



Pen City Current

Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2017 | 8 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 225

Resident asks council to look at attendance

Seidel says duties don't stop at monthly meetings

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A long-time city resident asked the Fort Madison City Council Tuesday night to consider adopting a rule on attendance for those

elected to the city council.

Mike Killoren spoke during the public input section of the council's regular meeting and pointed out an attendance issue with Third Ward Councilman Travis Seidel, although not by name.

Seidel's attendance at council meetings has been suspect, making 58% of the meetings for the 12-months that ended July 30. Seidel was in attendance at Tuesday's meeting.

Killoren said Seidel had made 57% of

the meetings over the past two full years.

"An examination of the city council attendance records for the past two full years paints a disturbing picture of poor attendance by one of our council members. He missed 21 of the 49 meetings for a 57% attendance record. The average attendance by all other council members combined during that same period was nearly 90%," Killoren said.

"In other words, that representative was absent for more than four times the

average of all other councilmen... and 7 times as often as the best attendance recorded for two other council members."

Councilman Kevin Rink added that the people needed to get better information about what's going on.

"I think we need to keep in mind health and family issues. I've had a couple of health issues having both hips replaced. But I think what's going on

See ATTENDANCE, page 8

Sheriff's new "Gunner" is all business

Second dog should be in place before year's end

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - First impressions last and the Lee County Sheriff's Department's new K9 animal left an impression with those in attendance for a demonstration on Tuesday morning outside the sheriff's office in Montrose.

Chris Kearns, the chairman of the Lee County K9 Association meandered over behind the sheriff's garage where Dep. Uriah Wheatley was prepping his new partner Gunner for the demonstration. The Lee County Supervisors were on hand and several other members of the public were invited out after



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Lee County Sheriff's Department's newest deputy "Gunner" takes down its other newest deputy Jordan Maug during a demonstration Tuesday morning after the Lee County Supervisor's meeting.

the supervisors regular meeting.

Gunner quickly let Kearns know he was in the wrong place and Kearns quickly rejoined the gathering for the demonstration.

"The other dog, when I first went up to him, kind of walked around and

sniffed me and went back and I knew something wasn't right," Kearns said. "That's more of the reaction I would expect."

As part of the demonstration, Chief Deputy Will Conlee had a volunteer hold a pen in his hand for about a minute and then placed the pen

out in a field next to the office building.

Wheatley brought his new partner around the other side of the garage on about a 10-foot leather lead and being held in close proximity. The two walked into the field about halfway and then Wheatley gave a com-

mand to search. Gunner found the pen in about 20 seconds.

The duo showcased Gunner's nose for narcotics. Deputies had placed about a tablespoon of marijuana in a cellophane wrap and stashed it inside the door compartment of

See K9, page 2

Task force makes 2nd bust in two days

BY PCC STAFF

KEOKUK - The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a Keokuk, Iowa man on misdemeanor drug charges.

Tab Andrew Bottger, 44, of 516 South 5th #1, Keokuk, Iowa was arrested on September 15th, 2017 at the Lee County Sheriff's Office on misdemeanor drug charges. Bottger is charged with two counts of possession of a controlled substance (marijuana and methamphetamine), a serious misdemeanor, maintaining a drug house, an aggravated misdemeanor, possession of drug paraphernalia, a simple misdemeanor, and 7 counts of unlawful possession of a prescription drug, a serious misdemeanor.

If convicted, Bottger

See BUST, page 8

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Area News/Lottery Numbers

K9 program funded through private donations

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a vehicle that was parked in the field. Wheatley walked Gunner around two vehicles and Gunner sniffed and sat right by the driver's side front door in what was called "passive identification." Wheatley opened the door and pulled out the small amount of marijuana that the German Shepherd had indicated.

At each step as a reward for achieving the right response, Gunner was given an orange ball to chew on. There were no treats or snacks, but a simple orange ball.

"That's called 'Ball Drive,'" Wheatley said after the demonstration. "That's how you know a dog's

going to work. If he'll be motivated by chasing the ball. If he doesn't want to chase the ball, he may not have the right instincts and then it becomes the reward for work."

Then, newly sworn in Deputy Jordan Maug was "tasked" with putting on a training sleeve and was told to come at Wheatley with a weapon. When he got about 30 feet from Wheatley, Gunner was tugging at the lead and when Maug approached 20 feet, Gunner was up on his hind legs tugging at the lead.

While Wheatley warned Maug not to come any closer, Maug continued with the training exercise and Wheatley released the

animal and it went to work on the arm of Maug.

Wheatley said the training with the dog is done daily beginning at 7 a.m. and the dog has already been used in cases with the sheriff's department, although he couldn't elaborate on what the dog had been used for. He said it took less than three days to see that Gunner would be a better fit for the department than the previous animal because of his activity levels and alertness.

It was also announced that a second dog has also been purchased by the department and will be assigned to Dep. Dakota Foley who works the night shift.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Dep. Uriah Wheatley shows those in attendance a small package of marijuana that was identified by "Gunner" on an identification drill Tuesday.

Foley said the new dog could be in his hands by October 31 and could be ready to join the department by December. He credited the response of the public for the department being able to come up with the K9 team. The second animal will also be a multi-purpose dog.

"The citizens have to take a lot of the credit for this. If it wasn't for them, this wouldn't be possible,"

Foley said.

The K9 Association was formed at the end of last year and has been holding fundraisers with any social groups, businesses, and schools and has been applying for grants on behalf of the program to raise money to purchase, house, train, and feed the animals in the program.

Sheriff Stacy Weber said the demonstration wasn't to show the vicious side

of the animal, but to show that Gunner is there to protect the deputy first and foremost, and then to help with other law enforcement duties.

"People need to know that this isn't about how vicious he can be, but that he's here to protect that deputy and I think you all have seen today you don't go up to Deputy Wheatley without his permission."

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Powerball®	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	9:59 pm
Hot Lotto®	Wed & Sat	8:18 pm	9:40 pm
Pick 3 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 3 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 4 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 4 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm



9/19
 9 28 31 50 61
 Lucky Ball: 10
 Megaplier: 2



9/19 MID-DAY
 8 4 3
9/19 EVENING
 1 4 4




9/19 MID-DAY
 4 5 8 6
9/19 EVENING
 7 1 3 6

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Obituaries/Local News

FMAAA names winners of Art-in-Central-Park judging

Courtesy of Fort Madison Arts Association

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Area Arts Association presented its annual Art-In-Central-Park awards on Sunday.

Artist Trax wins \$250 Ft. Madison Partners Purchase Award awarded by Tim Gobble to Ian Hauck.

Craig Mills wins \$200 FMAAA Purchase Award delivered by Board Members Teresa Dearing and Mary Brockman.

Holly Carpenter wint \$150 Ft. Madison Rotary Club Purchase Award given by Tamara Dietsch for the Ro-

tarians.

Kathy Fuerman won 1st Place Booth Award which was overnight stay at Governor's Suite at The Kingsley Inn.

Vickie Dovenspike took 2nd Place with free entry into next Art-in-Central Park and mum from Matt's Greenhouse.

Jim&Sheryl McClain was 3rd Place with mums from Matt's Greenhouse.

Booth jurer was Lillian Rubin, well-known artist from Burlington.



GRHS launches Medical Explorers program

Program kicks off Oct. 4

BY PCC STAFF

WEST BURLINGTON - A kickoff meeting for a new Medical Explorers program is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4, at Burlington Area Family Practice Center, 1201 W. Agency Road,

West Burlington. It will be led by family physicians Laura Hadden, M.D., and Doug Peters, M.D.

Medical Explorers is a career exploration program for 14- to 20-year-olds. It provides an opportunity to learn about

many health care jobs and meet with professionals already working in those fields. Exploring helps students:

- Build self-confidence
- Develop leadership skills
- Gain volunteer opportunities
- Obtain unique career experiences and network

Medical Explorers will meet at least monthly at a time chosen by group members. There is a fee for the program. Parents are encouraged to attend the kickoff to learn more information.

