

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Thursday, December 1, 2022 | 9 pages | Volume 6 • Issue 203



www.pencitycurrent.com

Y child care efforts grow



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Students at the Donnellson YMCA Early Learning Center go through an early morning lesson Wednesday. The center is currently experiencing growth and has openings for additional students.

STATE TURNS DOWN FUNDING: Despite state's move, YMCA striving for growth

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONNELLSON - Earlier this month, Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds turned down about \$30 million in federal child care funds in a time when child care remains a top priority for state legislators.

But a growing program under the direction of the YMCA is bucking the trend in the otherwise dismal landscape of child care across the state.

Ryan Wilson, executive director of the Fort Madison YMCA, said the Early Learning Center and the YMCA Day-care, both in Donnellson, have expanded staffing and capacity and currently have spaces open.

The Early Learning Center accepts children 3 and up and includes pre-school and after-school activities for school-age children and then full-day preschool sessions for those 3 and up who don't yet attend school.

The maximum capacity for the Early Learning Center is 30 students at any one given time based on current staffing levels.

Anna Dobson, the centers' director, said the ratio right now is about 4 staffers per child.

The Day Care Center is for children 6 weeks to 3 months.



WILSON

Currently the centers are funded completely with private pay and some stabilization grants that the center was able to obtain during the pandemic of about \$72,000.

But Wilson said the centers are currently applying to be eligible for state Child Care Assistance reimbursements and food reimbursements to help offset some of the costs of providing the care.

The Early Learning Center is equipped with a full kitchen and classroom space.

Wilson said the biggest issue to date has been staffing, but he said that has improved this year.

"That was a huge issue. But we kept advertising and, as of Jan. 1 of last year, we raised the wages a couple bucks an hour. I don't think we have anyone here making less than \$10. That's our starting rate," he said.

"Based on certification and responsibilities it goes up from there."

Dobson said the center is just now getting comfortable offering part-time positions to 16-year-olds per a new law passed last year allowing that age group to work in child care settings.

See YMCA, page 8

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Dear tapped to take over FMHA team

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A local man has been named to lead the Fort Madison Housing Authority

The Board of Commissioners of the Authority announced Wednesday that Micheal Dear has been named Executive Director.

Dear will begin his new role on December 5th. Dear has lived in Fort Madison for the last 29 years. He and his wife Danielle have three children: Miles, 19, Julian, 16, and Amani, 3.

Dear has been an active part of the community. He has coached numerous sports and has been involved with basketball skill development for area players for almost 15 years.



Dear also has a background in corrections and workforce and has used these skills to help mentor youth in Fort Madison and surrounding areas. Dear also served recently on the Iowa Great Places Designation Board and the Iowa Strategic Planning Committee with the State of Iowa.

"I'm beyond grateful to return to a place where my origins started. My mother was a single mom of three boys and the FMHA provided a stable, safe environment for us. I have an innate desire to do this type of work because it changes the trajectory of people's lives," Dear said.

"I get to help people with stories like mine. I'm living proof of where you start does not have to be where you finish."

Authority Board Chairwoman Rebecca Bowker said Dear will bring professionalism and leadership to the post.

"I am excited to bring Michael on as part of the Housing Authority team," she said. "His leadership and professionalism will be a great addition to an already strong team and I look forward to working with him."

The Fort Madison Housing Authority consists of two HUD programs. The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program, formerly known as Section 8, and has 70 vouchers allocated. The Public Housing program consists of housing at Hillview that has 80 units for elderly and disabled and Ivanhoe which consists of 54 units for families in need.

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WEATHER

THU 01 Dec.....Mostly sunny and cool, 40° F/33° F

FRI 02 Dec.....Partly sunny and cool, 56° F/26° F

SAT 03 Dec.....Sunny and cold, 34° F/20° F

OpenWeatherMap

IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 11/29.....17 18 26 27 48, Lucky Ball: 13
MEGA MILLIONS 11/29.....20 23 37 46 52, Mega Ball: 6 Megaplier: 4
PICK 3 11/29 MIDDAY.....1 4 9
PICK 3 11/29 EVENING.....3 9 6
PICK 4 11/29 MIDDAY.....3 5 1 6
PICK 4 11/29 EVENING.....8 2 5 6

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

PHYLLIS M. BURKE

Phyllis Marguerite Burke, 98, of Keokuk, IA died Wednesday, November 23, 2022 at River Hills Village in Keokuk.

She was born March 26, 1924 in Keokuk, IA the daughter of Phillip Edward and Marguerite Schmid Filz. Phyllis graduated from Wayland High School with the class of 1942. She then attended Gem City Business College in Quincy, IL.



BURKE

On Thanksgiving Day, November 22, 1945 Phyllis was united in marriage to Raymond Burke in Kahoka, MO. He preceded her in death in 1972.

Phyllis had been employed at several local businesses through the years, including Midwest Carbide, Dreydens, Swifts Turkey Processing and the Keokuk Community School District. She later was employed by Lee County Recorder's Office as the Deputy Recorder until her retirement in 1987.

Phyllis was of the Catholic faith and attended St. Francis DeSales Church in Keokuk and later All Saints Parish where she was active in several committees including the Rosary Society and Ladies of Charity where she assisted in funeral dinners. She was also a member of the Business and Professional Women.

Phyllis was an avid reader and enjoyed going to the library. She loved working in her vegetable garden and canned all of the green beans that she grew every summer. Phyllis was wonderful cook and made delicious meals for her family to enjoy. She loved to travel and never missed an opportunity to take off on an adventure with her sister and cousin.

She is survived by two sons, Dennis Burke (Melody) of Montrose, IA and James Burke of Keokuk, one daughter, Jeanne Ferris of Rock Island, IL, four grandchildren, Daniel Burke, Robert Burke, Scott Burke and Jenna Schofield, one step-granddaughter, Michelle Sage and three great-grandchildren, Sean Burke, Dylan Burke and Keegan Burke. She is also survived by one sister, Joanne Hopson (Karl) of Eerie, IL, one brother, Robert Filz (Edith) of Bowen, IL, one sister-in-law, Pat Filz of Quincy, IL and several nieces and nephews.

Besides her husband, she was also preceded in death by her parents, one sister, Vera Zinnert and two brothers, Alan "Peanut" Filz and Richard Filz.

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

Memorials may be made to All Saints Parish.

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

OBITUARIES

JOSEPH D. MARTENS, SR.

Joseph "Joe" Dean Martens, Sr., 55, of Keokuk, died Wednesday, November 23, 2022 at the Mercy Hospital in Iowa City, IA.

He was born February 16, 1967 in Keokuk the son of Roger Dean and



MARTENS

Judy Ann Ferguson Martens. Joe graduated from Keokuk High School with the class of 1985, then attended Quincy Technical College where he received his certification in mechanics.

He was employed by Keokuk Contractors for 32 years as their mechanic. He also worked at the snack bar at Arrowhead Bowl.

He enjoyed bowling, fishing, riding his Harley, Star Wars and watching football, especially the Iowa Hawkeyes and the Dallas Cowboys. Joe was an enthusiastic Cardinal Fan. He also enjoyed coaching his grandson's baseball team.

Joe was presently serving as a Trustee for the Southside Boat Club.

His grandchildren were his pride and joy, he loved to spend time with them.

He is survived by his father, who was very proud of him, Roger Martens of Keokuk, three children, Steph Riddle (Matt), Joey Martens (Amber) and T.J. Martens all of Keokuk, three grandchildren, Jackson Riddle, Grayson Riddle and Wyatt Martens, his longtime loving girlfriend, Kim Bricker of Hamilton, IL and many aunts, uncles and friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Judy Ann Martens and one brother.

A memorial service will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, December 1, 2022 at the New Testament Christian Church on Hilton Road. Visitation will be held prior to the service from 4-6 p.m. at the church.

Memorials may be made to the Keokuk Youth Bowling.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk is assisting the family with arrangements.

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

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

RONALD T. STEEPLES

Ronald Thomas Steeples, 83, of Arbela, MO, passed away at 1:43 p.m. on Thursday, November 24, 2022 at Scotland County Hospital in Memphis, MO. He was born on March 6, 1939 in Fort Madison, IA to Arthur & Ruby Warren Steeples. He married Donna Mae Heidbreder on March 22, 1958 in Fort Madison, IA. She preceded him in death on January 23, 2008. He was a truck driver for most of his life and enjoyed driving and interacting with the Amish for the past 15 years in retirement. He loved living and working on his property, Wildlife Ridge, with his wife in Arbela.

Ron is survived by: 2-sons: Thomas (Michael) Steeples of Sandia Park, NM & Charles (Kristyn) Steeples of Ankeny, IA; 17-grandchildren & 14-great grandchildren and 1-sister: Deanna Iverson of West Burlington, IA. He was preceded in death by: his parents, wife, 2-sons: Ronald & Steven; 4-sisters & 2-brothers.

A private family funeral service will be held at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory in Fort Madison with Rev. John Simpson officiating. Burial will be at Oakland Cemetery in Fort Madison. Online condolences to the Steeples family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.



STEEPLES

OBITUARIES

JESSICA N. SCHMID CROWELL

Jessica "Jessie" Nicole Schmid Crowell, 35, of Keokuk, was reunited with her husband on Saturday, November 26th, 2022, at 9:25pm. She passed at University of Iowa Hospital after fighting long and valiantly to recover from a heart attack.



CROWELL

Jessica was born on December 1st, 1986 to Cynthia Schmid. She was Cynthia's only child and was doted on and loved beyond belief. Jessie married her best friend, the love of her life, her soul mate, Chris Crowell on May 14, 2008. He preceded her in death on May 16th, 2022.

Jessie loved her family and children. Her life revolved around her children. There wasn't anything Jessie wouldn't do for them. Jessie was an avid reader and particularly enjoyed James Patterson and Lisa Jackson books. She enjoyed collecting geodes and arrowheads with her late husband and children. Jessie loved tie-dye. You would be hard pressed to find her in something that wasn't tie dyed. Jessie was an animal lover through and through with a special place in her heart for special needs cats.

At the time of her passing Jessie was on maternity leave from MOD convenience store in Keokuk for the birth of her and Chris' youngest child.

Jessie is survived by her children. Todd Crowell, Court-

ney Crowell (RJ Bryant), Sherry Crowell, Bryce Crowell, and Alexis Crowell. She also leaves behind one grandson, Tylor Crowell. Other survivors include her mother and father-in-law, Bennie "B.J." and Diana Crowell, brother and sister-in-law Daniel and Jackie Crowell, sister and brother-in-law, Kristi and Josh Sackman, cousin Ryan Schmid, nieces Nastasya Blaise (George), Shae Kelts, and Landri Washburn, nephews Zachary Kohl, Dominic Kohl, Hunter Schrader, Noah Washburn, and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousin on her husband's side.

Jessie was preceded in death by her loving husband, her mother Cynthia Schmid, grandparents Paul and Jean Schmid, grandfather-in-law Gene Pezley, great-aunt Mary Carlson, her uncles Kevin and Anthony Schmid, grandparent-in-law Eddie and Betty Crowell, and infant niece Annabella Sackman.

A memorial service will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, December 2, 2022 at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Pastor Steven Hendricksmeier officiating.

Visitation will be held just prior to the service from 5 - 7 p.m. Friday with the family meeting with friends at that time.

Memorials may be made to the family.

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

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Sports

Lady Hawks start season with tough SEISC games

Central Lee senior Makayla Morrison tries to squeeze in between a couple Mediapolis defenders Tuesday night in Donnellson. The Lady Hawks fell 75-40 after trailing by just five at the half, keyed by the Bulldogs' half-court zone defense.

Chuck Vandenberg/PCC



TWO LOSSES: Central Lee falls to Winfield-Mt. Union and Mepo to start conference play

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONNELLSON - The Central Lee girls were weaving their way into a battle with Mediapolis in SEI Superconference basketball action Tuesday night.

Trailing just 31-26 at the half, Mediapolis came out of the lockerroom and pulled back on the full court press they had instituted in the first half.

The move worked as the Bulldogs ran away with a 75-40 win over the Lady Hawks.

Central Lee had been slipping through the Bulldogs' press and scored in transition for most of the first half, rarely setting up in the half-court. But when they sagged back into a 2-3 defense to slow the pace, the Lady Hawks had trouble with the adjustment.

"I would say actually at the half, we had a spurt of energy and some fight. Then we make a mistake and we don't turn it around. We don't get back and play hard, hard defense. We get in our heads a bit," said first-year Head Coach Taylor Hickey.

"The girls are still trying to find their rhythm together. We talked about the 2-3 in practice yesterday and we discussed options and then we get in the game and a couple bad things happen and everything falls to pieces."

Makayla Morrison led the Hawks with 12 points, including three 3-pointers in the second half, to try and keep the Hawks close. Mya Lampe had nine points, all in the first half on three pointers, but couldn't get going in the second half.

Kenna Sandoval had six points, most of them coming inside the paint.

The Lady Hawks committed 10 turnovers in the second half and Hickey chalks that up to the girls transitioning from volleyball and not this year's 35-second shot clock.

"My girls are very athletic and play multiple sports so they're just dealing with the transition," Hickey said.

"I would say this game, we were a lot better with (the shot clock). Honestly, when the ball starts moving and the girls have an open shot, I tell them to take it."

The Lady Hawks fell to Winfield-Mt. Union on Monday 57-33. Morrison led Central Lee with 11 points. Lampe also had 11.

Hickey said facing two of the best teams in the conference is good for the season.

"Right now the one thing I'm taking away is that we've played two of the best teams in the conference first. Right away facing that brings a competitive nature out of me and the girls," she said.

"But this is a development process. A journey. It will take them a bit to get back into the basketball rhythm."



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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MINUTES
KEOKUK CITY
COUNCIL MEETING
November 3, 2022
501 Main Street
5:30 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in regular session on November 3, 2022 at 501 Main Street. Mayor Kathie Mahoney called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. There were seven council members present, two absent. Carissa Crenshaw, Roslyn Garcia, Shelley Oltmans, Steve Andrews, Dan Tillman, Roger Bryant, and Michael Greenwald were present. Linda Altheide and Robert Helenthal were absent. Staff in attendance: City Administrator Cole O'Donnell, Deputy City Clerk Amy Benson, Community Development Director Pam Broomhall, Public Works Director Robert Helenthal, Cemetery, Bridge, Parks & Sanitation Manager Bob Weis, Fire Chief Gabe Rose, and Assistant Chief of Police Brian DePriest.

MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE: Informed of upcoming events: Saturday November 5 & 6th Great River Players present a play "1984", 17 S. 6th, Sunday November 6th Keokuk-Hamilton Dam Museum, 429 Main St. will be open @ 3:15 with their fundraising auction. Wednesday, November 9, 2022, Southside Boat Club is honoring our Veterans and serving Raelene's tacos, With Friday, November 11th being Veteran's Day the City of Keokuk would like to thank all Veterans and those still serving as well as their families for their service. A reminder to check the Keokuk Library's website for things going on there and encouraged people to shop and eat local.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Garcia to approve the agenda, including the consent agenda. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

- Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting & Council Workshop of October 20, 2022;
- Minutes of the Safety Committee meeting of October 20, 2022;
- Cash Receipts & Treasurer's Report for September, 2022;
- RESOLUTION NO. 141-2022: Approving a Liquor License for Dr. Get

Wells Bar & Grill, 1100 Main Street, effective November 24, 2022 – Class C Liquor License with Sunday Service;

- RESOLUTION NO. 142-2022: Approving an Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption for Johnathan & Justina Mortimer, 3372 Middle Road, 30'x40' garage;
- Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5304-5306;

OLD BUSINESS:

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Oltmans to remove from table a motion approving the second reading of amended ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2018, granting to Interstate Power & Light Company, its successors, and assigns, a non-exclusive twenty-five-year franchise to acquire, construct, erect, maintain and operate an electric system in the City of Keokuk, Iowa and to furnish and sell electric energy to the city and its inhabitants and requiring said company to pay a franchise fee to the city. Motion made by Tillman, second by Bryant to approve second reading.

Roll Call Vote: (7) NAYS – Crenshaw, Garcia, Oltmans, Andrews, Tillman, Bryant, and Greenwald, (0) AYES. Motion failed.

NEW BUSINESS:
Mayor Mahoney opened the public hearing at 5:37 p.m. on the submission of a US EPA Brownfield Grant Application. A public hearing notice was published on Thursday, October 27, 2022.

COMMENTS: Cole gave an overview.

No further comments were received, Mayor Mahoney closed the public hearing at 5:38 p.m.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Greenwald to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO.

143-2022: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FILING OF A GRANT APPLICATION THROUGH THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) FOR BROWNFIELD CLEANUP GRANT FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,000,000." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Andrews to approve the initial reading of Ordinance repealing section 20.60.030 (6)

fences and adopting a new section 20.60.030 (6)

fences.

Roll Call Vote: (7) AYES – Crenshaw, Garcia, Oltmans, Andrews, Tillman, Bryant, and Greenwald, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Bryant to approve the following proposed

RESOLUTION NO. 144-2022: "A RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FRANCHISE FEES ON ELECTRIC UTILITY SERVICES." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Oltmans to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 145-2022: "A RESOLUTION SETTING POLICY ON PERSONNEL HIRING." After discussion a motion was made by Greenwald, second by Garcia to modify the resolution by removing the last sentence saying unless otherwise directed by the City Council. (6) AYES,

(1) NAY -Oltmans. Motion carried.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Greenwald to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 146-2022: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING SIXTH MODIFICATION AGREEMENT TO CONVERTIBLE PROMISSORY NOTE BETWEEN AMJET TURBINE SYSTEMS, LLC AND LEE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUP, INC." Roll Call Vote: (4)

AYES – Andrews, Tillman, Bryant, and Greenwald, (3) NAYS - Crenshaw, Garcia, and Oltmans. Motion carried.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Garcia to approve resignation of Public Works Director Robert Helenthal. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS: Final notification for Monica Winkler and Mike Greenslaugh to the Park & Recreation Advisory Board, 3-year term to expire 11/2/2025. Motion made by Greenwald, second by Garcia to approve the above final notification. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Second notification for Amanda Rogers to the Rand Park Pavilion Commission, fulfilling a 5-year term to expire 10/22/2025.

First notification for Susan Hanan to the Civil Service Commission,

fulfilling a 6-year term to expire 4/01/2024.

Mayoral Appointment – Reappointment of Raymond Long to the Keokuk Municipal Waterworks Board, 6-year term to expire 11/01/2028.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS: Bryant gave a report on Great River Regional Waste Authority. Garcia said the Road of Honor committee is getting ready for Veteran's Day, working with Hy-Vee, Southside Boat Club, Yacht Club, and local businesses that will be doing things for Veterans. Signage in the cemetery is a smaller group they are almost ready to submit the grant for the signage for historians that are buried in Oakland Cemetery. Mayor Mahoney reminded that the Veteran's would have their celebration at the memorial in Oakland Cemetery at 11:00 Friday, November 11, 2022.

STAFF REPORTS: Broomhall updated on the 600 Block Main Street Project, the RFP resubmitted, Pilot Program and Planning Grant were submitted, spoke with Zach from Regional Planning about information they need regarding rezoning. Vacant Property registration not on the agenda, she is working on the language on uninsured property, she read it for the council to see what they think. Helenthal said K-Play came to the Park Board meeting on Tuesday, they are wanting to put a 8' fence around the Splash Pad due to people vandalizing it, they will raise the funds and install it. Gave update on bridge repair being completed, talked about ITC starting phase 2 of their pole replacement upgrade.

O'Donnell updated on Hospital/EMS, ADM and South 18th Street. Motion made by Tillman, second by Andrews to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Motion made by Tillman, second by Andrews to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

**PUBLIC NOTICE
SOUTHEAST IOWA
REGIONAL ECONOMIC
& PORT AUTHORITY
Meeting of the
Board of Directors
December 1, 2022
1:30pm – 2:30pm
SIREPA Building 2495
280th St, Montrose, IA
And Via Zoom
Call-In: (312) 626-6799
Meeting ID:
822 6427 0560**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82264270560>

Agenda

- Call to Order, Chair (Boyer); Roll Call:
 - Director Denise Boyer, Chair
 - Director Mike Hickey, Vice-Chair
 - Director Michael Dunn, Treasurer
 - Director Jack Smith
 - Director, Bob Dodds
 - Director, Bruce Hardy
 - Ex-Officio, Garry Seyb, Lee County Supervisor
 - Ex-Officio, Rick Larkin, Lee County Supervisor
 - Ex-Officio, Matt Larson, State Treasurer's Office
- Approve Agenda of December 1, 2022 Meeting (Board Action)
- Approve Consent Agenda (Minutes of April 21, 2022 Meeting and Financials) (Board Action)
- Lee County Broadband Expansion Update (Board Information)
- USDA BEAD Broadband Opportunity (Board Information)
- SIREPA Building/Career Advantage Center Update (Board Information)
- Matters from the Floor
- Adjourn (Board Action)

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 - Valid Iowa driver's license
 - Obtain a Grade II Wastewater Certification in the State of Iowa.
 - Certified Laboratory Assistant preferred
 - Ability to perform complex laboratory analyses

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING NOTICE

Fort Madison Community School District Work Session Monday, December 5, 2022 06:00 PM Central Office, Boardroom 1930 Avenue M

- I. Call Meeting to order and determination of a quorum
- II. Consider approval of the agenda
- III. 2023 SAVE Bonds Update - Tim Oswald, Piper Sandler Co.
- IV. Review of IASB Convention Learning Sessions
- V. Announcements
 - A. Board Instructional Tour
 - B. Public Hearing - December 19, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.
 - C. Public Hearing - December 19, 2022 - 6:05 p.m.
 - D. Regular Meeting - December 19, 2022 - 6:10 p.m.
 - VI. Adjourn

PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING MINUTES GREEN BAY LEVEE & DRAINAGE DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2022 7:00 P.M. HEARTLAND CO-OP, WEVER

The Green Bay Levee & Drainage District met at the regular meeting on Thursday, October 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Heartland Co-Op, Wever. Present were trustees Mike Walker, Brandon Bonar, Rick Kuntz and clerk, Kimberly Spear. Also present were other members of the community.

All votes are unanimous unless otherwise indicated. Spear read the minutes from the regular meeting held on September 29, 2022. Moved by Walker, seconded by Kuntz, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Pat Kaltefleiter gave the Pump Master report. River stage in October was 7.7. Moved by Walker, seconded by Bonar, to accept the Pump Master Report as presented. Motion carried.

Discussion was had regarding the sand movement project. A rep from Klinger was present to discuss possible action. Discussion was had on how to move the sand and if the job would need to be bid out or not.

The district will haul the sand up river and avoid the bridge all together. Klinger would like to wait until the district receives official written approval to move forward. Walker will call the Corp about plans.

There has been no communication regarding

either pipeline.

Discussion was had regarding the relief wells. Most of the punch list has been completed; however, payment will not be made until everything is done. The Corp will be in on December 7 for inspection.

Insurance for the district is still in underwriting.

The representative for the main ditch project has been changed again so more information has been requested. There is nothing new to report.

Moved by Walker, seconded by Bonar to approve the Clerk's Report. Motion carried. Current balances are \$732,078.26 in the Operating Fund and \$33,588.61 in the Bond Fund.

At 7:55 p.m. Walker made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kuntz. Motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE MINUTES KEOKUK CITY COUNCIL MEETING November 17, 2022 501 Main Street 5:30 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in regular session on November 17, 2022 at 501 Main Street. Mayor Kathie Mahoney called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. There were eight council members present, one absent. Carissa

Crenshaw, Linda Altheide, Roslyn Garcia, Shelley Oltmans, John Henthall, Dan Tillman, Roger Bryant, and Michael Greenwald were present. Steve Andrews was absent. Staff in attendance: City Administrator Cole O'Donnell, City Clerk Celeste El Anfaoui, Community Development Director Pam Broomhall, Cemetery, Bridge, Parks & Sanitation Manager Bob Weis, Fire Chief Gabe Rose, Sewer Department Manager Michael Clark, and Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager Tom Willis.

MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE: Informed of upcoming events in Keokuk and surrounding area.

CITIZEN'S REQUEST: Teresa Murray spoke on behalf of Keokuk Saddle Club informing of plans to construct a building in the future. Kira Kruszynsk gave an update of upcoming events for Main Street Keokuk.

Motion made by Henthall, second by Garcia to remove Item #13 for agenda. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried. Motion made by Henthall, second by Garcia to approve the amended agenda, including the consent agenda. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

- Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting & Council Workshop of November 3, 2022;
- Minutes of the Civil Service Committee meeting of October 26, 2022;
- Certified list for the Fire Department Promotional Examination conducted on October 7, 2022;
- Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5307-5309; Mayor Mahoney opened the public hearing at 5:39 p.m. on the implementation of franchise fees on electric utility

services. A public hearing notice was published on Wednesday, November 9, 2022.

COMMENTS: Miranda Goings, plant controller at Amsted Rail expressed concerns turning over electric bill for rebate back and asked council to consider locking in fee for specified period.

No further comments were received, Mayor Mahoney closed the public hearing at 5:43 p.m.

Motion made by Henthall, second by Garcia to approve the initial reading of an Ordinance amending the code of Ordinances of the City of Keokuk, Iowa, by modifying provisions of Ordinance No. 2018, the City of Keokuk Electric Franchise, relating to franchise fees.

Discussion on locking in the timeframe of the fee. Motion made by Oltmans, second by Greenwald to amend the ordinance and lock in the fee for 4 years.

Roll Call Vote: AYES – Crenshaw, Altheide, Oltmans, Henthall, Bryant, Greenwald. NAYS – Garcia and Tillman. (6) AYES, (2) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Henthall, second by Garcia to approve the initial amended Ordinance locking in the fee for 4 years.

Roll Call Vote: AYES – Altheide, Garcia, Henthall, Tillman, Bryant, Greenwald.

NAYS – Crenshaw and Oltmans. (6) AYES, (2) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Henthall to approve second reading of Ordinance repealing section 20.60.030 (6) fences and adopting a new section 20.60.030 (6) fences.

Roll Call Vote: AYES – Crenshaw, Altheide, Garcia, Oltmans, Henthall, Tillman, Bryant, Greenwald. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Green-

wald, second by Crenshaw to waive the third reading of Ordinance repealing section 20.60.030 (6) fences and adopting a new section 20.60.030 (6) fences.

Roll Call Vote: AYES – Crenshaw, Altheide, Garcia, Oltmans, Henthall, Tillman, Bryant, Greenwald. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Henthall to adopt and give final approval of ORDINANCE NO. 2033 repealing section 20.60.030 (6) fences and adopting a new section 20.60.030 (6) fences.

Roll Call Vote: AYES – Crenshaw, Altheide, Garcia, Oltmans, Henthall, Tillman, Bryant, Greenwald. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Oltmans to approve initial reading of Ordinance establishing a vacant property registry code.

Roll Call Vote: AYES – Crenshaw, Altheide, Garcia, Oltmans, Henthall, Tillman, Bryant, Greenwald. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Tillman, second by Bryant to waive the second and third reading of Ordinance establishing a vacant property registry code.

Roll Call Vote: AYES – Crenshaw, Altheide, Oltmans, and Tillman. NAYS – Garcia, Henthall, Bryant, and Greenwald. (4) AYES, (4) NAYS. Motion failed.

Motion made by Henthall, second by Garcia to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 147-22: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE STREET FINANCING REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022." (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Greenwald to approve the following proposed



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PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

RESOLUTION NO. 148-22: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING CONFIDENTIAL SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE ROAD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH ITC MIDWEST LLC." (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried. Motion made by Oltmans, second by Altheide

to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 149-22: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2021-2022 ANNUAL FINANCE REPORT." (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried. Motion made by Oltmans, second by Helenthal to approve Release

and Settlement. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried. BOARDS & COMMISSIONS: Final notification for Amanda Rogers to Rand Park Pavilion Commission, fulfilling a 5-year terms to expire 10/22/2023. Motion made by Garcia, second by Oltmans. (8) AYES, (0)

NAYS. Motion carried. Second notification for Susan Hanan to the Civil Service Commission, fulfilling a 6-year term to expire 4/1/2024. STAFF REPORTS: Wills informed pre-treatment inspection went well and will soon be accepting formal bids for

cleaning of the digester. Broomhall stated Community Health Centers of Southeast Iowa have plans for a medical clinic and they are requesting the alley be vacated, she will set a public hearing. O'Donnell gave updates on Public Works and Chief of Police vacant

positions, budget scheduling, City of Christmas, and clean up at ADM plant. Needs to set a meeting with finance committee. Motion made by Helenthal, second by Garcia to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

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Sports/ From the Front

Child care staffing improving

YMCA - Continued from Page 1

At a legislative function Monday in Burlington, State Rep. Martin Graber (R-Fort Madison) said he was a proponent of the move.

“How many of us didn’t have a babysitter that was 16? Now there are people out there that are 25 that we wouldn’t want watching our kids, but we had young babysitters.”

Wilson said the centers went through a director change a year ago after a resignation and that culture change made staffing a challenge.

The YMCA took over ownership of the centers in March of 2020 during the pandemic and they have just one staffer who’s stayed with them the whole time.

“The message we’re trying to get out now is that we have room for more kids at both buildings,” Wilson said.

“It’s all based on staffing, but we’re in a lot better place now than we were even six months ago.”

Wilson said outside of the stabilization grants, which have not been extended yet, it’s still tough to make the center’s cash flow.

Dobson said there are currently 12 full and part-time staffers working the two YMCA centers in Donnellson. The YMCA also has programs for before and after school in Fort Madison coordinated with the Fort Madison school systems.

Wilson said they could add one or two additional staff right now to help increase capacity even further, but legislative changes could help make that even more doable.

Dobson said 90 percent of her time is spent with kids, but the other 10 percent is done doing bookwork, something she says is one of the biggest hurdles she faces right now.

Several days a week, if there are staff absences, she has to step in to hold the ratios.

“I like to maintain the 1 to 4 or 1 to 5 because it’s easier to maintain that environment because to me child care is more than just keeping the buildings open for kids to have a place to go,” Dobson said.

Reynold’s decision to turn away from the \$30 million in federal funding could have an impact locally on families’ abilities to pay for child care, as well as child care providers staying financially healthy.

According to an article in the Des Moines Register, the governor’s office indicated the loss of that money was the result of a deliberate decision to avoid having to commit \$3 million in matching state funds toward child care.

But a Democratic state lawmaker says it’s her understanding that Iowa’s application for the \$30 million in federal grants fell victim to the state’s inability to review the paperwork and submit it on time.

“It makes no sense to throw this money away,” said Sen. Claire Celsi, a Polk County Democrat, to the Register. “It’s \$30 million that we’re talking about. ... We really could have used that money.”

The grant money can be used by states to coordinate early-childhood care and learning programs, and services that already exist and help children from low-income families enter kindergarten prepared and ready to succeed in school.

Central Lee boys slow start spells doom vs. Mepo

COLD SHOOTING: Hawks go 2-14 to start game Tuesday and Bulldogs roll 64-34 in SEISC boys action

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONNELLSON - Central Lee’s Corbin Pohren opened Tuesday’s home game with Mediapolis with a driving layup from the right side.

That would be the first and only lead the Hawks would hold as the Bulldogs rolled to a 64-34 win in SEI Superconference boys basketball action.

The Bulldogs would answer Pohren’s runner with a 19-0 run while the Hawks went just 1-9 shooting the rest of the first quarter to trail 19-4. It wasn’t until freshman Owen Swan buried a 3-pointer with just 3:41 left in the half that the Hawks broke a 1-14 cold spell from the field.

“We just got off to a slow start,” said Head Coach Kritter Hayes.

“Defensively, we were getting out hustled. Offensively, we weren’t moving like we should’ve been and we had too many turnovers.”

Mediapolis had stretched the lead to 39-10 on a couple free throws from Ben Egan. Pohren would answer with a couple free throws and Brayden Wyrick added one on the back end of two free throws to set the halftime score at 42-13.

Central Lee recovered a little in the third period outscoring Mediapolis 14-11, but couldn’t cut into the lead any more than 28 points at 55-27 at the end of the third.

Both teams began subbing liberally in the fourth period, keeping scoring down as the clock ran out on the 30-point loss.

“The second half we refocused. I was proud of our effort in the 3rd quarter when we battled back a little bit,” Hayes said.

“We’re trying to find that combination and rhythm of guys. These guys are still getting used to each other, really. Probably even more so than last year it feels like.”

Hayes said the Hawks are rushing shots when they really don’t have to. He said the newly instituted shot clock may be part of that.

“I think they’ve got in their heads that they have to rush. We really don’t need to,” he said.

“Our shot selection these first two games has been bad at times and we have to be aware of who’s on the floor and what kinds of shots we’re looking for.”

Wyrick led the Hawks with 12 points and Pohren contributed nine in the loss.



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