

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, October 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 Mather, the agenda was approved as presented. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Mather, the Board approved claims dated October 16, 2023, in the amount of \$2,906,314.93. Ayes: All.

A Public Hearing was called to order by Chairperson Sauer at 9:03 A.M. on a request from Glenn and Kathlene Huston, Record Owner, to rezone approximately 30.17 acres in Sweetland Township, located in parts of the SW ¼ of Sec. 20- T77N-R1E, adjacent to 3553 Highway 22, from A-1 Agricultural District to R-1 Residential District. Glen Huston, 3353 Hwy 22, Muscatine, stated he is requesting to rezone to construct a single-family home for one of his daughters on the 30.17-acre parcel of his land. The plan would be to construct the house to the west of the existing horse barn on the 10-acre parcel. Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas stated no subdivisions will be required.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the public hearing was closed at 9:05 A.M. Roll call vote. Ayes: All. Furnas stated Huston has requested to waive the third and final reading. Furnas stated the request can be submitted in writing for next week's agenda.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sorensen, the Board approved an ordinance rezoning approximately 30.17 acres in Sweetland Township from A-1 Agricultural District to R-1 Residential District on the first of three readings. Roll call vote. Ayes: All.

County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky reviewed the 2023 Weed Commissioner's Report stating the state is now requiring a narrative report that is included with the report.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the Board approved the 2023 Weed Commissioner's Report. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the Board approved the following utility permit: Lumen, Muscatine, Iowa – to bore in front of 1879 231<sup>st</sup> Street to the pedestal. Section 4-T76N-03W-. Ayes: All.

Horesowsky updated the Board on secondary road projects.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the Board approved the minutes of the October 9, 2023 regular meeting. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Sorensen received several emails from Vicki Bishop, Bayer Corporation, regarding her safety concerns for their employees traveling on Pettibone Avenue, with a request

to place crossing arms and signals on each railroad intersection and guardrails on all mining sites. Sorensen stated his recommendation was to communicate to their employees to travel on Stewart Road or another route. Sorensen stated the board has limited ability to make the suggested changes. Sorensen has contacted the railroad company to encourage them to review the area.

Mather received an invitation to attend a Grant Writing Network meeting for October 19, 2023.

All Supervisors received an email from a citizen regarding questions on fines and collections. The email was referred to County Attorney Jim Barry.

Chick received a call from Jeff Hackett regarding a tax statement and how a parcel was zoned. Chick had discussions with Senator Mark Lofgren, County Assessor Randy Spies, Sauer and Sorensen to review the concern. Spies directed the owner to send two years of their Schedule F to the Board of Review for review/decision.

All Supervisors received an email from Sara Carlson requesting information on Tax Increment Financing (TIF) in regards to a residential lot development. Sorensen stated he recommended Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber, Budget Administrator Kala Naber and County Auditor Tibe Vander Linden meet to discuss if there are options for TIF.

Kirchner had several discussions with citizens regarding secondary roads and concerns with road grading and wash boarding. Kirchner has contacted County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky.

#### Committee & Meeting Reports:

Sorensen and Kirchner attended a M.A.G.I.C. Annual Budget meeting on October 9, 2023.

Sorensen attended a Greater Muscatine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GMCCI) Advocacy meeting on October 10, 2023. Sorensen is working on two issues: volunteers and sustaining volunteer emergency management positions and how the county is responsible for cemetery maintenance when no taxes are set.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber reviewed the health/dental fund balance as of September 30, 2023.

Schreiber stated Tom Harper who serves on the Zoning Commission has served two full terms therefore typical county policy is once two full terms have been served the vacancy will be advertised. Harper is allowed to apply if he is interested. The Zoning Commission meets monthly if there are cases to review. The requirements are to be a rural resident and gender balance needs to be maintained, therefore this vacancy should be a male member.

County Auditor Tibe Vander Linden stated early in-person voting in the Auditor's office begins on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 for the 2023 City/School Election, to be held on November 7, 2023. Vander Linden stated there will be no Satellite Absentee Voting stations for the upcoming election as no petitions were filed by the October 9, 2023 deadline. Vander Linden stated voters who request to have a ballot mailed to them are reminded to use the official absentee ballot request

form and to submit the form to the Auditor's office by the deadline of 5:00 p.m. on October 23, 2023. The first day that requested ballots will be mailed out is Wednesday, October 18, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 A.M.

ATTEST:

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Tibe Vander Linden  
County Auditor

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Scott Sauer, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors