

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, April 24, 2017

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

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

On a motion by Sauer, second by Mather, claims dated April 24, 2017 were approved in the amount of \$1,184,702.79. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Howard, second by Mather, the Board approved Resolution #04-24-17-01 Abating Taxes: Various County Held Tax Sales. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Howard, second by Bonebrake, the Board approved Resolution #04-24-17-02 Approval of the Combined Preliminary and Final Plat of Norma Jean Acres Addition containing approximately 4 acres and located in Sweetland Township. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

The Board reviewed variances granted by the Muscatine County Board of Adjustment on Friday, April 7, 2017. Case #17-04-04 is an application filed by Mark A. Meyer, Record Owner. This property is located in Sweetland Township, in the NW ¼ of Sec. 7-T77N-R1W, 2828 170<sup>th</sup> Street, South of 170<sup>th</sup> Street, containing approximately 4.15 acres and is zoned A-1 Agricultural District. This request, if approved, would allow the Zoning Administrator to issue a Variance to build a detached garage in front of the dwelling, but at least 50 feet back from the front lot line. Case #17-04-05 is an application filed by Arasu Krishnan and Darcy Ibarra, Record Owners. This property is located in Sweetland Township, Parcel A, in the NE ¼ of Sec. 13-T77N-R1W, 1836 Vail Avenue, North and West of Vail Avenue, containing approximately one (1) acre and is zoned A-1 Agricultural District. This request, if approved, would allow the Zoning Administrator to issue a Variance to build a detached garage in front of the dwelling and approximately 30 feet from the front lot line, instead of the required 50 foot setback. On a motion by Sauer, second by Mather, the Board accepted the variances. Ayes: All.

The Board reviewed Special Use Permits granted by the Muscatine County Board of Adjustment on Friday, April 7, 2017. Case #17-04-01 is an application filed by Matthew Stauffer, Record Owner. This property is located in Moscow Township, in the NW ¼ of Sec. 28-T78N-R2W, Parcel B, 1438 Moscow Road, West of Moscow Road, containing approximately 10.06 acres and is zoned A-1 Agricultural District. This request, if approved, would allow the Zoning Administrator to issue a Special Use Permit in order to build a rural residence on this property. The Board of Adjustment approved this request. Case #17-04-02 is an application filed by Perry V. Hartman III and Kathy M. Hartman, Record Owners. This property is located in Moscow Township, in the NW ¼ of Sec. 28-T78N-R2W, Parcel B, 1444 Moscow Road, West of Moscow Road, containing approximately 26.69 acres and is zoned A-1 Agricultural District. This request, if approved, would allow the Zoning Administrator to issue a Special Use Permit to allow a Seasonal Recreational Cottage (cabin) to remain on the property. The Board of Adjustment approved this request. Case #17-04-03 is an application filed by Tarrilee M.

Leathers-Werling and Aaron W. Werling, Record Owners. This property is located in Montpelier Township, in the NE ¼ of Sec. 24-T77N-R1E, 3967 Hwy. 22, containing approximately 3.43 acres and is zoned A-1 Agricultural District. This request, if approved, would allow the Zoning Administrator to issue a Special Use Permit for the Record Owners to operate a dog kennel and grooming facility on this property. The Board of Adjustment approved this request.

On a motion by Howard, second by Bonebrake, the Board affirmed a FY18 application to the Iowa Department of Public Health to continue the Iowa Grants to Counties Program for well testing, well plugging and well reconstruction activities. Ayes: All.

Zoning and Planning Administrator Eric Furnas updated the Board on legislation passed subject to signature by the Governor allowing the sale of fireworks in the State of Iowa. Furnas stated he will return to the Board with a recommendation on proposed licensing and bonding of firework vendors.

On a motion by Bonebrake, second by Mather, the Board approved the following utility permits: CenturyLink – move power cable from a pole to a pedestal near 2009 Independence Avenue; and CenturyLink – move power cable from a pole to a pedestal near 1836 231<sup>st</sup> Street. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held regarding the possible collection of an inspection fee at the time of utility permitting. White stated he does not have the staff to do the inspections. Bonebrake asked if White would be able to use summer engineering interns to do these inspections. White stated the real issue is that when there are damages the contractor will drive away and never look back, leaving the County to fix the issues and bill the utility. White suggested giving CenturyLink a couple of weeks to respond to make things right and then follow up with a bill for the damages if they do not respond.

County Engineer Keith White updated the Board on secondary road projects. Sorensen asked about a resident's concern regarding speeding on the Cedar-Muscatine County Line Road. White stated the County could do a speed study but White stated it will say the speed should be 55 MPH. White stated drivers will travel at whatever speed they feel comfortable without law enforcement. White stated posting signs is meaningless if the speed limit is not enforced. White stated Muscatine and Cedar Counties could designate it as a rural subdivision which would lower the speed limit by Code, but it may be low enough that drivers will not abide by the limit.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, minutes of the April 17, 2017 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

#### Correspondence:

All Supervisors reported a contact regarding a concern of speeding on the Cedar-Muscatine County Line Road.

#### Committee Reports:

Howard attended a Milestones Area Agency on Aging meeting April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mather attended a Eastern Iowa Mental Health/Disability Services Region meeting

April 17<sup>th</sup>.

Sorensen attended a Wilton Development Board meeting April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Sauer attended a Muscatine County Conservation Board meeting April 17<sup>th</sup>.

Sauer attended a Riverbend Transit meeting April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Sauer attended a Muscatine County Fair Board meeting April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion was held regarding possible termination of the engineering and consulting services agreement with Lutz Engineering & Consulting for the Muscatine County Community Services/DHS Parking Lot Project. Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated she received a revised timeline that pushes the County back five weeks from March 27<sup>th</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup> for the public hearing on plans and specs, but it will actually go out further because the notice has not been published as she still does not have the plans for contractors to review. Schreiber stated the County has had a great deal of difficulty receiving timely responses to contacts with John Lutz. Sorensen stated he is very disappointed and the County will be lucky to get concrete contractors at this late date. Lutz Engineering & Consulting President John Lutz stated he met with the County a couple of weeks ago to reassess the timeline and had planned to have the plans done by next Monday for publishing. Lutz stated he incurred a lot of issues with finding a flat spot suitable for handicapped parking. Lutz stated he coordinated with two people from the City, John Koch on storm water retention and Andrew Fangman on new city parking lot regulations. Lutz stated they actually just came out and approved those three weeks ago. Sorensen stated his concern is that they have not heard anything in months and then when he questions it there is a flurry of activity, but nothing seems to come from it. Sorensen stated it took from last July to February just to have a timeline prepared. Lutz stated he helped oversee the demolition of the house in the Fall and when it became a spring construction project, it fell through the cracks. Lutz stated the plans are approximately 90% complete. On a motion by Howard, second by Mather, the Board terminated the engineering and consulting services agreement with Lutz Engineering & Consulting for the Muscatine County Community Services/DHS Parking Lot Project. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held regarding a proposal from Watersmith Engineering for engineering services for the Muscatine County Community Services/DHS Parking Lot Project. Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas stated Watersmith Engineering was the engineer on the Secondary Roads water line and on the recent Calvary Church parking lot. Furnas stated Watersmith Engineering can provide preliminary design within 3 weeks of receiving the topographic survey data which the County already has in its possession. Howard stated he would like penalties imposed when a timeline is not met. On a motion by Howard, second by Sauer, the Board accepted a proposal from Watersmith Engineering for engineering services for the Muscatine County Community Services/DHS Parking Lot Project in an amount not to exceed \$10,500.00 contingent on receipt of a written commitment to a timeline. Ayes: Howard, Sorensen, Sauer and Bonebrake. Abstain: Mather. Mather recused himself because of a relationship with the owners.

On a motion by Bonebrake, second by Sauer, the Board accepted a proposal from Valley Construction to backfill the cottage basement and cistern at 3210 Harmony Lane in the amount of \$2,400.00. Ayes: All.

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The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 A.M.

ATTEST:

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Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

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Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors