

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, June 12, 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 Kirchner, claims dated June 12, 2023, were approved in the amount of \$280,767.61. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sorensen, the Board approved an ordinance rezoning approximately 16.69 acres in Wapsie Township from A-1 Agricultural District to R-1 Residential District on the second of three readings. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: All.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas reviewed a variance granted by the Muscatine County Board of Adjustment on June 2, 2023 for Case #23-06-02, an application from Todd Moyer, 1881 Cedar Muscatine Road, Wilton, Iowa, who requested a Variance to be allowed for placement of an accessory building in front of the residence, approximately 531 feet from the front property line located at 1626 231st Street, Letts, Iowa. This property consists of approximately 33.90 acres of mainly timber. There is a single-family home on the property that sits approximately 630 feet from the front property line and 231st Street. The proposed detached accessory structure would sit approximately 515 feet off the roadway. To the west side of the welling is the septic system and to the south of the rear dwelling is timber and steep slopes. Furnas stated there is heavy vegetation on the property that would hide the building and due to the topography of the property, the selected location is on the only large flat spot on the property. On a motion by Mather, second by Sorensen, the Board accepted the Variance. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the Board set a letting date of July 24th, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. for project L-(MW-5)--73-70, a 100'-0 x 24'-6 continuous concrete slab bridge over Mosquito Creek on North Isett Ave. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the minutes of the June 5, 2023 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Sorensen received an email from Vickie Bishop regarding road safety concerns, a railroad crossing and the gravel pit area on Pettibone Avenue.

Sauer had a conversation with a resident regarding fireworks permitting on an independent basis for July 4, 2023.

Chick received an email from Don Paulsen regarding concerns with the proposed Joint Muscatine City/County shooting range costs.

Chick received a call from John Kramer regarding veterans travel arrangements for Veterans Affairs (VA) doctor appointments.

Kirchner received a call from David Millage regarding a wind farm project in the West Liberty area.

Kirchner received a call from a resident regarding the all-terrain vehicles (ATV) and off-

road utility vehicles (OTV) rules and regulations.

Committee & Meeting Reports:

Kirchner, Mather and Sorensen attended a Housing Council meeting on June 7, 2023. Sorensen attended a Muscatine County/Muscatine City Joint Administration Board meeting on June 6, 2023.

Chick attended a Greater Muscatine Chamber of Commerce and Industry meeting on May 24, 2023.

Chick attended a Bi-State Trails meeting on May 25, 2023.

Chick attended a Housing Analysis meeting on June 1, 2023.

Chick attended a Bi-weekly Mississippi Valley Workforce Area meeting on June 2, 2023.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Chick, the Board authorized the Chair to execute the FY23/24 Contract for Specialized Transportation services with River Bend Transit, in the amount of \$7,000.00. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Kirchner, the Board approved a Fireworks Permit application from David Starkweather, 1956 Geneva Hills Road, Muscatine, for event location: 2410 Burlington Road, Muscatine, for July 4, 2023. Ayes: All. The Board consensus was to allow the Muscatine Fire Chief to determine if the fireworks permit is still allowed for July 4, 2023, as there is a comment noted by the Fire Chief on the Permit as “with rain” (as it is possible the county could be under a burn ban with the current lack of rain). Sheriff Quinn Riess requested a copy of the approved Fireworks permit. The permit information was provided to Riess.

Connie Fuller, Grandview, Iowa, addressed the Board to request an update regarding pioneer cemeteries in Muscatine County. Sauer stated County Attorney Jim Barry is currently working on identifying the Muscatine County pioneer cemeteries and will present the information to the Board at a future meeting. Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated the information may possibly be presented at the June 19, 2023 Board meeting. Schreiber stated she will call Fuller to notify her when the item is on placed on the agenda.

Dave Watkins, 2566 122nd Street, Moscow, Iowa, addressed the Board stating his concerns with the proposed Joint Muscatine City/County shooting range cost of \$2,000,000. Watkins stated in the past, the county was required to pass a bond referendum allowing the taxpayers (rather than a five-member Supervisor Board) to decide if the municipality should be authorized to raise funds through the issuance of general obligation bonds. Watkins also stated his concerns regarding the cost vs. revenue for the water and sewer lines to Deep Lake Parks and the joint recreational facility with the City of Muscatine. Sorensen stated he believes the Iowa Code bond referendum amount is set at \$750,000. Watkins questioned if Johnson County or Scott County shooting ranges would allow rental use for our sheriff deputies and police officers for their training exercises, approximately 100-150 days per year.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 A.M.

ATTEST:

Cathy Ribbink
Elections/Real Estate Administrator

Scott Sauer, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors