

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors
Monday, March 4, 2019

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

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, the agenda was approved as amended to correct the amount on item #4 to \$1,850,000. Ayes: All.

A Public Hearing was called to order by Chairperson Mather a 9:01 A.M. for the purpose of instituting proceedings and taking action to enter into a loan agreement in a principal amount not to exceed \$1,850,000 for the purpose of financing improvements to the County Engineer's Building (\$315,000), construction of a new maintenance/storage building for the General Services Department (\$700,000) and maintenance/storage for search and rescue equipment (\$300,000), Sheriff's office garage and storage addition (\$300,000), and repairs to other County buildings (\$235,000). No one spoke against the loan agreement. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sorensen, the public hearing was closed at 9:02 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved Resolution #03-04-19-01 Expressing Intent to Enter Into a Loan Agreement and Providing for the Levy of Taxes. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

RESOLUTION #03-04-19-01
RESOLUTION EXPRESSING INTENT TO ENTER INTO LOAN AGREEMENT AND
PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES

WHEREAS, Sections 331.402 and 331.441 of the Code of Iowa authorize counties to enter into loan agreements and borrow money for the purpose of financing improvements and repairs to County buildings; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors (the "Board") of Muscatine County, Iowa (the "County"), has proposed to enter into a loan agreement (the "Loan Agreement") in a principal amount not to exceed \$1,850,000, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 331.402 and 331.441 of the Code of Iowa, for the purpose of paying the costs, to that extent, of financing improvements and repairs to County buildings, and has published a notice and held a hearing on that proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Board has also determined to issue a General Obligation County Building Improvements Note in a principal amount not to exceed \$1,850,000 (the "Note") in the future in evidence of the obligation of the County under that loan agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Board has been advised that, because principal and interest will come due on the Note before June 30, 2020, it is necessary for the Board to make provision for the levy of a debt service property tax to be collected in the fiscal year that will begin July 1, 2019 for the payment of such principal and interest;

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

Section 1. For the purpose of providing for the levy and collection of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the Note, there is hereby ordered levied on all the taxable property in the County a direct annual tax for collection in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, sufficient to produce the amount of \$240,000.

Section 2. A certified copy of this resolution shall be filed with the County Auditor, and the County Auditor is hereby instructed to enter for collection and assess the tax hereby authorized. When entering such taxes for collection, the County Auditor shall include the same as a part of the tax levy for Debt Service Fund purposes of the County and when collected, the proceeds of the taxes shall be converted into the Debt Service Fund of the County and set aside therein as a special account to be used solely and only for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Note.

Section 3. All resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

PASSED and APPROVED this 4th day of March, 2019.

ATTEST:

/s/Leslie A. Soule
Muscatine County Auditor

/s/Nathan Mather, Chairperson
Muscatine County Board of Supervisors

Discussion was held with Michael Nolan, Horizon Architecture, regarding a change order for the 3rd Floor Courtroom Renovation Project. Nolan stated the change order was necessary to reroute a feed to an existing panel that was interfering with the placement of a restroom. Nolan stated there are two options as follows: Option #1 – Refeed the panel through the existing room by relocating the pipes tight against the wall and furring out the wall 3 ½” at a cost of \$9,731.00; and Option #2 – Refeed the panel up the existing chase, through the attic and back down to the existing panel at a cost of \$12,018.00. Nolan stated he would recommended Option #2 as it would leave the most space in the restroom and would allow easier access to the conduits if needed in the future. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved CAR #1 – 3rd Floor Courtroom Renovation Project Option #2 from Wolfe Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$12,018.00. Ayes: All.

River Bend Transit Executive Director/CEO Randy Zobrist presented an overview of services provided by River Bend Transit.

Discussion was held with Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission Chairman Lynn Pruitt regarding future use of the historical jail building. Pruitt stated the plan has been to use the front two story portion of the building as a County historic museum and archive. Pruitt asked if the entire space could be made available to the Commission now that the County is planning on constructing a new maintenance facility. Sorensen stated it is the County’s intention to abandon the use of that building by General Services so he has no issue with the Commission

rehabilitating the building at their expense. Pruitt stated they will raise the \$5,000 for the redevelopment plan to include the whole facility. Pruitt stated the study will provide cost estimates for them to use to begin fundraising. In response to a question from Sauer, Pruitt stated they would like to have the front portion of the building ready for display in three to four years. Board consensus was to allow the Commission to proceed with the next phase.

Pruitt informed the Board that the Old Barn is now listed on the National Historic Registry.

Discussion was held with County Engineer Keith White regarding a Memorandum of Agreement with the Corp of Engineers to allow issuance of a permit to replace Bridge 163, located on 120th Street approximately two miles west of the City of West Liberty. White stated due to the historic nature of the bridge, remediation of \$4,250.00 must be paid by Muscatine County to the Muscatine County Historic Preservation Commission to cover the cost of standard bridge photographic and historic documentation. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board approved and authorized the Chairperson and County Engineer to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (CEMVR 2018-1273 Proposed bridge replacement in Muscatine County, 120th St. Bridge/R&C#:181070106) with the Corp of Engineers to allow issuance of a permit to replace Bridge 163, located on 120th Street approximately two miles west of the City of West Liberty. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Sorensen, the Board approved the following utility permit: Eastern Iowa Light and Power – placement of one new pole near 1697 160th Street to serve a future irrigation system. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held with County Engineer Keith White regarding a potential agreement with the City of Walcott for snow removal only, on the rock portion of 110th Street (Memorial Road) approximately 0.35 miles. White stated Scott County must drive 1.5 miles through the City of Walcott to perform snow removal and they are asking Muscatine County to perform the snow removal instead. Board consensus was to proceed with development of an agreement with the City of Walcott to perform the snow removal.

White updated the Board on secondary road projects. White stated the G28 project right-of-way acquisition is moving slowly with the Bandag portion, but that the County should hear about the Lutheran Living right-of-way acquisition this week.

White updated the Board on road conditions. In response to a question from Saucedo, White stated the County has been able to obtain two loads of salt and Compass still owes the County some material. White stated salt usage has doubled from any average year. Saucedo stated he would like an update of actual numbers of salt used after the season is over.

Information Services Director Bill Riley updated the Board on help desk tickets for January and February as well as ongoing departmental activities.

The Board canvassed the Drainage District #2 Election held on February 23, 2019. Results were as follows: For the office of Trustee for a three-year term beginning February 23, 2019 – 4 votes were cast. Mike Walker received 4 votes. Mike Walker was elected.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, minutes of the February 25, 2019 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Saucedo attended a Scott County Economic Development Training March 1st.

Saucedo, Sorensen, Mather and Sauer reported an email from Jim Meredith regarding the use of slag.

Holliday met with Dave and Steve Armstrong regarding a possible summer event at the Fairgrounds.

Committee Reports:

Holliday, Sauer and Sorensen attended the Assessor Conference Board Public Hearing February 26th.

Holliday and Saucedo attended the Muscatine County Compensation Board meeting February 27th.

Sorensen attended a Bi-State Regional meeting February 27th.

Saucedo attended a Muscatine County Solid Waste Management meeting February 26th for which there was no quorum.

Saucedo attended a West Liberty Economic Area Development meeting February 28th.

Mather attended a public slag meeting at the Wilton Community Center February 26th stating he heard some new information on the possible presence of cadmium in the stockpile of slag being offered by SSAB. Mather stated cadmium can accumulate over time and you might not know what effect it has for 20-30 years. Mather stated this information along with other information that was previously presented has given him real pause about the future of slag. Mather stated he does not see a future as long as cadmium is present and he does not see supporting its use in the County. Mather stated he received information from Harsco consisting of information which Harsco had shared earlier with the State. Mather stated it makes sense to get everyone's side of the story, but unless he sees something that completely convinces him otherwise, he cannot see wanting to risk putting slag down any longer.

Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas reminded the public that the County has grants for free private well testing. Furnas stated there has been legislation introduced that requires home improvement contractors to post performance bonds.

County Engineer Keith White reminded SF184 has a lot of traction and is in danger of passing. White asked the Board to contact their legislators.

Discussion was held with Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber regarding the Muscatine County Compensation Board FY19/20 salary recommendations for elected officials. A letter from the Muscatine County Compensation Board recommended a 3.5% increase for the Board of Supervisors plus \$2,500 for Chair and \$1,500 for Vice-Chair; a 3.5% increase for the Attorney, Auditor, Recorder, and Treasurer; and an 8.0% increase for the Sheriff effective July 1, 2019. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Holliday, the Board accepted the salary increases as recommended by the Compensation Board. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Sauer, the Board set a public hearing on the proposed FY 19/20 Muscatine County budget for Monday, March 11, 2019 at 9:00 A.M. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, the Board designated Jen Watkins-Schoenig as Acting Community Services Director at an annualized salary of \$75,489. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Saucedo, the Board accepted the February 2019 payroll claims. Ayes: All.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated there is a vacancy on the Board of Adjustment for which no applications were received by the deadline. Schreiber stated she will re-advertise the position, but would like the Board to reach out to anyone they think might be interested.

Schreiber reported that the Affordable Care Act 1095 filing is due to employees today unless the county files for extension. Schreiber stated she discovered that the new financial software installers did not set this up so she will be filing for an extension today, but still hopes to have the 1095 forms out to employees by the end of week.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 A.M.

ATTEST:

Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

Nathan Mather, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors