fees paid to the Sheriff's department for better tracking of fees. Barry stated other budget items have no change.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas reviewed the FY23/24 budget request for the Zoning/Environmental Services stating the 2014 Comprehensive Plan should be reviewed however the plan rewrite is on hold until the City of Muscatine completes a housing study. Furnas stated the Ordinance Revision budget item of \$37,500 is to pay a Bi-State planner and also the publication cost for public meetings, in order to update ordinances to rewrite the Comprehensive Plan. Furnas stated Service of Papers line item has been added as the department may serve papers if there are pressing charges for violation of zoning codes. Furnas stated no motor vehicle purchase is allocated for the budget as the department vehicle is still under warranty and reviewing trade in values were not justifying a trade. Furnas stated there is an estimated increase to Well Sampling/Testing budget item due to private well testing cost increase for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) testing. Furnas stated he is working with the County Information Services (IS) Department to purchase a large wall mount flat screen display system to be mounted in the County Engineer Conference room to use for project meetings to view MAGIC information. Furnas stated the cost for this purchase is in the IS Department budget.

County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky reviewed the FY23/24 budget request for the Secondary Roads budget stating the Construction budget increase for bridges and culvert projects is for the Stewart Road and Trolley Avenue bridge projects. Horesowsky stated the Muscatine County DOT FY2024 Secondary Roads Five Year plan will be reviewed with the Board in February or March 2023. Horesowsky stated the Engineering Supplies budget for \$41,000 is to upgrade the survey grade total station system and for a beam break sensor. Horesowsky stated the budget increase for Bridge Maintenance and Roadway Maintenance/Culverts is for scheduled maintenance work. Horesowsky stating there is a large decrease in the Asphalt Concrete budget as a project will be completed in the current fiscal year and explained this line item fluctuates each year. Horesowsky stated the Pavement Markers budget is increased due to scheduling the entire county for a better pricing overall with an alternate year's schedule. Discussion with the Board was held regarding capital expenditures for vehicle, equipment and shed replacement requests. Chick requested a current vehicle and equipment inventory list to review.

The Board recessed at 11:27 A.M. and reconvened at 11:52 A.M.

Administrative Services Director Schreiber reviewed FY23/24 budget requests for General Services budget. Discussion was held with the Board regarding the facility manager responsibility is currently managed by Schreiber due to Sherry Seright's retirement. Schreiber stated the salary amounts reflect the part-time grounds keeper position was eliminated.

Schreiber presented the FY23/24 Administration/Board of Supervisors budget with no significant

changes.

The Board reviewed the FY23/24 budget request for Medical Examiner with Chief Medical Examiner Investigator Tom Summitt with no significant changes. Summitt stated year 2022 had 345 investigable deaths, 34 autopsies and 196 cremations. Summitt stated the department currently employs seven part-time investigators.

The meeting was adjourned at 1.44 P.M.

ATTEST:

Tibe Vander Linden
County Auditor

Scott Sauer, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors