

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, May 13, 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.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Kirchner, the Board approved claims dated May 13, 2024 in the amount of \$567,251.51. Ayes: All.

A Public Hearing was called to order by Chairperson Sorensen at 9:01 A.M. on a request from Kevin Phillips, Record Owner, to rezone approximately 8.10 acres, located in Sweetland Township, in the SW ¼ of Sec. 4-T77N-R1W, Parcel #09-04-300-006, from A-1 Agricultural District to R-1 Residential District. Sorensen stated Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas is unable to attend the public hearing today due to illness.

Carol Schlueter of the Muscatine County Zoning Commission spoke in favor of the zoning request to construct a single-family dwelling. Schlueter stated she voted in favor of the rezoning from A-1 Agricultural District to R-1 Residential District. Schlueter stated the parcels in the area currently include houses and farm ground however the Board may consider the parcels be sold as commercial land use in the future.

Jayme Hazen, 6703 51st Street South, Muscatine, stated her father, Kevin Phillips, has offered to allow her family to build a house on Parcel #09-04-300-006, in order to build a handicap accessible home for their severely handicapped child. Hazen stated by obtaining the parcel from her father it will help curb some of the costs for building a handicap accessible home. Hazen stated the parcel is generational land that was previously owned by her grandfather. Hazen stated she works in a building on the adjacent parcel, which is a commercial enterprise. Hazen stated living next to her work will be convenient to attend to her child, who does not have childcare available, due to his handicap. On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, the public hearing was closed at 9:06 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

The Board held discussion and possible action to approve an ordinance rezoning approximately 8.10 acres in Sweetland Township from A-1 Agricultural District to R-1 Residential District on the first of three readings. Sorensen stated his concerns on the rezoning request and would recommend action be tabled until Furnas can be present. On a motion by Mather, second by Kirchner, the Board tabled the request from Kevin Phillips, Record Owner, to rezone approximately 8.10 acres, located in Sweetland Township, in the SW ¼ of Sec. 4-T77N-R1W, Parcel #09-04-300-006, from A-1 Agricultural District to R-1 Residential District. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Mather, second by Chick, the Board set a public hearing for June 10, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. on a request to re-zone approximately 3.42 acres in Moscow Township in Section 2-T78N-R2W from A-1 Agricultural District to R-1 Residential District. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Chick, second by Sauer, the Board approved Resolution #05-13-24-01 Approval of Combined Preliminary and Final Plat of Heuer Subdivision. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

**RESOLUTION #05-13-24-01
APPROVAL OF THE COMBINED PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLAT OF
HEUER SUBDIVISION**

WHEREAS, there has been presented before the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa, a dedication and plat of the proposed subdivision “Heuer Subdivision”; and

WHEREAS, said plat has heretofore been approved by the Zoning Commission of Muscatine County, Iowa; and

WHEREAS, said dedication and plat fully conform with all laws of the State of Iowa and all ordinances of Muscatine County, Iowa, applicable thereto; and

WHEREAS, the platting of said subdivision is conducive to orderly development within Muscatine County, Iowa, is not in conflict with any extensions of the established road systems of Muscatine County, Iowa, and is in harmony with the comprehensive plan of zoning now in effect within Muscatine County, Iowa.

WHEREAS, the subdivision of said real estate and the plat thereof were accepted and approved by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors following a public meeting on May 13, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Muscatine County, Iowa, as follows:

- Section 1. The said subdivision is hereby designated as “Heuer Subdivision”, a subdivision in Muscatine County, Iowa, and that the descriptions of lots and parcels of land located therein shall be according to the number and designation thereof as set forth on said plat.
- Section 2. The Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors and the Auditor of Muscatine County, Iowa, are hereby authorized and directed to certify this Resolution in order that the same and all other matters material to said subdivision may be recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Muscatine County, Iowa.

PASSED and APPROVED this 13th day of May, 2024.

ATTEST:

/s/Tibe Vander Linden
Muscatine County Auditor

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

On a motion by Sauer, second by Mather, the Board approved the minutes of the May 6, 2024 regular meeting. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Chick had a discussion with two residents regarding the 245th Street bridge, Conesville, Iowa. County Attorney Jim Barry stated there is a meeting scheduled for May 20, 2024 at 11:00 A.M. Barry stated the process is moving forward as four meetings have occurred with their attorney within in the past two weeks. The final information from the attorney was received on May 11, 2024.

Committee Reports:

All Supervisors attended a joint meeting with the Muscatine County Conservation Board on May 8, 2024.

Sorensen attended a Bi-State Regional Finance meeting on May 8, 2024.

Mather attended the signing of Senate File 2430 at the Iowa State Capital with Veteran's Affairs Director Eric Sanders and Community Services Director Jessica Bopes on May 8, 2024. The legislation brings relief to families and survivors of Veterans who have passed away from service-connected conditions and extends the window to initiate changes or amendments to death certificates.

Sauer attended a meeting regarding the 245th Street bridge on May 8, 2024.

On a motion by Chick, second by Mather, the Board approved a hiring request from the Administration Office for Shelly Kirkpatrick for the Payroll/Accounts Payable Administrator position at Grade 10/Step 5, \$44,783 annual salary, with a proposed start date of May 14, 2024. Ayes: All.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated there are three vacant employee positions that were reviewed as part of the salary study and a two-grade increase was recommended. Schreiber requested authorization from the Board to post the job openings at the higher rate for the following positions: Information Services Technician, Building and Zoning Environmental Inspector and Financial Office Support Specialist for Community Services. The Board consensus was to authorize Schreiber to post the job openings for the three positions at the higher rate.

Schreiber reminded the Board she will be on vacation starting Friday, May 17, 2024 and will return on Monday, June 3, 2024.

County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky stated Canadian Pacific Railroad moved a project start date/road closure to Wednesday, May 15, 2024, for a railroad crossing repair between Stewart Road and 41st Street on Pettibone Avenue near Northern Gravel Company. Canadian Pacific Railroad had previously announced the project was to start last week. Horesowsky stated the project is projected to take one week to complete.

Laura Curtis Kramer, 1670 North Mulberry Road, Muscatine, questioned the Board regarding how to locate public notices on the county website. Kramer stated in her research, she determined there are no public notices or minutes posted under the heading public notice on the county website. Kramer stated she is wanting to be more involved in the community and was unaware there was an opening for the zoning commission that was recently filled. Kramer stated she does not

subscribe to the Muscatine Journal so she uses the website called iowanoticesbycounty.org to look for public notices. Kramer stated she reviewed the Muscatine County notices on the site back to March 2024 and of the 16 public notices she found, nine of the notices did not contain a legal notice and one of the notices was too blurry to read. Kramer stated she feels the site must not be a reliable source. Chick stated the agenda and the minutes are both accessible to the public on the county website, with the minutes being posted after approval is completed. Schreiber stated the public notices, such as an opening for a commission are posted on the website under “Volunteer Opportunities” and all public notices are posted in the three legal newspapers. Schreiber stated once the close date for an application for a volunteer opportunity has occurred, then the posting is taken down. Sorensen stated the state has been looking into a statewide site for all counties. Sorensen stated perhaps all job openings and volunteer opportunities should be placed in just one area of the county website. Schreiber stated she can look into this possible change to the website.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 A.M.

ATTEST:

Tibe Vander Linden
County Auditor

Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors