

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, April 8, 2024

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

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

Discussion was held with the Board on direction regarding potential amendments to the County Code of Ordinances relating to local meat lockers and butcher shops, with Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas.

Joshua Bremner, 1533 245<sup>th</sup> Street Letts, IA, stated he would like to build a small seasonally based poultry processing facility on his property and operate within the limitations of the Iowa poultry processing exemption. Bremner stated he would like to raise pastured poultry for a seasonally based operation for six to seven months of each year. Bremner stated the maximum number of birds (under the exemption) allows for 20,000 with on-farm processing to sell directly to the consumer. Bremner stated the current proposed HF2257 is seeking to allow for licensed or custom facilities to process poultry, not only for themselves but for others as well. Bremner stated the only requirement within County Ordinance #05-22-23-01, that Bremner cannot meet, is under section (b) which pertains to frontage roads and adequate access to a fully paved road as he lives on a chip seal road approximately 1.2 miles from the Cranston Road and 245<sup>th</sup> Street corner. Bremner stated he is asking for a possible amendment to the current ordinance to allow for his proposed small type of business. Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas stated Bremner has not filed an application and no study has been done of his property to see if it meets the Special Use Permit criteria. The Board reviewed the process for the Board of Adjustment to consider a Special Use Permit with the possibility of issuing a variance or a decline. The Board held discussion with Bremner on his proposed poultry operation and road usage. County Attorney Jim Barry stated he believes Furnas has clearly defined the current ordinance and the the criteria. Barry stated the Board can change the ordinance if they choose to. Mather stated he recommends the ordinance be more clearly defined as to what is a fully paved road and define occupied structures. The Board consensus was to allow the process to continue with Bremner submitting a Special Use Permit to the Board of Adjustment for their consideration. Mather stated revising an ordinance for single cases is a poor way to make a law. Mather recommended someone should bring a suggested specific ordinance amendment to the Board that could then be evaluated. Bremner stated he will submit the Special Use Permit application and thanked the Board for their time.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Kirchner, the Board approved the County Recorder's Report of Fees Collected for the quarter ending March 31, 2024 in the amount of \$52,542.82.

Ayes: All

On a motion by Sauer, second by Mather, the Board approved the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office – Civil Department's Report of Fees collected for the quarter ending March 31, 2024 in the amount of \$27,032.18. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Chick, the Board approved the County Treasurer's Report

of Fees collected for the quarter ending March 31, 2024 in the amount of \$706,825.31.

Ayes: All.

On a motion by Kirchner, second by Chick, the Board approved the minutes of the April 1, 2024 regular meeting. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Sorensen and Chick received an email regarding Corp of Engineer initiatives.

Sorensen and Chick received an email from Bremner regarding a county ordinance related to local meat lockers and butcher shops.

Committee Reports:

Mather and Chick attended a Housing Council meeting on April 3, 2024.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber reviewed a hiring request for a Social Worker/Case Management Specialist at Grade 12/Step 13, stating the request is to fill a vacant position in the Community Service Department. On a motion by Chick, second by Mather, the Board approved the Community Services Department Social Worker/Case Management Specialist hiring request at Grade 12/Step 13. Ayes: All

On a motion by Sauer, second by Kirchner, the Board approved Resolution #04-08-24-01 Transferring Funds from the Rural Services Fund to the Secondary Roads Fund in the amount of \$1,060,000. Roll call vote: Ayes: All

### **RESOLUTION # 04-08-24-01**

#### **TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE RURAL SERVICES FUND TO THE SECONDARY ROADS FUND**

WHEREAS, it is desired to authorize the Auditor periodically to transfer sums from the Rural Services Fund to the Secondary Roads Fund; and

WHEREAS, said transfers must be in accordance with Sections 331.429 and 331.432 of the Code of Iowa.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors that the Auditor is authorized to transfer \$1,060,000 from the Rural Services Fund to the Secondary Roads Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024.

ATTEST:

/s/Jane Claussen  
First Deputy Auditor

/s/Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson  
Muscatine County Board of Supervisors

County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky updated the Board on secondary road projects.

Horesowsky reminded the Board of the Public Hearing for Proposed Road Vacation, (Edgewater Road and 245<sup>th</sup> St) in Orono Township, scheduled for Wednesday April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at the Environmental Learning Center located at 3300 Cedar Street, Muscatine, IA. Chick questioned the process for the hearing. Barry stated the information presented at the public hearing from property owners, adjacent landowners, utilities and Iowa Department of Transportation who were mailed notice to, will be accepted for the damages being claimed. Barry stated not knowing what information will be presented, it is recommended a full committee review process will need to be completed and a decision will be determined based on all the damages numbers. Barry stated the determination can then be presented to property owners to move forward under the statute.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 A.M.

ATTEST:

---

Tibe Vander Linden  
County Auditor

---

Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors