

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Monday, February 28, 2022 | 9 pages | Volume 6 • Issue 47



www.pencitycurrent.com

Clippers end Hounds' year



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Fort Madison Bloodhounds made an earlier-than-expected exit from postseason basketball action Friday night when Clear Creek-Amana rallied in the final two minutes to outlast Fort Madison. See the full story SPORTS on page 5 of today's edition.



No diligence in GRRWA rate increase

We just went through an emotional reaction to the Back the Blue law and the byproducts of that law that increased the Lee County Sheriff's wages 45%, which in turn spawned a 10% across the board increase for all county staff.

Supervisor Chairman Matt Pflug said he would never support a 45% wage increase for anyone, and he didn't. He voted against it with Supervisor Ron Fedler.

So I was kind of taken aback last week when supervisors gave about seven minutes to Great River Regional Waste Authority Director Austin Banks' request for \$90,000 more per year, an increase of about 250%.

Pflug said that if the rates hadn't been increased in more than 15 years, which is what Banks said was the case, then we should give it some thought.

Banks told the board of the landfill's plans for additional landfill cells and a possible methane capture system as something the landfill needs to prepare for financially.

But it struck me a bit odd that it didn't seem like the supervisors looked at the landfill's books, investments, financial security, or anything else before just accepting a 250% increase. And the county doesn't pass that cost on to unincorporated households. They just pay it out of the budget.

This was a \$54,000 annual cost to the county as part of its Integrated Waste Services contract where the landfill assesses a \$1 per household charge to governmental agencies. Cities like Fort Madison, West Point, and the rest also pay the fee, but in most cases, they pass it on to residents through utility bills.

See LANDFILL, page 9

CITY NEWS

Council to vote on next Hwy. 61 phase

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A public hearing and vote on the proposed \$8 million spend on the next phase of the city's rehabilitation of Business 61 through Fort Madison will be in front of the Fort Madison City Council Tuesday night.

The next section of the work will include 10th to 18th Streets and is the third phase of the work after 2nd to 6th Streets, and 6th to 10th.

The Iowa Dept. of Transportation opened two bids for the project on Feb. 15. Engineering estimates from HRGreen of

Cedar Rapids came in at \$6.34 million and the lowest bid was from Jones Contracting Corp. of West Point was \$7.96 million, a 26% increase from the estimate.

Hawkeye Paving Corp. out of Bettendorf submitted a bid of \$9.35 million.

City Public Works Director Mark Bousset and City Manager David Varley are recommending the bid from Jones Contracting.

The city has a state Surface Transportation Program grant for \$1.25 million and the remaining \$6.72 million will come

See CITY, page 4

Early morning Saturday assault sends one to the hospital

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A 30-year-old Fort Madison man is in custody after a stabbing incident outside of a bar in the 2600 block of Avenue L at about 1 a.m. Saturday.

According to Fort Madison Police, officers were called to Vinnie's Longbranch after a 51-year-old man who's name hasn't not been released, reported being stabbed in the arm after he was assaulted.

Police arrested Wayne Nathaniel Buckner of Fort Madison and charged him with willfull injury. Buckner is currently being held at the Lee County Jail. The victim was taken to Southeast

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WEATHER

OpenWeatherMap
MON 28 Feb.....Overcast, 49° F/ 30° F
TUE 01 Mar.....Scattered Clouds, 55° F/ 35° F
WED 02 Mar.....Clear Skies, 64° F/ 36° F
IOWA LOTTERY
LOTTO AMERICA 02/26.....5 13 31 39 48, Star Ball: 2, All Star Bonus: 4
LUCKY FOR LIFE 02/26.....30 40 44 47 48, Lucky Ball: 15
MEGA MILLIONS 02/25.....15 31 40 56 66, Mega Ball: 4 Megaplier: 3
PICK 3 02/24, 02/25, 02/26 MIDDAY.....211, 267, 536
PICK 3 02/24, 02/25, 02/26 EVENING.....646, 325, 718
PICK 4 02/24, 02/25, 02/26 MIDDAY.....6840, 7739, 5123
PICK 4 02/24, 02/25, 02/26 EVENING.....8580, 8959, 7169
POWERBALL 02/26.....15 32 36 48 64, Powerball: 19, Power Play: 3

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

EVELYN A. ALDERETE

Evelyn Ann Alderete, 64, of Hamilton, IL, died Friday, February 25, 2022 at Blessing Health Keokuk.

She was born on April 26, 1957 in Los Angeles, CA, the daughter of Carmen Senobia (Regalado) and George Elmer Freer, Jr. She attended Antelope Valley College and received her Associate's Degree.



ALDERETE

She had been employed as an EMT for Wilson Ambulance in Palmdale, CA and also worked for the County of Los Angeles as a Clerk.

She enjoyed bird watching and working in her vegetable and flower gardens. She also enjoyed junking and loved going to auctions in search of treasures. She was a wonderful cook and baker. Her favorite ingredient was cinnamon which she added to almost everything. Evelyn was a social butterfly and could strike up a conversation with anyone, even a stranger. She was an avid Bingo Blitz player and had made many international friends while playing the game.

Evelyn is survived by one son, Sergio Zuniga of Colorado, four daughters, Iesha Rocha, Julia Mendez and Angela Alderete all of California and Jessica Alderete of Ft. Madison, IA, countless grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She is also survived by six sisters, Veronica Chavez, Norma Fields and Janet Young all of California, Nancy Martinez and Olivia Mena both of Keokuk, and Georgia Mullett of North Carolina, numerous nieces and nephews, aunts and uncles, and her special fur-babies, Bungy and Twyla Star.

She was preceded in death by her mother and a special aunt, Mary Munoz.

According to her wishes there will be no services.

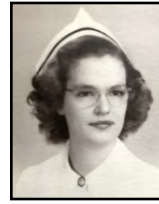
Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

OBITUARIES

WALESKA M. EDWARDS

Waleska Mary Gredell Edwards, 98, of Keokuk, IA died Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Fort Madison, IA.

She was born December 6, 1923 in Keokuk, IA, the daughter of Leo Bernard and Waleska A. (Ward) Gredell. She graduated from St. Peter's High School in Keokuk and received her nursing degree from Mercy Hospital in Davenport, IA.



EDWARDS

Waleska was united in marriage to Thomas Andrew Edwards on August 19, 1950 in Keokuk. He preceded her in death on September 13, 1998.

She had been employed as a registered nurse at Graham Hospital and St. Joseph Hospital in Keokuk for thirty-two years, until her retirement in 1992. She also did private nursing.

Waleska was a member of the All Saints Catholic Church in Keokuk. She was very active in church activities and a member and past-president of the Altar and Rosary Society. She had a heart for caring for others and loved to volunteer for the Red Cross Bloodmobile. Waleska was also a member of the Keokuk Concert Association and enjoyed being active in other community activities.

Waleska was a devoted mother and was a faithful fan of all of her children's activities. She was known as the neighborhood nurse and took care of all the kid's bumps and bruises. She was a wonderful cook and made deviled eggs and cookies for many fundraisers. Everyone enjoyed receiving homemade peanut butter fudge and cookies at Christmas. Waleska kept her mind sharp by playing Solitaire.

She is survived by her children, Michael Leo Edwards (Judy) of Alton, IL Jean Elizabeth Edwards of Colorado Springs, CO, Susan Katherine Edwards-Brumley (Tim Brumley) of Garfield, N.J and Christopher Ralph Edwards (Caroline) of New Albany, IN, and five grandchildren, Thomas Edwards, Colin Edwards, Lucas Edwards, Lindsey Edwards, and Benjamin Brumley. She is also survived by one brother, George B. Gredell (Odean) of Pfafftown, N.C.

She was also preceded in death by two sisters, Katherine Gredell and Paula Gredell Polzynski and one brother, Leo Ward Gredell.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday at All Saints Catholic Church with Reverend David Brownfield, Ph.D. officiating. Burial will be in the Oakland Cemetery.

Visitation will be held after 1 p.m., Monday at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with the family meeting with friends from 5 - 7 pm. A Vigil service will be held at 7 p.m.

Memorials may be made to All Saints Catholic Church, Keokuk Catholic Schools, Holy Family Catholic Church or the Keokuk Depot.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

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Lunch Specials
Feb 28 - March 4
11am - 1pm

Monday, February 28
Tater Tot Casserole, Sweet Corn

Tuesday, March 1
Scalloped Potatoes & Ham

Wednesday, March 2
Fish & Shrimp Dinners

Thursday, March 3
Fried Chicken Dinners

Friday, March 4
Fish & Shrimp Dinners

Obituaries

OBITUARIES

GARY H. BROWN

Gary Howard Brown, 53 of Mechanicsville, MD, formerly of Keokuk, IA passed away on February 19, 2022 at his home with his loving family at his side.

He was born on February 4, 1969 in Keokuk, IA to the late Charles Howard and Nancy Ann Evans Brown.



BROWN

Gary is a 1987 graduate of Central Lee High School in Donnellson, IA. After high school he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and proudly served his country until his Honorable Discharge in March 1997 as an Aviation Electricians Mate. During his service he earned the Good Conduct Medal (2), Kuwait Liberation Medal (K), Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (3), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (2), Battle "E" Ribbon, Southwest Asia Service Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

On April 17, 1999, he married the love of his life, Tracilyn Miller in Fort Madison, IA. Together they celebrated over 22 wonderful years of marriage.

He was employed as a dedicated Aviation Quality Assurance Inspector for Lockheed Martin at NAWC-AD, Patuxent River Naval Air Station.

Gary was a devoted loving husband, father, grandfather and friend. He was the life of the party and had a terrific sense of humor. He loved his 1965 Ford Mustang, which was his prized baby. He also loved his cat, Tori Ann.



In addition to his beloved wife, he is also survived by his children, Hannah Rich (Harry) of Winchester, VA, Chantele Caron (David) of Hollywood, MD, Anneliese Sonon of Mechanicsville, MD, Elizabeth Martin of Ft. Madison, IA and Amber Rye (Tim) of Lusby, MD; his grandchildren: Haven Madden, Aislin Caron, Kira Rich, Zoey Rich, Maeve Martin, Alaric Martin; Tim Rye, Jr.; and one more due in April.

In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by his brother, James Charles Brown.

Funeral services will be held at 12 noon Wednesday at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Pastor David Turner officiating. Burial with military rites will be in the Keokuk National Cemetery.

Visitation will be held prior to the service on Wednesday from 10 am until 12 noon with the family meeting with friends at that time.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mechanicville Volunteer Rescue Squad, Post Office Box 15, Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

OBITUARIES

CLAUDE C. TURPIN

Claude C. Turpin, Jr., 69, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 9:08 a.m. on Saturday, February 26, 2022 at the Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice House in West Burlington, IA. He was born on June 14, 1952 in Chicago, IL to Claude C. & Alice



TURPIN, JR.

Sargent Turpin, Sr. He married Sheila R. Mendenhall on April 9, 1973 in Kahoka, MO. He worked for the City of Fort Madison from 1973 until his retirement in July of 2010. He also worked at Scout Connection in Fort Madison for 29 years while working for the city. He enjoyed riding his side by side & motorcycle and camping.

Claude is survived by: his wife: Sheila Turpin of Fort Madison, IA; 1-daughter: Kynda (Ricky Arnold) O'Tool of Fort Madison, IA; 1-son: Jason Turpin of Farmington, IA; 5-grandchildren; 3-great grandchildren; his mother: Alice Turpin of Fort Madison, IA & 1-sister: Carolyn (George) Frueh of Branson, MO. He was preceded in death by his father and 1-infant sister.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and no services are planned. Online condolences to Claude's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

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.

Our mission is to protect health, prevent disease, and promote the health and well-being for all persons in Lee County.

#DoYourPartStaySMART

Stay home when sick

Mask when out

Avoid large groups

Refresh indoor air

Ten feet is better than six

But the BEST THING you can do to help stop the spread of Covid in your community is to

Get Vaccinated



LCHD COVID Vaccine Clinics

- Wednesday, March 2nd from 12:00-4:00 at LCHD
- Thursday, March 10th from 1:00-4:30 at Trinity Methodist Church, Keokuk (Pfizer 5-11 only)
- Wednesday, March 16th from 12:00-4:00 at LCHD
- Thursday, March 24th from 1:00-4:30 at LCHD (Pfizer & Pfizer 5-11 available)
- Wednesday, March 30th from 12:00-4:00 at LCHD

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PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

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Sports/Education News

Bendlage, Morrison, and Myhre named 1st Team SEISC-South

Gehling, Randolph, Watkins named to 2nd team Southeast Superconference

BY PCC STAFF

LEE COUNTY – The coaches of the SEI Superconference South division put three local girls on the first team for the 2021-22 season.

Central Lee junior Makayla Morrison and senior Alivia Myhre were named to the squad, Morrison unanimously, along with Holy Trinity Catholic sophomore Mary Kate Bendlage.

Bendlage was fourth in the conference in total points with 330, behind West Burlington's Abbey Bence, Burlington Notre Dame's Megan Harrell and WACO junior Eliah Kissell. All three of those girls were also named to the 1st team squad, along with McKenna Marlow (WB), Makenzie Morris (Danville) and Gabby Deery (BND).

Bendlage shot 44.6% from the field for the Crusaders, who finished the year 11-12 overall and 10-6 in conference play. Bendlage's 162 rebounds were third best in the loop.



BENDLAGE

Myhre scored 288 points on the year good enough for sixth in conference play. She shot 44.6% from the field including 35% from the arc going 41 of 117. Morrison scored 213 points in 20 games for the Lady Hawks who tied for second in conference play at 12-4 with West Burlington. Central Lee finished the year 13-9 overall.



MORRISON

Holy Trinity sophomore Natalie Randolph and Central Lee's Macy Watkins both garnered 2nd team honors. Randolph was seventh in the conference in scoring with 268 points and was 39% from the 3-point arc. Watkins scored 177 points, but was third best in SEISC South shooting 50% from the field.



MYHRE

Receiving honorable mention for Central Lee were Mya Lampe and Maura Watkins. Brooke Mueller and Teagan Snaadt were received honorable mention for HTC.

Jimmy Myers was named Coach of the Year posthumously and Harrell earned Player of the Year honors.

For the boys, HTC's sophomore Connor Gehling was named 2nd Team all conference.

Gehling was sixth in the conference in scoring with 289 points and shot 54.1% from the field.

Central Lee's Brayden Wyrick and Alex Sandoval received honorable mention for the Hawks, while Holy Trinity's Mikey DiPrima and Tyler Snaadt were named honorable mention for HTC.

New London's Blaise Porter was named Player of the Year and Paul Kissell earned Coach of the Year honors.

Group looking at new city flag design contest

CITY - Continued from Page 1

from bond proceeds to finish the work.

The project will consist of reconstructing the highway along with replacing water mains, storm sewers, and sanitary sewers within the project area.

In an unrelated issue, a city group is undertaking a plan to hold a contest for redesigning the city's flag.

Councilwoman Donna Amandus is leading the effort to replace a flag that is not quite 10 years old. She said the flag doesn't work well with new holders placed by the Fort Madison Beautification Committee. More details on a city wide contest to design the flag is expected following Tuesday's meeting.

The council will also be considering raising the cost of nuisance abatement fees from \$40/hour to \$60/hour. Varley said the increased rate would attract more contractors. The rates are charged to homeowners and, with the added contractors, the city would be able to clean up more nuisance issues.

FM man arrested after stabbing man in the arm

STABBING - Continued from Page 1

Iowa Regional Medical center where he is hospitalized.

According to reports, the incident spilled over from an original altercation at the Ridgewood Lounge where the two had separated voluntarily. The victim reportedly then went to Vinnie's and was attempting to leave the parking lot when Buckner allegedly approached him again and eventually produced a weapon.

Police aren't disclosing what type of weapon was used in the incident and said there is no threat to the general public as it appears the two had a history toward each other.

Buckner is arrested on suspicion of the charges, but is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Police are still investigating the incident and additional information could be forthcoming.

Elks Club offering scholarships to seniors

FORT MADISON - Applications are now being accepted for the 2022 Elks Vocational Scholarship. Twenty scholarships for \$1500 each will be awarded to Iowa high school seniors pursuing vocational (2 years or less) training. It is not intended for students pursuing a 4-year course of study or students attending a community college with the intent of continuing on to a four-year degree program.

Please have applications returned to the Fort Madison Elks Lodge #374 at 719 Avenue H, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627 c/o Lin Cramer. The deadline for receipt is ON OR BEFORE MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2022.

The application form can be found online on the Iowa State Elks Association website (iowaelks.org) in both a fillable format or one that can be downloaded and filled out. Contact Lin Cramer at the Fort Madison Elks Chapter 374, 319-372-3724 if you have any questions.



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Sports

Clear Creek-Amana ends Hounds' season with late run

Key turnovers in last two minutes dooms Bloodhounds

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

FORT MADISON – The farewell speech wasn't something Ryan Wilson hadn't planned.

The Fort Madison boys basketball coach wasn't ready to say goodbye to his team on Friday night.

A 66-60 loss to Clear Creek-Amana in Friday's Class 3A substate semi-final was not the ending Wilson, nor his team,

wanted. "We talked about expecting to win," Wilson said. "We planned, prepared to win."

A season in which the Bloodhounds won 18 games, surged to No. 1 in the Class 3A state rankings, ended with offensive silence in the closing minutes.

Fort Madison led 57-51 with 2:20 to play, and then didn't score again until Dayton Davis' 3-pointer as time ran out snapped the net, the final addition to his 30-point night.

"We beat ourselves," Wilson said.

Fort Madison seemed in control when Reiburn Turnbull scored on a drive, and then the Bloodhounds would not score in a finish that was so agonizing.

The Clippers (16-7) scored 13 consecutive points in the final 2 ½



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Above, senior Reiburn Turnbull tries to get around the Clippers' Gage Freeman (24) on a freethrow rebound Friday night in the second half. Below, senior Dayton Davis tries to score over Clear-Creek Amana's Brody Clubb (32).

minutes to advance to Monday's substate final against Marion (18-5) in Muscatine.

"This group, these seniors, they found a way to win tonight," Clear Creek-Amana coach Brandon Clubb said.

They found that way at the end.

Gage Freeman's two free throws cut the Bloodhound lead to 57-53. Fort Madison's Miles Dear dribbled the ball off his leg on the ensuing possession, the beginning of a series of mistakes for the Bloodhounds.

Harrison Rosenberg got

a steal and a layup for the Clippers to bring them to within 57-55. Kyle Schrepfer scored on a layup on their next possession, then came up with a steal off the pressure defense. Schrepfer passed the ball to Freeman, who drove for the layup and the lead.

CCA forced a jump ball on the Bloodhounds' next possession, getting the ball back. Rosenberg was fouled and made the first free throw, but missed the second. Brody Clubb roared through for the offensive rebound and got the ball to Schrepfer, who was fouled. He made both free throws, and the Clippers were up 62-57 with 40 seconds left.

"We talked about it again on Wednesday at practice — offensive rebounding has hurt us in free-throw situations," Wilson said. "We had it within three, he misses the second shot, and they get the offensive rebound."

When Fort Madison's Tate Johnson missed a 3-point attempt, it was clear the Clippers had survived.

Wilson ran through the entire sequence of the Clippers' rally, then paused.

"Ball game," he said.

Davis dominated the Clippers early. He had 10 of Fort Madison's first 15 points, and 18 in the first half.

But Davis and the Bloodhounds were stymied by a zone defense the Clippers played in the third quarter.

"It helped us rebound a little bit better," Brandon Clubb said. "It slowed them down, turned them into jump shooters. They were really getting down-

hill on us for a while.

"We got some miles out of that zone."

"I think it just slowed us down," Wilson said. "Slowed us down, made us think. We came out passive. It just slowed us down."

The Bloodhounds were also slowed by foul trouble to Dear, their brilliant point guard. He picked up three fouls in the first half, then got his fourth with 6:39 left in the third quarter.

Wilson didn't bring him back until midway through the fourth quarter.

"Kills us, right? Kills us," Wilson said of Dear's foul trouble. "Floor leader, senior point guard."

Turnbull added 14 for the Bloodhounds.

Schrepfer led the Clippers with 20 points. Ben Swails had 17.

"I think our kids really fought through that hostile environment, the adversity," Clubb said. "Obviously we were outnumbered here."

It wasn't the celebration that was expected.

"Be proud. I just told them to be proud," Wilson said of his final message.

"They put us on the map, this senior group — 18-5, ranked No. 1, played hard. This group of seniors, it's not just basketball. They left a mark on Fort Madison."



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Classifieds/Public Notices

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE PROCEEDINGS FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL 2/15/2022

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JOURNEYMAN LINEMAN

The West Point Municipal Utility System has an immediate opening for a Journey Line Mechanic. Applicants must have a strong journeyman rating and must be able to perform all duties with regard to overhead and underground electric line construction.

Must be willing and capable to work on water distribution maintenance and repair and to be or become Grade 1 water distribution certified. Must live or be willing to live within 15 minutes of West Point, comply with on-call requirements and possess and comply with Iowa CDL regulations.

We offer a comprehensive benefit plan including health and dental coverage, plus IPERS retirement. Pre-employment physical and drug screening will be required.

Send a confidential resume to West Point Utility System 313 5th Street P.O. Box 69 West Point, IA. 52656 or to

cityofwestpointiowa@gmail.com
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The Fort Madison City Council met in adjourned session at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, 2/15/2022, at City Hall, 811 Avenue E. Mayor Mohrfeld presided with Council Members Andrews, Bowker, Schulz, Gray, Amandus and Rink present. Council Member Cangas was absent.

On motion, Council approved the agenda. On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda: Minutes of 2/1/2022; Claims dated 2/10/2022 and January Manual Claims; and Liquor License Renewals for Pen City Aerie, 4821 Avenue O, Ste. 4, and Dollar General, 4809

HELP WANTED

The Fort Madison Family YMCA Learning Centers are seeking candidates to fill childcare provider positions at our Donnellson, Iowa day-care centers.

Ideal candidates enjoy working with children and have a fun, loving personality.

- Full time Monday through Friday
- Competitive wages
- The more certifications/experience applicants have, the more potential for increased pay
- Following a 90 day review employees could be eligible for increased compensation
- 90 day hiring bonus available
- PTO eligibility following 90 day full time employment status
- Retirement is available after two consecutive years of full time employment
- 2 years experience in childcare a plus, but not required

WAGES & TEACH compensation is available after 6 months employment with our organization.

Required certifications are: CPR/First Aid, Mandatory Reporter, Universal Precautions, and additional training/certifications. *ALL CERTIFICATIONS ARE REIMBURSED

Mandatory background checks are performed prior to hire.

Interested candidates can apply online at fortmadison.org, contact Anna Dobson at 319-835-3256 or email anna.dobson@fortmadison.org.



Avenue O.

Chris Sorrentino, Historic Preservation Commission Chairman, gave an update regarding the Commission's activities.

Mayor Mohrfeld opened the public hearing concerning the FY2023 Maximum Property Tax Dollars Levy. With no oral or written comments, Mohrfeld closed the public hearing at 5:36 P.M. On motion, Council approved Resolution No. 2022-13, approving the FY2023 Maximum Property Tax Dollars Levy.

On motion, Council approved the first reading of an ordinance amending Title 10, Zoning, to define "Tiny Homes" & to allow tiny homes under certain conditions. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2022-14, granting property tax abatement to: Conagra Foods, LLC, 2467 Henry Layden Drive, Mason Dilsaver, 1824 Avenue G, and Walter/Geraldine Zumdom, 2728 Avenue N. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2022-15, ordering construction & setting public hearing for PIP 2020-07, Reconstruction of Old Highway 61 – 10th to 18th Street.

On motion, Council approved the City's Audit for Fiscal Year ending

PAYROLL	2/11/2022
General	\$214,206.86
Old Fort	2,848.56
Road Use	29,638.03
Water	31,353.91
Sewer	32,062.89
Solid Waste	13,433.00
Airport	312.77
Storm Water	3,843.74
	<u>\$327,699.76</u>

REVENUES	
General	78,423.21
Special Rev.	8,805.92
Road Use	170.00
Debt	5,625.58
Water	812.97
Sewer	2,600.56
Sld Waste, IWC	51.47
	<u>96,489.71</u>

CLAIMS - 2/15/2022

3E ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, PARTS	88.84
ALTORFER INC., INSTALL CONTROL PANEL	1,487.28
APWA - IOWA CHAPTER, TRAINING ...	295.00
ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES, UNIFORM	585.80
AUTOZONE, OIL/STROBE LIGHTS..	119.41
B&B PROPANE, HEAT	602.50
BARCO MUNICIPAL PROD INC., SIGN	243.45
BARNGROVER & SON GLASS COM, INSTALL TICKET WINDOW	8,625.00

6/30/2021. On motion, Council approved the Mayor's signature on a Professional Services Agreement with Impact7G, Inc., for a Phase I Environmental Study for the Humphrey Building. On motion, Council approved the Mayor's signature on a Service Agreement with Askew Scientific Services of Muscatine, Iowa, to advise, oversee & assist with the City of Fort Madison Pretreatment Program. On motion, Council approved the Mayor's signature on Change Order #5, for PIP 2020-05, Reconstruction of Old Highway 61 from 6th to 10th Street. On motion, Council approved the Mayor's signature on Amendment #1 to an Engineering Agreement with HR Green for PIP 2020-07, Reconstruction of Old Hwy. 61, 10th to 18th Street. On motion, Council approved the Mayor's appointment of Carmen Salazar to the Fort Madison Housing Authority, term expiring 6/3/2023.

At 6:44 P.M., the meeting adjourned until March 1, 2022, at 5:30 P.M. /s/ Matt J. Mohrfeld, Mayor
ATTEST: /s/ Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk

EXPENDITURES	
General	\$35,224.27
Special Revenue	134,023.21
Road Use	38,519.74
Capital	307,023.65
Water	38,982.50
Sewer	18,597.41
Solid Waste/IWC	11,194.27
SW Utility	1,592.77
	<u>\$585,157.82</u>

BEN CORY BROWN, TRAVEL MILEAGE	472.68
BIG TIMBER CONSTRUCTION LLC, AMTRAK DEPOT COUNTER	13,145.00
BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY, RAIL APPLICATION FEE.....	800.00
BROWN SUPPLY CO. INC., SWAB WITH ROPE	167.00
BROZENES HYDRAULIC EQUIPMENT, CONTROL PART	317.36
BUILDING MATERIALS INC, POST/HARDWARE	23.08
CASSIE BENTLER, PAVILION REFUND..	200.00
CESSFORD CONSTRUCTION CO., COLD MIX	833.60

CITY OF FORT MADISON, LEACHATE DISCHARGE (E&W)	1,590.57
CONEQUIP CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT, HYDRAULIC PUMP	6,750.00
CORE & MAIN LP, INSERT	466.42
CULLEN PEST CONTROL, QUARTERLY PEST CONTROL..	195.00
DATA POWER TECHNOLOGY GROUP, CONDENSING UNIT	13,285.00
DAVIS RADIOLOGY PC, ON JOB INJURY	1.73
DELONG CONSTRUCTION, INC, PAY EST #4 - DREDGING INV 1	58,816.08
DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY, TAB DIVIDERS/BINDERS	11.60
DUNKIN GARAGE & TOWING, OIL CHANGE	50.00
EUROFINS ENVIRONMENT TESTING, WEEKLY SLUDGE TEST	302.40
EVORA CONSULTING, PROF FEE.....	71.25
FLOYD'S E-Z WAY, GARBAGE PICKUP	703.50
FORT MADISON EYE CLINIC, PRE-EMPLOYMENT	35.00
GALL'S, AN ARAMARK COMPANY, GLOVES	50.55
GEM ELECTRONICS, PORTABLE RADIOS	460.00
GREAT RIVER REGIONAL WASTE, GARBAGE	7,178.08
GREAT WESTERN SUPPLY CO, WIPERS/TOWELS	87.66
HACH CHEMICAL CO., TESTING SUPPLIES	1,408.73
HOWARD R GREEN COMPANY, PROF FEE - GIS	13,873.89
HUFFMAN WELDING & MACHINE, OIL/SUPPLIES	751.74
IAWEA, 2022 MEMBERSHIP	60.00
ICONNECTYOU, INTERNET	5.00
INTERSTATE ALL BATTERY, BATTERIES	36.00
IOWA ASSOC OF MUN. UTILITIES, WATER ANNUAL DUES	1,071.00
IOWA BRIDGE & CULTVERT, AMTRACK PLATFORM.....	193,859.14
IOWA ONE CALL, LOCATES	149.80
KIESLER'S POLICE SUPPLY, INC, AMMO	344.70
KIMBALL MIDWEST, LOCK.....	38.36
KLINGNER & ASSOCIATES, P.C, PROF FEE - DREDGING IMPROVE	20,107.92

LEE COUNTY EMERGENCY MGMT, EMS BAGS.....	1,958.09
LEE COUNTY RECORDER, RECORDING FEES	49.00
LISCO, PHONE/INTERNET	2,030.22
MCFARLAND, TOWELS/GLOVES/PAPER..	136.30
MELLER EXCAVATING & ASPHALT, SNOW REMOVAL	1,260.00
MES-MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICE, FOAM CONCENTRATE	486.00
MIGUEL LANDEROS, NUISANCE	1,660.80
MOBOTREX, ASSEMBLY KITS.....	682.00
MOHRFELD ELECTRIC, REPAIRED CP CLOCK	389.58
O'REILLY AUTO PARTS, PARTS/SUPPLIES/FLUIDS.....	1,618.68
PARKVIEW VETERINARY CLINIC, RENTAL FEE.....	1,350.00
PRODUCTIVITY PLUS ACCOUNT, REPAIR BLADE.....	1,196.61
QUILL CORPORATION, OFFICE SUPPLIES	176.82
RAINBO OIL COMPANY, TRANSMISSION FLUID	344.30
SADLER POWER TRAIN TRUCK PARTS, TRANSMISSION/CORE	3,450.00
SCOUT CONNECTION, PAINT/RUST BLAST	85.48
SERVICE MASTER, JANITORIAL SERVICE	1,311.50
SOUTHEAST IA REGIONAL MED, RANDOM DRUG SAMPLE	50.00
THE SHREDDER, BULK SHREDDING	120.00
TIM'S REPAIR SHOP, VALVES	188.76
TRUCK REPAIR INC., KNOCK SENSOR	1,452.57
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, ANNUAL MAINTENANCE FEE	31,064.95
UPS, SHIPPING	39.78
USA BLUE BOOK, TUBING	489.47
WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSIT, CAREER FAIR REGISTRATION	75.00
WINDSTREAM, PHONE/INTERNET.....	260.43
GENERAL	401,693.46
SPECIAL REVENUES	24,991.90
ROAD USE.....	265.55
CAPITAL PROJECTS	18,019.29
WATER	306,643.03
WASTEWATER	33,182.20
SOLID WASTE	6,636.18
STORM WATER	10,362.54
	1,592.77

Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

TOTAL	401,693.46	183.26	LIBERTY UTILITIES, HEATING.....	528.82	POSTMASTER, FORT MADISON, PAST DUE/ WATER BILLS ...	1,689.05	PREMIUMS	97,750.23	WATER	5,800.30
MANUALS JANUARY 2022			MASTERCARD, MEMBERSHIP FEE...	1,429.34	STIVERS FORD, FIRE CHEIF VEHICLE	35,632.00	WEX BANK, FUEL USAGE	12,265.81	WASTEWATER	11,961.23
ALLIANT ENERGY, ELECTRIC.....	30,825.53		MOD - CONVENIENCE STORE, FUEL USAGE	200.00	VERIZON WIRELESS, HOTSPOTS - CARS	320.08	TOTAL	183,464.36	SOLID WASTE	831.73
B&B PROPANE, HEAT	422.99		PERMAR SECURITY SERVICES, ALARM SYSTEM	212.55	WELLMARK BC/BS, FEB	380.62	GENERAL	10,232.37	AIRPORT.....	67.22
CENTURY LINK, PHONE	80.50						SPECIAL REVENUES	133,690.44	TOTAL	183,464.36
							ROAD USE.....	20,500.45		
							CAPITAL PROJECTS			

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PUBLIC NOTICES

FEBRUARY 17, 2022

The Fort Madison City Council met in special session at 4:00 P.M. on Thursday, 2/17/2022, at City Hall, 811 Avenue E. Mayor Mohrfeld presided with Council Members Cangas, Gray, Amandus, Andrews, Bowker and Schulz present. Council Member Rink was absent.

On motion, Council approved the agenda.

On motion, Council approved a 14-Day Liquor License for Fork Catering & Hospitality Group, Inc., 415 – 11th Street, effective 2/18/2022.

At 4:05 P.M. the meeting adjourned until March 1, 2022 at 5:30 pm.

/s/ Matt J. Mohrfeld,
Mayor
ATTEST: /s/ Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk

**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Fort Madison City Council at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, at the Council Chambers of Fort Madison City Hall at 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison concerning Public Improvement Project 2020-07, Reconstruction of Old Highway 61 – 10th to 18th Streets. The purpose

of the hearing will consist of approving plans, specifications, contract documents and awarding construction contract for the project.

You may obtain further information or express your views concerning this issue either in person or through an authorized representative at the public hearing, or prior to the meeting by fax at (319) 372-8661, by telephone at (319) 372-7700 ext. 206, by E-mail at mblind@fortmadison-ia.com or in writing to the Fort Madison City Clerk, P.O. Box 240, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, Iowa, 52627 no later than 4:30 PM on

March 1, 2022.
Melinda L. Blind
City Clerk

**PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Agenda**

**DATE: Monday,
February 28, 2022
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
(CDT)
LOCATION:
933 Avenue H
Fort Madison, IA**

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Pledge of Allegiance
Approve Agenda
10:01 a.m. Public Hearing to Approve Maximum Tax Levy for FY2023 Consider Approval of Maximum Tax Levy Resolution
Public Input
Open Bids for North Courthouse Tuck-point Project
Update from Lee County Economic Development Group
Consider Approval to Hire Secondary Roads

Maintenance Worker II
Consider Approval of Parking Lot Usage Agreement with Pen City Cruisers

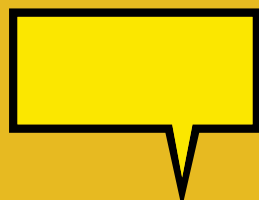
Personnel Actions:
A. Move from Full-time to Part-time-EMS
B. New Hire-EMS
C. Transfer from County Attorney to Sheriffs Office
Consider Approval of February 22, 2022 Board Minutes
Consider Approval of Payment of Claims Commission or Committee Reports
Adjourn

Workshop to Follow

**PUBLIC MEETING
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From the Front

Rate hike could be necessary, but we should ask as much

LANDFILL - Continued from Page 1

That fee is going from \$1 per household to \$2.50 per household.

We're not sure how that increase isn't meant with a bit more scrutiny by the county et.al. I've sat in on three meetings, the supervisors, the City of Fort Madison, and the City of West Point and only West Point officials questioned the increase and they did it mildly.

It almost makes me think I'm just missing something. I think that would be the best explanation, but I'm not convinced yet that it is.

Can it be assumed safely, that if former director Wade Hamm felt a wage increase in the past 15 years was necessary, or even prudent, he would have asked for it? It seems very few are shy about lobbying for additional funding these days.

I haven't seen the books either, but I would assume since there have been no reports out of the landfill office that things were getting bleak, things aren't bleak.

This is a 250% increase and we're barely blinking an eye. Yet a 45% increase for our most precious resource - our people, is fought heavily at the county level. I'm concerned about the optics of this. What does it continue to say about our people, when garbage gets a pass on a 250% increase and people have to fight for 45%.

For sure the employee increases make up a bigger portion of the county's budget, but it doesn't excuse that no one is asking any questions about this increase request. We did. We're sitting with Banks on Wednesday to talk about why the increase is needed and what GRRWA's financial situation looks like. We also want to know what the future expected costs for increase capacity and EPA regs look like.

We believe the landfill is a critical infrastructure need for the county. We're not saying in any way that



keeping an efficient landfill operation isn't important. It clearly is, but maybe officials should ask to see the financial picture instead of accepting it without debate.

Banks said the landfill will have to build at least two more cells before 2030 in addition to the one just completed - adding about 18 years of space to the site with all three new cells. He said the county may also have to integrate a methane capture system in 2025 due to EPA limits on landfill methane production.

So there could be legitimate grounds for asking for the increase. But shouldn't we look closer at that financial picture instead of taking a five-minute Q&A with county officials as prudent diligence.

There are options with methane capture that could help offset the costs of that new infrastructure, but either way, there will be a cost associated with it.

Putting the numbers together from area communities including Donnellson, Montrose, Keokuk, Fort Madison, and West Point, this will likely generate more than a million dollars over the next five years and well over a million over the next eight years. Lee County alone will pay \$450,000 over the next five years.

Fort Madison said they have more than 4,000 homes in the city, which will push their annual con-

tract with GRRWA to more than \$10,000 per month from the previous amount. Assuming Keokuk is comparable to Fort Madison, that's another \$150,000 per year combined. At five years that's \$750,000, and with the county's \$450,000 you get to \$1.2 million, not including the county's smaller incorporated communities.

We defer to their experience and knowledge in cell construction as to what those cells would cost to develop, and maybe that increased revenue is required to keep the landfill on the right path to continued successful operations.

The EPA methane regulations will assuredly cost the landfill more money in capture, but it still doesn't change the question of why no one is looking to see if this much an increase is warranted. Landfill officials have talked about using the methane to power landfill equipment or even possibly selling it. Worst case is they flare it off, which is a suitable mitigation for the escaping gas.

Whether the increase is warranted or not, doesn't dismiss that no one is looking deeper at the need. Could it be phased in to reduce the burden on taxpayers? Don't we owe it to taxpayers to at least take a look before just approving the increase like it's a boiler plate resolution?

The other question rolls around whether there is an option to decline the increase under the contract or not. It doesn't appear there is, but a heavier dialogue about the real need for the increase could create discussion on the landfill board to phase in the increases with a target date on the next cell construction or the one after that. Something based on need.

If the need's there, let's talk about it. If it's not... what are we doing? I guess that's Beside the Point.

Chuck Vandenberg is editor and co-owner of Pen City Current and can be reached at charles.v@pencitycurrent.com.

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