People who are interested in the program, but cannot attend the kickoff may call 319-753-2798.

OBITUARIES

JOSEPH W. "JOE" STEFLIK

Joseph W. "Joe" Steflik, age 42 of Jonesboro, AR and formerly of Ft. Madison, passed away on September 19, 2017 at St. Bernard Hospital in Jonesboro. Arrangements are pending at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

WED 20 Sep



Light Rain
High- 87.5° F | Low - 69.0° F

THU 21 Sep



Clear Skies
High- 88.7° F | Low - 80.7° F

FRI 22 Sep



Clear Skies
High- 90.9° F | Low - 81.8° F

SAT 23 Sep



Clear Skies
High - 91.3° F | Low - 77.6° F

SUN 24 Sep



Clear Skies
High- 90.6° F | Low - 75.9° F

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Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Holy Trinity Boys cross country team took first place in their division at the Mt. Pleasant meet on Tuesday night. Details on the meet will appear in Thursday's edition.



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**PUBLIC NOTICE
FORT MADISON
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
September 25, 2017
6:00 P.M.
Finance: Lamb / DiPrima
AGENDA**

- I. Call meeting to order and determination of a quorum
- II. Recognition of guests
- III. Reading of Foundation documents
- IV. Monthly communications
 - A. Student Rep Report - Sierra Howardson and Katie Larson
 - B. Curriculum Corner - Summer Capital Projects Update - Kevin Moon
 - C. Did You Know?
 - D. Superintendent Goal Report
 - National School Safety Conference
 - V. Approve the agenda
 - VI. Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes
 1. August 21, 2017, regular meeting
 2. September 11, 2017, work session
 - B. Financial reports
 1. August Balance Sheet Exhibit VIB1 August Balance Sheet
 2. August Revenue Summary Report Exhibit VIB2 August Revenue Summary Report
 3. Expenditure report Exhibit VIB3 Expenditure Report
 4. August Student Activity report Exhibit VIB4 August Student Activity Report
 - C. Accounts payable
 1. August General Account August General Account Board Bills for Approval
 2. September General Account September General Account Board Bills for Approval
 3. Activity Account Activity Account Board Bills for Approval
 4. Nutrition Account Nutrition Account Board Bills for Approval
 - D. Consider personnel resignations
 1. Codi Bunnell, Central Office Secretary
 2. Gina Marsh, Bus Driver
 3. Kristy Woodley, Asst.

- track (.5 throwers) Coach
4. Jayson Wulf, JV boys Basketball Coach
5. Jeremy Beelman, freshman boys Basketball Coach
6. Michele Spindlow, Middle School associate
7. Emily Bruxvoort, Lincoln associate
- E. Consider employment of personnel
 1. Dana Smith, 8th grade Volleyball Coach
 2. Dana Smith, Junior Class Sponsor - 1/2 time
 3. Jeremy Beelman, JV Boys Basketball Coach
 4. Andrew Troxel, Asst. High School Track (throwers) Coach - 1/2 time
 5. Sharlynn Upton, Middle School Girls Track Coach
- F. Consider contract modifications
 1. Cathy Hoppman, Lincoln associate, increase in hours
 2. Jan Platt, Richardson associate, increase in hours
- G. Certified employee attendance
 - H. Consider leave of absence
 - I. Consider open enrollment requests
 - J. Other reports
 - Director _____ moved and director _____ seconded the documents submitted in the consent section of the agenda be approved and/or filed as submitted.
- VII. Action Items
 - A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services – Kim Harmon
 1. Consider approval of Title I grant
 - B. Superintendent – Erin Slater
 1. Consider approval of lane changes lane changes 2017
 2. Consider approval of the request for the AP fifth grade archaeological dig trip to St. Francisville, MO
 3. Consider approval of the request for travel from Andy Mitchell to attend the National Athletic Conference in Phoenix, AZ
 4. Consider approval of the request for the Middle School Science trip to Florida - Splash Into Science
 5. Consider approval of request for travel from FFA instructor Bonnie Slee to attend the National Convention in Indianapolis, IN

6. Consider annual Board appointments
 - a. Kim Harmon, Title IIA, Title VI, Title IX, ADA and 504 coordinator
 - b. Kim Harmon, compliance officer (Step II) of grievance procedure as it relates to discrimination issues
 - c. Erin Slater, child abuse / harassment alternate investigator (Level I), AAO/EOE officer
 - d. Kim Harmon, child abuse / harassment investigator (Level I)
 - e. Kevin Moon, asbestos coordinator
 - f. Sandra Elmore, insurance trustee IEBP
 - g. Reconsideration committee
 - i. Licensed employee – Mary Hellige
 - ii. Media specialist – Michelle Bentler
 - iii. Administrator – Kim Harmon
 - iv. Community member – Martha Wolf
 - v. High School representative – Mercedee Doty and Nakkia Ross
 - h. Affirmative Action Officer - Erin Slater
 - i. Bus Driver Testing Program - Kevin Moon
7. Consider approval of Vicki Stephenson as AEA Representative
8. Consider personnel matters
 - C. Board Secretary/ Business Manager – Sandy

- Elmore
1. Consider approval of Disposal Report Inventory Disposal Report FY2016-2017
 2. Consider approval of Certified Annual Report for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2107
 3. Consider approval of Special Education Supplement for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2017
 4. Consider approval of Transportation Report for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2017
 5. Consider approval of SBRC request - LEP Allowable Cost application
 6. Approve Depository Resolution Depository Resolution
 7. Approve Abstract of Votes - School Board Election Abstract of Votes
 - VIII. Selection of temporary chair for organization meeting
 - IX. Adjourn 2016-2017 Board sine die
- FORT MADISON
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ORGANIZATION
MEETING
September 26, 2017
(Immediately following regular meeting)**
- I. Call meeting to order and determine a quorum
 - II. Administer oaths and

- election of officers
 - A. Oath of office to new Board members
 - B. Election of president
 - C. Oath of office to president
 - D. Election of vice-president
- III. Consider Board appointments
 - A. Sandra Elmore, Board secretary / treasurer
 - B. Brett Nitzschke - Lynch Dallas, PC, school district attorney
 - C. Daily Democrat, official publication
- IV. Adopt meeting rules, procedures and committee assignments
 - A. Establish time, day and location for regular meetings
 - B. Determine seating arrangement
 - C. Determine finance committee
 - D. Selection of County Conference Board representative (1)
 - E. Selection of negotiations committee (2)
 - F. Selection of calendar committee (1)
 - G. Selection of vocational program representative (1)
 - H. Selection of facility study committee representative (1)
 - I. Selection of SIAC representative (1)
 - J. Selection of audit committee (2)
 - K. Selection of community foundation group (2)
 - L. Appoint LAN member

- M. Appoint Delegate assembly member
- V. Action Items
 - A. Board Secretary/ Business Manager – Sandy Elmore
 - VI. Discussion Items
 - A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services – Kim Harmon
 1. Review the District Wellness Plan Wellness Policy # 507.9
 - B. Superintendent – Erin Slater
 1. Discuss plans for American Education Week
 2. Discuss February Board meeting date
 3. Schedule October Instructional rounds tour
 - C. Board Secretary/ Business Manager – Sandy Elmore
 - VII. Comments from the audience
 - VIII. Legislative update
 - IX. Announcements
 - Next regular meeting, October 16, 2017, 6:00 p.m. IASB Annual Convention, Des Moines, November 15-17
 - X. Adjourn



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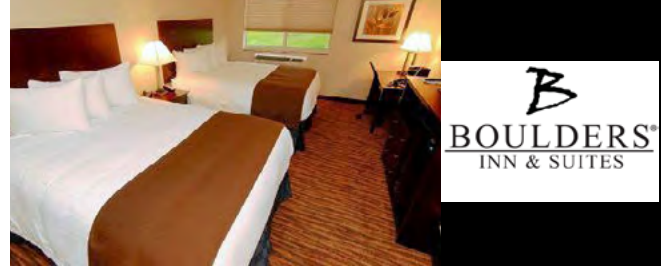
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3BR • 2BA • 1 car garage
Listing #20166590

604 Avenue E
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2160 Grand Venture Avenue
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Listing #20165295

620 34th Street
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Listing #20165503

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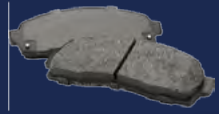
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Killoren asks council to look at state code

ATTENDANCE - Continued from Page 1

here is a bit stronger than that. And since it is a bit stronger, I think we can a little bit more lenient when something like this is going on."

Councilman Brian Wright said the issue should be settled at the polls.

"It comes down to the elections, and if you feel the representative is not representing then you go to the polls and handle it there," Wright said.

Seidel, who is disabled, said personal matters and the council meeting time change has made it difficult for him to attend all the meetings.

"I definitely think the meetings are crucial," Seidel said after the meeting. "It's important to attend, but I also think as a representative, a councilman, making those two meetings, although important, isn't where the job stops. I'm not looking for sympathy but life happens. My dedication to the city doesn't end at those meetings whether or not I can make it at 5:30 or 7 p.m."

Seidel said he's never entertained the idea of resigning due to the personal issues that hinder his ability to attend the meetings. Partly because he wants to fulfill his obligations and partly because there never seems to be anyone else in line to do the job.

"No. I've always planned on serving the time I was elected for. I was going to stick with that to fulfill what they elected me to do," he said. "Do I feel guilty that I'm not there more, yes, and I do my best to be there and I don't want to say I'm too busy to do it because I'm not. But there is no time I'm not involved and getting information.

"I'm a terms guy. I thought after eight years that would probably be enough. After four years I was wondering if I was being effective enough for the Third Ward and what made me run again was that others told me I was doing a good enough job and they liked my opinion on things affecting the city," he said. "The second time I ran there was no one in line to run against me and there's just too much going on to keep it vacant."

Killoren suggested the council look at Iowa code for relief from council members who don't show up.

"Serving as a council member should be viewed as a noble honor with a behavior focused on credible representation," he said. "And the city may want to consider implementing provisions of appropriate chapters of the Iowa Code for other options to remove anyone unable or unwilling to honor their oath."

After the meeting Killoren said he wasn't running for office, nor was he trying to get anyone off the council.

"I'm just trying to start a public debate on this. Give me a number that's too many absences. We should be talking about it."

Seidel said his reasons for missing are legitimate and he's open to speaking to anyone about what's best for the city.

"I don't miss because I'm in the Bahamas," he said. "Let alone I don't have the best health and I have some family members with health issues, but I don't want to whine about that. Not being in attendance doesn't mean you don't care. Anytime I miss it's not a no-show. I spoke with the city manager directly when I couldn't reach the mayor. I told him that there's a good chance I might be out a couple of months.

"I've always said at anytime if you want to come up to me at election time and tell me I'm not doing good enough please go to the polls or run. We need community involvement."

In other action, the city council

- approved an ordinance amending city code to remove permit fees for oversize loads from Title 9, Chapter 11, and allowing for the permit fee to be set by resolution and specifying who shall lay out the route and times for oversize loads to move through the city
- passed a resolution to file a grant application for the Iowa DOT's Federal Recreational Trails program for PORT Trail Phase 3. Larry Driscoll said the PORT committee has about \$275,000 for the project and this grant, if approved, would help offset a TAP (Transportation Alternative Program) grant that has been held up at the federal level. He said other grants are also in the works to make up what would amount to the other half of the project costs.
- approved a bid from Floyd's E-Z way of Burlington for \$78 per unit to haul during the city's fall clean up program.

Bottger facing 11 years on drug charges

BUST - Continued from Page 1

faces up to 11 years and 30 days in a state correctional facility.

The arrest of Bottger stems from an investigation by the Lee County Narcotics Task Force into allegations that he was involved in the use and possession of illegal drugs in the Keokuk area. A search warrant was served as part of this investigation and items that support the charges were discovered.

The Lee County Attorney's Office, Keokuk Police Department, and the Lee County Sheriff's Office assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation.

The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Justice and the funds administered by the Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy.