

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's **Black & White** and **Read** all over

Thursday, February 3, 2022 | 9 pages | Volume 6 • Issue 32



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City digs out again



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison's Wes Holtkamp works to shovel Fort Madison's downtown sidewalks Wednesday morning after about 4 inches of snow fell on the area overnight. City crews worked most of the day to clear streets.

City budget proposals shows steady tax levy

SESSION: Council to take up budget at special Thursday meeting

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Residents can expect the city's portion of the general levy to remain essentially the same for the next fiscal year beginning July 1.

According to a budget proposal submitted last week by Fort Madison City Manager David Varley, the levy is set at \$15.07/\$1,000 of assessed valuation. The rate is a tick higher as a formula levy at \$15.072 vs. \$15.071 in 2021-22.

The city's rate has dropped for the last five years and remains steady for the upcoming year.

The levy is made up of a general levy, a debt service levy, local emergency management levy, employee benefits levy, emergency tax levy, aviation authority levy, and tort liability levy, according to a worksheet included in the budget.

The general levy is maxed out at the state limit of \$8.10/\$1,000 and cannot be set higher.

The city's debt service levy is a levy issued based upon the city's current general obligation bond debt. That rate for 2022-23 is being proposed at \$1.636 which is up about



VARLEY

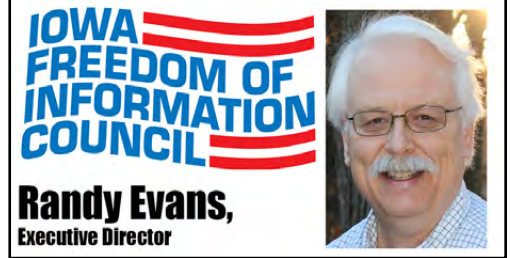
two cents compared to last year. The city currently is paying on just over \$3 million in debt on 16 issues including general obligation bonds, TIF districts, revolving loan debt for water and sewer projects, and a Quality of Life bond.

The local emergency management levy is now being collected at the county level and has dropped off the city's levy calculation. That eliminated 1.8 cents from the city's levy last year.

The Employee Benefits levy is projected at \$4.838 for the next year. That number is down 2.4 cents per \$1,000. The Emergency Tax Levy has been at 27 cents per \$1,000 for the past five years. This is a levy allowed if the General Fund levy is maxed out at \$8.10.

The city is not collecting an aviation levy and hasn't at least for the past five years, and the tort liability levy is 22.8 cents per \$1,000 up just a tick from 22.7 in fiscal year 2022.

See **BUDGET**, page 9



Iowa school debate needs a civics lesson

A seat at the table.

Iowa Senate Majority Leader Jack Whitver provided that succinct explanation last week of what his fellow Republicans are looking to provide to Iowa parents as the state's K-12 school districts wrestle with a host of controversies.

His colleague, Senate President Jake Chapman, set the tone a few weeks ago for addressing these controversies in this year's session of the Iowa Legislature. Chapman accused some teachers of having a "sinister agenda" toward their students and vowed to push for a law that would make it a felony for teachers and school librarians to provide students with books that Chapman and some parents believe are obscene.

During an appearance Friday on Iowa PBS's "Iowa Press" program, Whitver did not talk about the content of those books. Instead, he bluntly said he does not support criminalizing teachers' actions.

But Whitver did say senators are hearing from many parents who are troubled by the way local schools are being run, and lawmakers are looking at steps the Legislature could take. Their concerns deal with schools' responses to the pandemic, school curriculum, and now, about some books used in classes and available in school libraries.

"We are hearing concerns from parents, and our job is to listen to those concerns and try to address them," he said. "I think adding transparency is a really good way to do that — making sure our parents have a seat at the table in their kids' education, to give them a process to address any concerns they have."

He went on: "We really want to have this conversation about putting parents back in

See **EVANS**, page 9

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WEATHER

THU 03 Feb.....Overcast and Cold, 18° F/ 9° F
 FRI 04 Feb.....Clear and Cold, 25° F/ 3° F
 SAT 05 Feb.....Clear and Cold, 29° F/ 6° F

OpenWeatherMap

IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 02/01.....4 10 20 25 36, Lucky Ball: 17
 MEGA MILLIONS 02/01.....11 24 38 62 66, Mega Ball: 1
 PICK 3 02/01 MIDDAY.....0 0 7
 PICK 3 02/01 EVENING.....6 2 7
 PICK 4 02/01 MIDDAY.....0 1 9 3
 PICK 4 02/01 EVENING.....7 7 4 8

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

HEIDI L. BATLEY

Heidi Lynn Batley, 53, of Warsaw, IL, died Thursday, January 20, 2022 at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, IL.

She was born on July 5, 1968 in Davenport, IA, the daughter of William Alfred and Terril Lynn (Printy) Mead. She graduated from Central Lee High School with the Class of 1986.



BATLEY

She married Travis Batley and they later divorced.

Heidi had been employed at Foam Fabricators and Boonies both in Ft. Madison, IA.

She enjoyed reading, cooking, playing the card game "Magic" and playing pool. She loved to sing and had a beautiful voice. She loved her dog, Maui, who was her faithful companion. The greatest joy in Heidi's life was spending time with her family and attending all their activities.

She is survived by two sons, Nick Marlin of Warsaw and Chris Batley, one daughter, Kaylee Batley, several grandchildren and one brother, Scott Mead of North Carolina. She is also survived by family friends, David Marlin, Craighton Merschbrock, Andrew Inman and Taran Hunter who were like sons to her.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her step-father, Donnie Printy.

Services will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to help the family with final expenses. Checks may be sent to Vigen Memorial Home, 1328 Concert Street, Keokuk, IA 52632 or donations may be made on Heidi's obituary page at www.vigenmemorialhome.com

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorial-home.com.

OBITUARIES

PAULINE I. HALL

Pauline Isabel (Glasscock Randle) Hall, 99, of Quincy, Illinois, formerly of Keokuk, Iowa, passed away on Sunday, January 30, 2022 at her home in Quincy, Illinois.

Pauline was born June 29, 1922, in Ashton, Missouri, at home on the family farm, the daughter of Paul Stanley and Myrtle (Elsie Smith) Glasscock. She graduated from Keokuk High School in 1940 and played on a traveling softball team after high school. She was united in marriage to Glen Eugene Randle in January of 1943 in Canton, Missouri. He was killed in action in France on January 5, 1945 while serving in World War II. Pauline was then united in marriage to Don E. Hall in April 19, 1946 in Hannibal, Missouri. He preceded her in death on March 6, 1985. She worked at the Keokuk Shoe Factory as a young woman, and later moved to Quincy, Illinois, where Pauline was employed at the Illinois Veteran's Home for twenty-four years until her retirement in the early 1990's. Pauline was a member of Bible Baptist Church in Quincy, Illinois, and belonged to several Baptist churches throughout her life. She was an avid bowler and for many years and belonged to a Canasta club. She enjoyed spending her free time playing Scrabble, fishing, walking and taking care of her yard. Most of all, she loved her family dearly, especially her children and grandchildren.



HALL

Pauline is survived by two children: Debra Behring of Palmyra, Missouri and Holly (Steve) Hudelson of Quincy; grandchildren: Kenneth Vahle, Kasey Behring, Chad (Grace) Hudelson and Corey (Jennifer) Hudelson, and Stephanie Meyer; great-grandchildren: McKensie Vahle, Dequadrian (Paxton), Liam and Finn Hudelson, Paige Lewis, Adreanna (Skye) Hudelson, Logan, Charlie and Parker Meyer; Betty Moore (life friend of son Jerry Hall); sister-in-law Anna Lou of Ft. Madison, Iowa; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Pauline is preceded in death by her parents; husband Gene Randle; husband Don E. Hall; sons: Larry Randall in infancy and Jerry Hall; sister: Flossie Taylor; five brothers: Stanley (Shirley), John (Aileen), Glen (Shirley), Clyde (Maggie) and Dean (Anna Lou) Glasscock and two grandsons: Kelly Behring and Jerry Hall, Jr.

Funeral services will be held at DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home at 11 am on Saturday, January 5, 2022 followed by burial at Sunset Memorial Park in Keokuk. Visitation will be held at the funeral home from 10 to 11 am on Saturday directly before the service. Memorial donations may be directed to the Wounded Warrior Project.

Tributes and condolences may be left at www.dejongsfuneralhome.com.

DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home of Keokuk is in charge of arrangements.

Pen City Current obituary policy

Pen City Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes. Reposting of obituaries due to changes can only be requested by the submitting funeral home and will be assessed a \$15 reposting fee.



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<p>Old Fort Players 319-372-9559 oldfortplayers.com</p>	<p>You may call or send a Facebook message to reserve tickets to be purchased at the door with cash or credit card.</p>	<p>319-372-9559 oldfortplayers.com</p>

Obituaries

OBITUARIES

NORMA J. HEINS

Norma Jean Heins, 92, of Donnellson, Iowa, passed away Thursday, January 27, 2022, at her home in Donnellson.

She was born on November 1, 1929, in Lakeview, Iowa, the daughter of Fred and Victoria (Curry) Simpson. She married James David Penrod, together they had two children: Mike and Susan. He preceded her in death. She later married Glen Paul Heins, together they had three children: Mary, Fred, and David. They later divorced. After, she married Victor LaVern Derr. He preceded her in death.



HEINS

She is survived by her children: Mike (Ann) Penrod, Susan Fields, Mary (Jeff) Hoskins, Fred Heins and David Heins; grandchildren: Jessica (Ryan) Welch, Dylan (Kari) Heins, Andrew Heins, Jake Shannon and Tyler Hoskins; great grandchildren: Jase Welch, Riley Welch, Aaron Heins and Abraham Heins; sisters: LaVonne Miller and Dorothy Meyer. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husbands; two granddaughters: Amanda Ellison and Amy Van Pelt; and a sister: Barbara Granamann - Hermann.

Norma owned and operated the Country Inn in Charleston, she cooked at many local restaurants, most recently at the Stumble Inn. She volunteered at the Donnellson Library in the genealogy department. Her grandchildren and great grandchildren were of utmost importance to her.

Her body has been entrusted to the crematory of Schmitz Funeral Homes.

Friends may call after 12:00 noon Thursday, February 3, 2022, at Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson, where the family will receive friends from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. that evening.

A private family graveside service will be held at a later date at the Charleston Cemetery, Charleston, Iowa.

A memorial has been established in her memory for the Donnellson Library Genealogy Department.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com Schmitz Funeral Home of Donnellson is assisting the family with arrangements.

LYLE T. HAIGH

Lyle T. Haigh, 89, of West Point, Iowa, passed away at 4:39 p.m. Sunday, January 30, 2022, at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Fort Madison, Iowa.

He was born on April 3, 1932, in Alma, Wisconsin, the son of Oscar and Clara (Bohlinger) Haigh. On July 5, 1958, he married Elaine Thompson at Saint Lawrence Catholic Church in Alma, Wisconsin.



HAIGH

He is survived by his wife: Elaine; two sons: Norman (Kim) Haigh of Burlington, Iowa, Steven (Jill) Haigh of Ottumwa, Iowa; one daughter: Clarice (Mike) Hutchens of Ballwin, Missouri; nine grandchildren, five great grandchild and twins on the way. Also surviving are two sister in-laws: Kay Haigh and Joyce Haigh.

He was preceded in death by his parents, twin sons: Thomas and George, one daughter: Sharon, four sisters, and three brothers.

Lyle was a 1951 graduate of Alma High School. He served in the United States Navy during the Korean War. In 1983 he retired from Armour Dial after 30 years of service. He was a member of Saint James Catholic Church, Houghton Knights of Columbus and a past member of the Prairie Hunters Club. Lyle enjoyed going to auctions, deer hunting, birds, cats and dogs. He and Elaine supplied the cranberries for the God's Acre Sale for many years. Together they had a cabin along the Mississippi River in Wisconsin where they spent a lot of time boating, fishing and visiting friends and family. He enjoyed traveling visiting family and friends that he loved.



Friends may call after 12:00 p.m. Friday, January 4, 2022, at Schmitz Funeral Home West Point, where the family will receive friends from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. A Knights of Columbus rosary will be recited at 3:30 p.m. and a wake service will be held at 5:00 p.m.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, January 5, 2022 at St. James Catholic Church in St. Paul with Father Dan Dorau as celebrant.

Burial will be at St. James Cemetery in St. Paul, Iowa.

There will be a flag presentation by Holtz-Geers American Legion Post #668.

A memorial has been established in his memory to St. James Catholic Church or to Holy Trinity Catholic Schools.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements.

OBITUARIES

ERIC T. KERN

Eric Todd Kern, 56, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away on Monday, January 31, 2022 at 4:03 PM at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in West Burlington.

He was born on December 2, 1965 in Fort Madison to Edward and Nancy Bohnenkamp Kern. On October 6, 1990 he married Stefani Smith in Ft. Madison. Eric was a Firefighter for the Ft. Madison Fire Department for thirty three years and was currently a Captain, Eric was known for telling his colleagues "Firefighting is not a job, it's a life". He loved to hunt, fish and spend time on the river with his family and especially his grandchildren. Eric loved fish fry's and having a cold Busch Light with his friends. Eric coached several baseball and football teams over the years. His family was his greatest love and he was a wonderful, Husband, Dad, Son, Grandpa, Brother, Uncle and Friend.



KERN

Survivors include his Wife, Stefani Kern of Ft. Madison; two Sons, Kody (Kali) Kern of Ft. Madison and Kayleb (Rachel Heidbreder) Kern of Ft. Madison; grandchildren, Kayson and Kinleigh Kern of Ft. Madison; his Mom, Nancy Kern of Ft. Madison; two Sisters, Conni (Bill) Boyer of Ft. Madison and Shelley (Chris) Wallace of Ft. Madison; one Brother, Bob (Dawn) Kern of Ft. Madison; several nieces and nephews and his Mother in Law, Karen Sylvester of Ft. Madison. He was preceded in death by his Dad and Grandparents.

Friends may call after 2 PM on Friday, February 4, 2022 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory where the family will meet with friends from 4-6:30 PM. The funeral service will be held on Saturday, February 5, 2022 at 10 AM at the Fort Madison High School with Pastor Paul Hermansen officiating. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in his memory and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



Lunch Specials
Jan 31 - Feb 4
11am - 1pm

Monday, January 31
Beef Stroganoff, Green Beans

Tuesday, February 1
Tenderloin, French Fries

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2
TATER TOT CASSEROLE

Thursday, February 3
Fried Chicken Dinners

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4
FISH & SHRIMP DINNERS

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Holy Trinity Catholic Sports

HTC boys get win over ND

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

BURLINGTON — John Hellige has been preaching a steady build for his Holy Trinity boys basketball team this season.

The goal, he said, was get to where the Crusaders could play a complete game.

Tuesday's 54-51 win over Notre Dame was that game.

The Crusaders (5-14 overall, 5-10 SEI Superconference South Division) had a business-like efficiency to their game, and it's something Hellige has wanted.

"We just keep, little by little, inching up, getting better," Hellige said. "The best part for me was how we took care of the ball. Just a no-nonsense game. We came up here, took care of business."

The bulk of Holy Trinity's roster is freshmen and sophomores, and Hellige knew the season would have its ups and downs. It was not going to be a quick fix.

"We talked early in the season about playing a good quarter, and then two good quarters, and then a good three quarters," Hellige said. "I thought we played a good full four quarters of

quality basketball tonight."

The Crusaders won by doing the little things, especially at the free-throw line. They were 24-of-26, including 9-of-10 in the final 1:27 as they closed out the win.

"Our young guys handled the pressure," Hellige said. "Our seniors played like seniors. Just a great team win.

"Layups, putbacks, and free throws win you ballgames. We made those tonight."

The game was tied at 38 when sophomore Maddox Rung put the Crusaders in front with a 3-pointer. Notre Dame tried to answer, but Mike DiPrima blocked a shot, grabbed the rebound, then raced to the other end of the layup to put the Crusaders up, 43-38.

At that point, it was a matter of closing things out.

The Nikes (6-12, 5-8) have always been a good rival of the Crusaders.

"We start with fifth-grade school basketball," Hellige said. "Guys like Mike DiPrima, Jack Malinski, Tyler Snaadt, they've been banging heads with these guys for eight years. It's good to go out in a rivalry like this with a win."

DiPrima and Conner Gehling led Holy Trinity with 13 points each. Rung had 12 points."

Nike runs put away Lady Crusaders

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

BURLINGTON — It was a sign of what is coming in the future for the Holy Trinity girls basketball team, and it came in the third quarter of Tuesday's 80-61 loss to No. 7 (Class 1A) Notre Dame.

Freshman Teagan Snaadt raced down the middle of the court after a steal, with sophomore Natalie Randolph in front of her, to her left.

Snaadt snapped a quick pass ahead, and Randolph converted it into a layup to complete a textbook fast-break.

Then the Crusaders made turnovers on their next three possessions, and Notre Dame turned those into six points.

Holy Trinity (10-9 overall, 10-6 SEI Superconference South Division) continues to grow as a team, but the youthfulness of the team showed up against the Nikes (18-0, 15-0), especially late in the third quarter.

The Crusaders were within 52-43 with less than a minute to go in the quarter, but Notre Dame scored five points in the final 25 seconds, starting an 11-0 run that put this game out of reach.

"We got a run there at the end of the third quarter to get back in the game, and that's all you can ask for," Holy Trinity coach Tony Johnson said. "We gave

ourselves a chance late.

"When we play them, it's all about composure. And then we lose our composure a little bit, and then they hit a few threes, and then, bam, it's back to a 15-point lead and then you have to dig your way out."

Holy Trinity kept pace with the Nikes for most of the first half before Notre Dame went on a 14-5 run to take a 33-19 lead with 3:08 to play in the second quarter. The Nikes maintained that double-digit lead until that late third-quarter run by piling up the second-chance points.

"I thought we did fine on offense," said Johnson, whose team scored just 26 points against the Nikes in a December 21 loss. "I'm pleased with the offense. I don't think the defense was even that bad. It was the second-chance points. It seemed like every second-chance play they had was a 3-pointer, and they didn't miss them."

Randolph led the Crusaders with 24 points. Mary Kate Bendlage had 16 points. Kassi Randolph had 10.

Megan Harrell led Notre Dame with 22 points. Gabby Deery, Reagan Engberg and Lauren Krieger each had 12.

"I'm pleased with everything we did," Johnson said. "Too many second-chance points, and they capitalized on that."

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
LEE COUNTY BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
January 3, 2022**

The Lee County Board of Supervisors met at the Lee County Administrative Building in Fort Madison on Monday, January 3, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Matt Pflug, Garry Seyb, Ron Fedler, Rich Harlow and Rick Larkin.

The Board opened the meeting by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Harlow, seconded by Seyb, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Moved by Larkin, seconded by Harlow, to approve the Monday, December 13, 2021 minutes. Motion carried with Fedler abstaining.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Seyb, to approve the Monday, December 20, 2021 minutes. Motion carried with Pflug abstaining.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Seyb, to name Matt Pflug as Chairman for the calendar year 2022. Roll call: Fedler-aye, Seyb-aye, Harlow-aye, Larkin-aye and Pflug-aye.

Resolution #2022-1

RESOLVED this 3rd day of January 2022 that Matt Pflug be and is hereby appointed Chairman of the Lee County Board of Supervisors for the year 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Harlow, to name Garry Seyb as Vice-Chairman for the calendar year 2022. Roll call: Fedler-aye, Harlow-aye, Larkin-aye, Seyb-aye and Pflug-aye.

Resolution #2022-2

RESOLVED this 3rd day of January 2022 that Garry Seyb be and is hereby appointed Vice-Chairman of the Lee County Board of Supervisors for the year 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry

Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

There was no Public Input.

At 9:15 a.m. Pflug opened a Public Hearing for comments on new Voting Precinct Boundaries.

There were no comments received prior to the hearing and no comments received at the hearing.

At 9:16 a.m. it was moved by Fedler, seconded by Larkin, to close the Public Hearing. Motion carried.

Moved by Larkin, seconded by Harlow, to approve Resolution #2022-3. Roll call: Larkin-aye, Harlow-aye, Fedler-aye, Seyb-aye and Pflug-aye.

Resolution #2022-3

Resolution Approving 2020 Voting Precinct Boundaries

WHEREAS, after a federal decennial census, each county must review its voting precinct boundaries to see whether boundaries comply with current laws;

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Supervisors has established a Temporary Redistricting Commission;

WHEREAS, the Temporary Redistricting Commission has met and have established the following voting precincts in Lee County:

- Fort Madison Ward 1
- Fort Madison Ward 2
- Fort Madison Ward 3
- Fort Madison Ward 4
- Fort Madison Ward 5
- and Madison Township
- Keokuk Ward 1
- Keokuk Ward 2
- Keokuk Ward 3
- Keokuk Ward 4
- Keokuk Ward 5
- Keokuk Ward 6
- Keokuk Ward 7

Cedar, Franklin, Harrison, Marion Townships and

Cities of Donnellson, Franklin, Houghton, St Paul

Charleston, Des Moines, Van Buren Townships

Green Bay, Denmark, Pleasant Ridge Townships

Jackson Township Jefferson Township Montrose Township and the City of Montrose

Washington Township West Point Township and City of West Point

BE IT RESOLVED that the Lee County Board of

Supervisors held a Public Hearing to accept comments from the Public on the proposed precinct boundaries. The Public Hearing was held, Monday, January 3, 2022 at 9:15 a.m. in the Boardroom of the County Administration Building, 933 Avenue H, Fort Madison, Iowa. Members of the public were invited to offer oral or written comments prior to and at the Public Hearing or present an alternative plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lee County Board of Supervisors approve the Voting Precincts as established by the Temporary Redistricting Commission.

Approved this 3rd day of January, 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

Moved by Larkin, seconded by Harlow, to approve the first reading of the Voting Precinct Ordinance. Motion carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Fedler, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Resolution #2022-4

RESOLVED to authorize the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, to execute and acknowledge for and on behalf of Lee County, Iowa with Board approval, leases and deeds of conveyance of real estate and said authority shall exist for the year 2022, or until revoked or rescinded by action of the Board.

DATED: January 3, 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

Resolution #2022-5

RESOLVED this 3rd day of January 2022 that the Lee County Auditor be and is hereby authorized to draw checks to pay all court certificates, freight bills, express bills and postage as provided by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all other claims against Lee County, Iowa shall and must be passed upon by the Board of Supervisors at their regular meeting before being paid.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-6

RESOLVED this 3rd day of January 2022 that the following holidays will be observed for the calendar year 2022 on the dates indicated: President's Day, Monday, February 21; Good Friday, Friday, April 15; Memorial Day, Monday, May 30; Independence Day, Monday, July 4; Labor Day, Monday, September 5; Veteran's Day, Friday, November 11; Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25; Christmas Eve, Friday, December 23 and Christmas Day, Monday, December 26; also, New Year's Day, Monday, January 2, 2023.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-7

RESOLVED, this 3rd day of January, 2022, that

HELP WANTED

We're Not Southeast Iowa's Favorite Dental Office Without Our Great Team

APPLY TODAY TO JOIN US!

Pothitakis Dentistry currently needs a Full-Time Hygienist.

Complete an application at or mail your resume to 1223 S. Gear Avenue, Eastman Plaza, Suite 302 West Burlington, IA 52655 or email burlidental@gmail.com EOE



Sheriff Stacy Weber and his Deputies are hereby appointed as agents of Lee County, Iowa, to make service of notices of expirations of rights to redeem from tax sale and to make affidavit of completed service of such action.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-8

RESOLVED, this 3rd day of January, 2022, that the newspapers hereby designated as official newspapers in and for Lee County, Iowa are the Daily Democrat in Fort Madison and the Daily Gate City in Keokuk.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-9

RESOLVED, this 3rd

day of January, 2022, that Bill and Steve Helenthal are hereby appointed as agents of Lee County, Iowa, to make publications of all notices required to be published in the Daily Democrat, Fort Madison and the Daily Gate City, Keokuk, which Bill and Steve Helenthal are publishers, and to make affidavits of such publications in all cases where Lee County, Iowa has purchased real estate at Scavenger Sale and holds certification of such purchases at each sale.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-10

Scotts MiracleGro in Ft. Madison has new opportunities to join their team!



\$1000 SIGN-ON BONUS!

Available Positions

- Machine Operators \$19.00 per hour
- Forklift Operators \$21.30 per hour
- Production Supervisor (Rotating 1st/2nd Shift)
- Warehouse Supervisor (Nights)

Benefits Package Includes

- 13 Company Paid Holidays annually (Including 2 paid days off for Independence Day, 2 paid days off for Thanksgiving and 3 paid days off for Christmas!)
- 12 Vacation Days annually
- 401k match above associate contribution
- Medical/Dental/Vision
- And more!

We're really proud of our Total Health Programs that offer Wellness Incentives that can reduce your monthly insurance premiums by up to \$110 each for yourself and your covered Spouse/Domestic Partner, enhanced Sick Time Benefits, expanded Parental Leave and so much more.

For full job descriptions and more information on these and other opportunities visit us at www.scottsmiraclegro.com/careers

Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

RESOLVED, this 3rd day of January, 2022, that Ryanne Wood is hereby appointed as Lee County General Relief Director for the period of January 2, 2022 to January 1, 2023.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron

TREASURER	LOCATION	MAX DEPOSIT
Connections Bank	Fort Madison	\$20,000,000.00
Lee County Bank	Fort Madison	1,000,000.00
Midwestone	Fort Madison	2,000,000.00
Farmers Savings Bank	Wever	5,000,000.00
Connections Bank	Keokuk	5,000,000.00
Two Rivers Bank	Keokuk	5,000,000.00
Pilot Grove Savings Bank	Fort Madison	20,000,000.00

AUDITOR	LOCATION	MAX DEPOSIT
Pilot Grove Savings Bank	Pilot Grove	100,000.00
Pilot Grove Savings Bank	Fort Madison	5,000,000.00

SHERIFF	LOCATION	MAX DEPOSIT
Connections Bank	Keokuk	400,000.00
Lee County Bank	Fort Madison	400,000.00

RECORDER	LOCATION	MAX DEPOSIT
Connections Bank	Fort Madison	100,000.00
Pilot Grove Savings Bank	Keokuk	100,000.00

CONSERVATION	LOCATION	MAX DEPOSIT
Two Rivers Bank	Keokuk	7,500.00

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-12

BE IT RESOLVED that this 3rd day of January, 2022, by the Lee County Board of Supervisors, that the Lee County Engineer or his Assistant are hereby authorized and empowered to execute underground construction permits without further action by the Board of Supervisors.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-13

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Supervisors is empowered under authority of Section 321E.1 of the Code of Iowa to issue permits for the movement of machines, vehicles or loads, or combinations thereof which exceed the maximum dimensions and/or

Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-11

BE IT RESOLVED this 3rd day of January 2022, to designate the following banks to be Depositories

TREASURER	LOCATION	MAX DEPOSIT
Connections Bank	Fort Madison	\$20,000,000.00
Lee County Bank	Fort Madison	1,000,000.00
Midwestone	Fort Madison	2,000,000.00
Farmers Savings Bank	Wever	5,000,000.00
Connections Bank	Keokuk	5,000,000.00
Two Rivers Bank	Keokuk	5,000,000.00
Pilot Grove Savings Bank	Fort Madison	20,000,000.00

weights specified in Sections 321.452 to 321.466, but within the limitations of Chapter 321E upon Secondary Roads under their jurisdiction, and WHEREAS, it is important that such permits be issued by persons familiar with the statutes and regulations relating to such permits and also with the limitations of the county's roadways, road surfaces and structures along the selected or designated routes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lee County Board of Supervisors that the Lee County Engineer or his Assistant are authorized to issue and sign special permits for the movement of vehicles of excessive size and weight upon Lee County Secondary Roads in accordance with said Chapter 321E.

Passed this 3rd day of January 2022

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-14

WHEREAS, Section 306.41 of the Code of Iowa provides that "The agency having jurisdiction and control over any highway in the state, or the chief engineer of said agency when delegated

of Lee County, Iowa funds in amounts not to exceed the amounts listed opposite of each said Depository. The Lee County Officers and their Deputies are hereby authorized to deposit the Lee County funds in amounts for said banks as follows:

TREASURER	LOCATION	MAX DEPOSIT
Connections Bank	Fort Madison	\$20,000,000.00
Lee County Bank	Fort Madison	1,000,000.00
Midwestone	Fort Madison	2,000,000.00
Farmers Savings Bank	Wever	5,000,000.00
Connections Bank	Keokuk	5,000,000.00
Two Rivers Bank	Keokuk	5,000,000.00
Pilot Grove Savings Bank	Fort Madison	20,000,000.00

by such agency, may temporarily close sections of a highway by a formal resolution entered upon the minutes of such agency when reasonable necessary because of construction, reconstruction, maintenance or natural disaster and shall cause to be erected road closed signs and partial or total barricades in the roadway at each end of the closed highway section and on the closed highway where that highway is intersected by other highways if such intersection remains open."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lee County Board of Supervisors that the Lee County Engineer or his Assistant are authorized to close Lee County Secondary Roads as necessary with the actual dates of closure to be determined by the County Engineer or his Assistant, as follows:

For Construction – Any project described in the approved Secondary Road Construction Program and any approved supplements thereto.

For Emergency – Closure of any road for maintenance purposes: Any route deemed necessary by the County Engineer or his Assistant.

The Engineer will also notify the local news media when a road has been closed for construction.

Passed and approved this 3rd day of January, 2022

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-15

BE IT RESOLVED by the Lee County Board of Supervisors that the Lee County Engineer or his Assistant are hereby designated, authorized, and empowered on behalf of the Lee County Board of Supervisors to execute the certification of completion of work and final acceptance thereof in accordance with plans and specifications in connection with all Farm-to-Market and federal or state aid construction projects in this county.

Passed and approved this 3rd day of January, 2022

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

Resolution #2022-16

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors is empowered under authority of Iowa Code Section 321.236 Sub. (8), 321.255, and 321.471 to 321.473 to prohibit the operation of vehicles or impose limitations as to the weight thereof on designated highways or highway structures under their jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS, The Board desires that the County Engineer be empowered to establish and lift, at his discretion, load limits, on specific designated roads. Travel on these roads will be load limited allowing only trucks and other commercial vehicles with a gross weight of less than the limit designated by the posted signs to travel upon them.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Lee County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the County Engineer to exercise his discretion in posting load limits of ten (10) tons on selected roads and as necessary to enhance safe travel and/or reduce base failure. These load limits

shall become effective whenever the signs are erected and shall remain in effect at all times they remain erected.

School busses, emergency vehicles, vehicles hauling home heating fuel to residences, vehicles hauling animal feed to a feeding yard, and commercial garbage haulers are exempt from these limitations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors, may authorize permits of exception for loads not already exempt under the previous paragraph of this resolution. Any such permit must be specific to the excepted vehicle and its load, and must bear the signature of the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors or County Engineer. Exception requests will be considered and approved or denied by the County Engineer.

Dated January 3, 2022

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 2022-17

A RESOLUTION NAMING CANDIDATE TO SEIRPC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WHEREAS, Lee County is a member County of the Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission, and

WHEREAS, the SEIRPC Board of Directors has reviewed the Lee County membership status and it is in good standing.

BE IT RESOLVED that Garry Seyb is hereby appointed to a one-year term to the SEIRPC Board of Directors, which term will expire on January 1, 2023.

Dated this 3rd day of January 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

Resolution #2022-18

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVE

WHEREAS, the County of Lee, Iowa, by resolution duly passed heretofore, has resolved that it shall participate in the planning and programming of the South Iowa Area Crime Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LEE, that Ron Fedler is hereby designated as said County's official representative to the South Iowa Area Crime Commission.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that Rick Larkin is hereby designated as said County's official alternate representative to the Commission in instances where the official representative is unavailable.

Passed this 3rd day of January 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Seyb, to hold Board meetings on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. in the Boardroom of the Administration Building in Fort Madison.

Motion carried.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Harlow to approve the following appointments to various committees for 2022. Motion carried.

Supervisor Committees for 2022

- Ron Fedler**
 - * South Iowa Crime Commission (Alternate – Rick Larkin)
 - * 8th Judicial (Alternate – Rick Larkin)
 - * SE Iowa Juvenile Detention (Alternate – Rick Larkin)
 - * RUSS (Alternate – Rich Harlow)

- Rick Larkin**
 - * Iowa Workforce Development (Alternate – Matt Pflug)
 - * Southeast Iowa Community Action (Alternate – Matt Pflug)
 - * GRRWA (Alternate – Ron Fedler)
 - * Emergency Management Commission (Alternate – Garry Seyb)
 - * Courthouse Security Committee (Alternate – Matt Pflug)

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

* Lee County EMS (Alternate Garry Seyb)
 * Fort Madison Economic Development (Alternate-Garry Seyb)

Rich Harlow

* Children First (Alternate – Rick Larkin)
 * Lee County Conservation Board (Alternate – Matt Pflug)
 * 401K Committee (Alternate Garry Seyb)
 * Employee Insurance Committee

Matt Pflug

* Quad City Decategorization (Alternate – Rich Harlow)
 * 911 Service Board (Alternate – Ron Fedler)
 * Board of Health (Alternate – Ron Fedler)
 * Great River Progressive Housing Board (Alternate – Garry Seyb)
 * Employee Insurance Committee
 * Employee Safety Committee (Alternate-Ron Fedler)
 * SE IA Housing Authority (Alternate – Garry Seyb)

Garry Seyb

* SEIRPC (Alternate – Rick Larkin)
 * Lee County Economic Development (Alternate – Rick Larkin)
 * Lee County Port Authority (Alternate – Rick Larkin)
 * Keokuk Economic Development (Alternate – Rick Larkin)
 * Hwy 61 Coalition (Alternate – Matt Pflug)

Department Liaisons:

Secondary Roads – Garry Seyb/Rich Harlow
 Information Technology – Garry Seyb/Rick Larkin
 CPC – Rick Larkin/Ron Fedler
 EMS-Rick Larkin/Garry Seyb
 Safety-Matt Pflug/Ron Fedler
 Grant Writer-Garry Seyb/Rich Harlow
 Moved by Seyb, seconded by Fedler, to appoint Alicia Schiller-Haynes as Lee County Weed Commissioner for 2022 at a salary of \$500 per month. Motion carried.
 Moved by Seyb, seconded by Harlow, to approve the final voucher for Streb Construction Company for resurfacing County Road W55, Project #FM-CO-56- - 55-56. Motion carried.
 Moved by Seyb, seconded by Larkin, to approve an EMS Software upgrade with ESO at a cost of \$13,209.00. Motion carried.
 Moved by Seyb, seconded by Fedler, to approve a Drop Permit with

Lisco for a phone system hookup at the North Juvenile Court Services Office. Motion carried.
 Moved by Harlow, to approve a Letter of Agency with Vertical Communications for the Conservation Department's SIP Trunk Service. Motion carried.
 Moved by Fedler, seconded by Seyb, to approve six tax abatement resolutions. Roll call: Fedler-aye, Seyb-aye, Harlow-aye, Larkin-aye and Pflug-aye.

RESOLUTION #2022-20

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,
 WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Todd Ross 502 Denmark 7th Street Denmark IA 52624
 For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.
 PASSED AND APPROVED this 3rd day of January, 2022.
 Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member.
 Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-21

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,
 WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Jerry Burdette Jr. 1531 230th Street

Donnellson IA 52625
 For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.
 PASSED AND APPROVED this 3rd day of January, 2022.
 Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member.
 Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-22

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,
 WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Justin Miller 2080 310th Street Montrose IA 52639
 For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.
 PASSED AND APPROVED this 3rd day of January, 2022.
 Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member.
 Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-23

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,
 WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

PERSVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Shelley and Christopher Wallace 1937 315th Avenue Fort Madison IA 52627
 For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.
 PASSED AND APPROVED this 3rd day of January, 2022.
 Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member.
 Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-24

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,
 WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Wade In-skeep 3219 270th Avenue Keokuk IA 52632
 For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.
 PASSED AND APPROVED this 3rd day of January, 2022.
 Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member.
 Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-25

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,
 WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility

for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Rachel Warosh 3095 260th Avenue Keokuk IA 52632
 For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.
 PASSED AND APPROVED this 3rd day of January, 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member.
 Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Seyb, to approve a step increase for Kathy Burkhammer, Records Clerk, from \$15.47/hr. to \$15.89/hr., effective 1/27/22, a job title clarification for VA Administrator Nikki Sugars and a new hire for Conservation-Heather Huebner, Director, \$73,873.00/annual salary, effective 1/17/22. Motion carried.
 Received and filed the Recorder's Report of Fees Collected for the month of November 2021.

Moved by Larkin, seconded by Harlow, to approve the payment of claims. Motion carried.
 Committee Reports: Harlow reported on a Children First Board meeting and a Conservation Board meeting. Seyb reported that he was on a committee for interviewing candidates for a new IT Director.

At 9:40 a.m. a motion was made by Harlow, seconded by Fedler, to adjourn. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 10, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
 Matt Pflug, Chairman
 Attest: Denise Fraise, Lee County Auditor

Claims paid January 3, 2022

Ability Ntwk, svcs.... 958.49
 D Abraham, svcs 286.90
 Advd Crctnl Hlth, svcs 10792.17
 Advd Radiator, svcs 585.10
 Agriland FS, fuel... 714.37
 AirMedCare, svcs 3615.00
 Alliant Enrgy, svcs 1869.37
 Am Legion, rent .. 1200.00

Area Distr, splys.... 123.56
 Bnd Tree Med, svcs 3556.26
 R Braden, svcs 80.00
 RR Brink Lcking, svcs 462.42
 A Cadwallader, exps 291.15
 Centre St Intl, svcs 5252.01
 CenturyLink, svcs 90.95
 CLIA Lab, svcs 180.00
 CJ Cooper, svcs 300.00
 Daily Gate, publ..... 53.81
 DM Stamp Mfg, splys 68.00
 Donnellson Tire, svcs 1143.90
 Douds Stone, mtrl 37775.68
 Elect Engrg, svcs.. 1336.80
 Fastenal Co, equip 399.00
 FM Water, svcs..... 3588.58
 D Fraise, exps 40.00
 L Gatton, rent..... 300.00
 Grt Prairie AEA, svcs 427.50
 Hellige Lawn, svcs.... 50.00
 Hope Haven, svcs 63.30
 Huffman Wldng, equip 27.98
 HyVee, splys..... 1715.80
 Ideal Rdy Mix, mtrl 1588.00
 IA DOT, svcs..... 58.00
 IA State Pen, meals 11007.00
 J&S Elec Bus, splys 94.99
 Jays Auto, svcs..... 744.66
 Kelttek, svcs 1011.57
 Rvrfrnt Brdctg, publ 200.00
 Keokuk Water, svcs 321.29
 Kirchner Trkg, svcs 320.00
 Lee Co Treas, fees 280838.39
 LeeCo Treas, costs 17320.20
 Lynch Dallas, svcs 2677.00
 Mail Svcs, svcs..... 1118.44
 Metal Clvrts, mtrl 12501.00
 MidAm Enrgy, gas 3218.98
 Midway Frtlnr, svcs 5881.02
 Motion Ind, svcs 73.20
 NALBOH, dues 200.00
 J Neff, svcs..... 200.00
 OMG MW Cessford, rock 1194000.00
 Phoenix Sply, splys 1057.34
 Poweshiek Co Shrrf, svcs 60.92
 Prairie Farms, splys 285.60
 Quill Corp, splys 93.35
 Rainbo Oil, oil 5246.05
 Rathbun Water, svcs 119.70
 K Rokosz, svcs..... 181.89
 Staples Credit, splys 231.56
 Stewart Auto, svcs.... 40.00
 T.H.E. Co, equip.. 6300.00
 T-Mobile, svcs 76.14
 US Cell, svcs 1829.94
 Verizon, svcs 159.53
 Vermeer Sales, svcs 121.00
 Windstream, svcs 42.48
 Heat/Air Guy, svcs 1168.00

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From the Front

Parents do have a seat at the table

EVANS - Continued from Page 1

control of their kids' education."

Setting aside the content of some books and the question of whether they are appropriate for various ages of students, Whitver's analysis does not square with the reality in Iowa's K-12 school districts. He misleads people who may have forgotten what they learned in American government classes when they were in school.

Parents already do "have a seat at the table" to shape the education offered in their communities. Those seats are called the school board. Parents already do run for these seats. Parents already do have a say in who will serve on that board — which is decided in odd-numbered years when voters go to the polls.

That board has the power to hire, and fire, administrators and teachers. That board sets policies on everything from the cost of school records, to masks, curriculum and the cost of school lunches.

Parents do have a say in their children's education — during parent-teacher conferences, during meetings with school principals, during after-school discussions with their children's teachers, during the public forum at school board meetings, in letters to their local newspapers.

Every school district already has procedures in place for parents, or anyone else, to object to the content in certain books used during classes or available in school libraries. Those complaints trigger discussions and decisions by committees of educators and community members on whether to restrict or remove certain books.

Every school district has procedures in place for parents to object to their child having to take part in certain class assignments. In those instances, teachers will provide alternate lessons for the child.

If parents do not think school officials are responding properly to the concerns they and other parents raise, those parents already have the option of running for a school board seat or supporting another candidate who shares their views.

Parents who are so dissatisfied with the way their local schools are operating have another powerful option: They can transfer their child to another school district or to a private school. They and like-minded parents can form a charter school in their community. Or, the ultimate example of parental authority over the education of their children comes when mom and dad decide to begin teaching their kids at home.

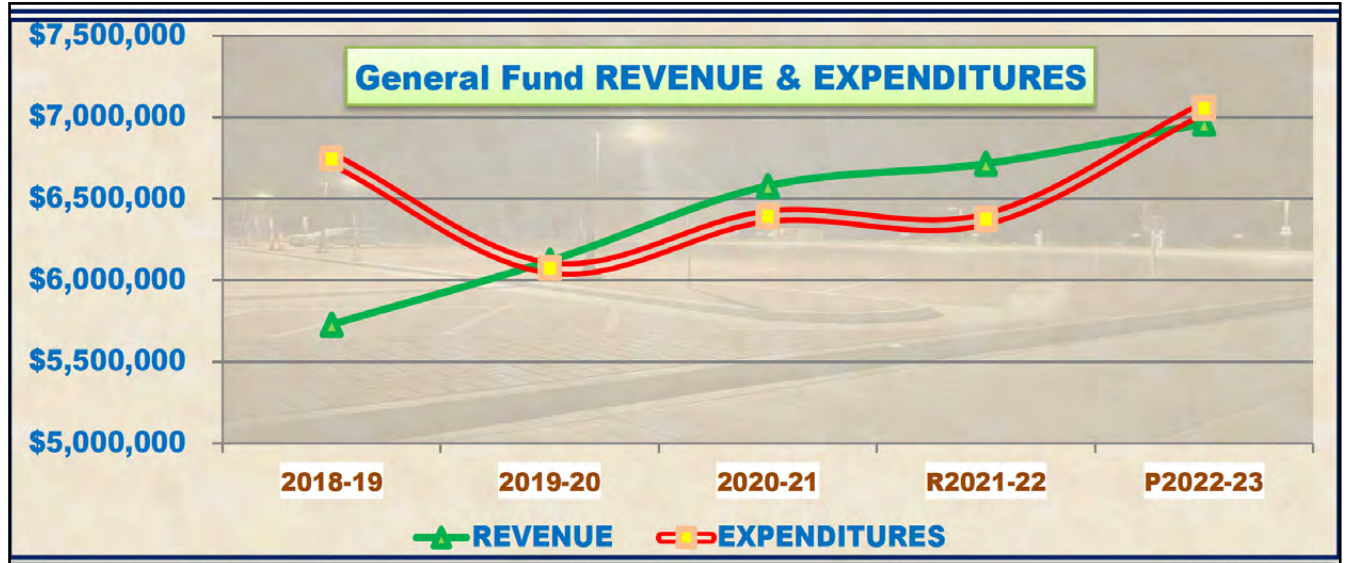
Whitver failed to acknowledge another fact of life that is present every day in the public's dealings with their elected leaders — whether that involves local school boards or city councils, county boards, state legislatures or Congress. That fact of life is this: Just because one group of people want elected officials to take certain action, it still takes a majority of the members of a government body voting "yes" for that to occur. Just because one set of parents may be especially vocal does not automatically mean their wishes will, or should, supersede what other parents may want.

And if the vocal group is on the losing end of a vote, that just means the other side was more persuasive or had more supporters aligned with them.

See Joe Biden for a fuller explanation of this fact of life.

Randy Evans is Executive Director of the Iowa Freedom of Information Council and can be reached at DMRevans2810@gmail.com.

Sales tax revenues projected at \$1.6M for 2023 fiscal year



BUDGET - Continued from Page 1

Totaling those levies creates the city's mil levy of \$15.072, which is projected to generate \$2,489,590, down \$100,000, according to figures in the budget proposal.

Electric and natural gas franchise taxes are expected to generate \$370,000 in the next fiscal year. Cable franchise tax is projected at \$96,000.

Highlights of the budget include a \$77,000 expense for the Fort Madison Police Department's newly approved K9 program.

However, there is also a \$77,000 revenue projection in the police budget because it is believed the program will generate donations to offset the costs.

The police budget will also include a Police Detective position at a cost of about \$90,000 to assist the Detective Supervisor position.

The city is also projecting a second payment of \$715,784 as part of the America Rescue Plan Act federal stimulus, bringing the total the city received to \$1,431,569. Varley said a good use of those funds would be to put them toward the cost of mandated sewer separation projects, or toward the cost of a new Public Works Building and Fire Station.

The funds have to be allocated by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of 2026. Varley said those funds are not included as an expenditure in the budget proposal.

The City's Hotel/Motel fund is in a healthier position, according to Varley. The original 2021-22 budget projected revenues at \$130,950 due to the

pandemic's impact on travel. Revised figures show that revenue at \$217,150 and that's the number being projected for 2022-23.

The ending balance in that fund was cut in half in the 2020-21 fiscal year from \$172,455 to \$88,393 as the pandemic hurt travel. Varley projected that figure to be \$51,073 on June 30, but now that figure is being revised to an ending balance of \$67,943.

The city's sales tax fund receives and spends the city's portion of its 1% sales tax. The city allocates 80% of that fund to general operations and the remaining 20% is used for streets, sidewalks, capital equipment, and projects.

Revised figures for 2022 have that revenue projected at \$1.582 million, and 2023 revenues are projected at \$1.662 million. Those numbers would result in \$1.33 million into the city's general fund and \$332K into capital projects.

Other highlights of the budget include:

- a \$30,000 contribution to the Lee County Economic Development Group.
- \$65,000 for beautification efforts and \$85,000 for nuisance abatement and demolition.
- \$100,000 infusion to the city's asphalt overlay and chip seal programs from the general fund, and \$200,000 for street maintenance.
- repainting the PORT trail bridge.
- funds to operate and maintain the Amtrak Station.
- a proposal to bond for the remaining Highway 61 improvements, which would increase the debt service part of the city's levy in coming years.

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