

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Monday, November 27, 2023 | 7 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 199



www.pencitycurrent.com

Holidays arrive under lights



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The winter holiday season arrived in Fort Madison as lighted floats moved east down Avenue G Friday night following the Thanksgiving holiday. Here, the Fort Madison fire department ran the ladder truck decked out in holiday lights.

CITY NEWS

Council can't reach consensus on city manager

Three hours of closed sessions result in another review of candidates

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The search for the next Fort Madison City Manager has come to a reboot of sorts, according to Fort Madison Mayor Matt Mohrfeld.

After three months of framing the search, which resulted in three candidates and three different closed sessions of the Fort Madison City Council, no consensus has been reached on who should be the next City Manager.

Fort Madison Mayor Matt Mohrfeld said Wednesday the search isn't going

to back to square one per se, but going back to the pool of candidates that was generated from the search isn't out of the question.

"We're not going back to square one, but we will be taking another look at the candidates we have, and we may bring another two or three to consider," he said.

Mohrfeld said he couldn't violate the privacy of the closed session meetings, which included department heads, select community members, the city council, search firm members, and the city attorney.

Because a decision has not been made, and, according to city closed session agendas, the candidates requested the meetings be held in closed session per Iowa Code Chapter 21.5 (i), the names of the candidates were



MOHRFELD

not made public.

Three candidates were brought into town on Friday and escorted through the Wine & Beer Walk Friday night, and then were involved in morning interview sessions with all the members of listed above in a rotating format.

The council then held a closed session Saturday following the interviews to consider the candidates. That process spilled over to another closed session on Monday, which carried over to another hour-long closed session on Tuesday.

After Tuesday's session, the council came back into a public format with no consensus reached on the candi-

See **MANAGER**, page 2



City manager search in secret OK - for now

There were rankled moods this past week as the city council went about their due diligence in finding a new city manager.

There's some in the city that don't feel like we need a city manager. That we can rely on department heads who are trained to do what they do to handle the city's day-to-day affairs. There's some legitimacy to that argument, but the biggest argument is that it would save the city about \$150,000 a year in salary and benefits. But, there's a bigger concern to take into consideration –

Image. Image is everything. Especially when you're trying to recruit 1,000 people to the city in the next four years.

You need a professional face on your organization. An unelected professional face.

The person that makes the trip to Des Moines, and Washington, and attends the local economic development meetings, and understands state and federal government codes... all the while respecting transparency at all possible turns.

David Varley did a decent job. He was conservative and had an old view of government financing. He carried the belief that you had to have more money coming in than going out and that extended to debt service, as well. He railed against debt spending, but executed the direction of the council. He got emotional about his role because he was hired to usher the city in the direction of fiscal responsibility and progress.

One thing he did that didn't sit too well was engaging in a little bit of misdirection when it came to the media. The Old Fort scenario comes into play with

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WEATHER

MON 27 Nov.....Clear & cold, 30° F/11° F
TUE 28 Nov.....Cloudy & cold, 29° F/21° F
WED 29 Nov.....Clear & chilly, 43° F/27° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 11/25.....3 11 18 38 41, Star Ball: 1 All Star Bonus: 2
LUCKY FOR LIFE 11/25.....3 6 9 21 26, Lucky Ball: 4
MEGA MILLIONS 11/24.....6 15 45 59 68, Mega Ball: 1 Megaplier: 4
PICK 3 MIDDAY 11/23, 11/24, 11/25.....0 41, 9 32, 9 72
PICK 3 EVENING 11/23, 11/24, 11/25.....3 0 9, 2 3 7, 5 6 0
PICK 4 MIDDAY 11/23, 11/24, 11/25.....7 0 1 5, 0 1 5 8, 7 4 5 7
PICK 4 EVENING 11/23, 11/24, 11/25.....8 7 3 6, 0 8 7 2, 7 8 9 4
POWERBALL 11/25.....27 33 63 66 68, Powerball: 9 Power Play: 2

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Obituaries/From the Front

OBITUARIES

DOUGLAS K. SUMMERS

John Michael Farmer, 72, of Montrose, IA died Thursday, November 16, 2023 at his home.

John was born on February 14, 1951, in Mexico, MO the son of William Claywell and Mabel Pearl Adams.



SUMMERS

He had proudly served in the United States Marines during the Vietnam War.

John had served in Law Enforcement for 40 years, most recently for the Lee County Sheriff Department.

In his spare time, he enjoyed taking tractor rides, going antiquing, attending auctions, and seeing if he can pick up a bargain antique.

John then enjoyed restoring his antique treasures. He also enjoyed riding his motorcycle. The most important activity in his life was spending time with his family.

He is survived by a daughter, Ashley Shearer (Eric) of Keokuk, three sons, Jason Farmer (Nicole) of Washington, IA, Nathan Farmer (Dawn) of Montrose, IA, and Brandon Farmer of Vinton, IA and ten grandchildren.



He was preceded in death by his parents and twelve siblings.

John had deeded his body for medical research at the University of Iowa Hospital, in Iowa City.

There will be no services at this time.

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

Pen City Current obituary policy

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

OBITUARIES

STAN L. STAMBACH

Stan Lee Stambach, 69, of Nauvoo, Illinois, passed away at 2:40 a.m. Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City, Iowa.

He was born on March 19, 1954, in Avon, Illinois, the son of Donald F. "Spud" and Rosalie (Foster) Stambach. On December 20, 1988, he married Susan Nixon in Keokuk, Iowa.



STAMBACH

He is survived by his wife: Susan; daughter: Shannon (Scott) Smith; granddaughter: Joelle and sister: Sue Ann (Donald) Promisson of Bushnell, Illinois. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Stan was a graduate Bushnell - Prairie City High School and Northeast Missouri State University. He taught Science and Physics at Nauvoo - Colusa High School for over thirty years. He also coached baseball and basketball at Nauvoo - Colusa, leading several teams to state. Stan was in the Who's Who of Teachers and was named Coach of the Year for Northern Illinois. He was an avid Illini, Celtics and Bears fan. He enjoyed coaching, watching sports, traveling out west and spending time with his family.

His body has been entrusted to the crematory of Schmitz - Banks and Beals Funeral Home for cremation.

A visitation will begin at 12:00 noon, Thursday, November 30, 2023, at Schmitz - Banks and Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo where the family will receive friends from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

A memorial service will be held at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, November 30, 2023, at Schmitz - Banks and Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo with Pastor Mark Anderson officiating.

A memorial has been established in his memory.

On-line condolences may be made to the family at sbbfuneralhome@gmail.com. Schmitz - Banks and Beals Funeral Home of Nauvoo is assisting the family with arrangements.

City could see additional costs in search

MANAGER - Continued from Page 1

dates.

"We are in the process of trying to hire a city manager. At this time we did not reach a conclusion and we are not extending an offer to a candidate at this time. We will continue to search," Mohrfeld said during Tuesday night's City Council meeting.

He said the additional search will likely come with a slightly higher price tag based on the city's contract with Hinson Consulting Inc. of Mason City, but he didn't anticipate a substantial increase in cost to the city.

The city has been working with Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Executive Director Mike Norris and the Hinson group throughout the search process. They are replacing former City manager David Varley, who resigned from his position in May.

Friday December 1st
5pm - 8pm



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PEN CITY CURRENT
It's Black & White and Read all over

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

LYLE L. BROWN

The Reverend Lyle Leslie Brown (Lyle), 86 years, passed away Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at his home in Fort Madison, Iowa. He was born January 26, 1937, in Clinton, Iowa, the son of Leslie Elden and Edna (Dann) Brown. Lyle had a love of new technology and gadgets, organ music, his family, church, community, and the Iowa Hawkeyes! He will be remembered for his intelligence, thoughtful guidance, and sharp wit.



BROWN

Lyle was raised in Clinton, Iowa, and graduated from Clinton High School in 1954. He attended the University of Iowa receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Geography in 1959, and a Master's Degree in Student Personnel in 1964. He spent two years in Army military service at Fort Riley, Kansas, from 1961-63. On August 26, 1967, he married Gwendolen Zeitler at Union Presbyterian Church, Fort Madison, Iowa, and they continued to live in Denver, Colorado, pursuing their doctorate degrees at the University of Denver.

After the birth of Megan, their first child, Lyle and Gwen moved to Newberry, South Carolina, where he served as Dean of Students at Newberry College. In 1973, they moved to Columbia, SC, which they would call home for 30 years and where their second child, Matthew, was born. Lyle worked at the South Carolina Department of Social Services in Columbia for 28 years as a Supervisor and Assistant Director writing policy for aid to families with dependent children. He was a devoted father, raising Megan and Matthew, while doing volunteer work for St. Mary's Episcopal Church where he served as a lay reader and assistant treasurer, and sang in the choir. He also helped Gwen care for her parents and his mother who lived with the family for 11 years, along with beloved cats and Lyle's favorite English bulldogs.

After retiring, Gwen convinced Lyle to return to her Iowa hometown with the condition they would have a house on the bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. After securing a sought after lot and working on a design with Megan, they built a new house and moved back in 2001, becoming very involved in the Fort Madison community. Together they enjoyed their river view, and hosted friends and events like fireworks on the 4th of July, high school reunions, and the Feast of St. Nicholas for St. Luke's Church.

Lyle was a dedicated member of the Episcopal Church for more than 60 years, becoming an Ordained Priest at St. Luke's in Fort Madison in 2010, and known fondly as "Father Dad" to his kids. As part of the St. Luke's Ministry Development Team, Lyle served in a volunteer capacity with 4 others to provide clergy to the church. This experimental program of the Iowa Episcopal Diocese brought Lyle into a leadership role at the local and state level. He was also able to baptize his grandchildren Gavin and Caroline, and through the church continue his interest in working with students. Coupled with his devotion to the church was his interest in organ music

which he often traveled to hear and listened to on his favorite YouTube channels.

Lyle held several volunteer jobs in the community in retirement in addition to his role at St. Luke's. He served on Fort Madison's Planning and Zoning Commission for over 15 years, as well as the Old Fort Genealogical Society, and North Lee County Historical Society. He was co-chair with his wife for the Park-to-Park Historic District nomination and listing in the National Register of Historic Places and rescued two condemned Main Street buildings, fixing them up and bringing them back into service. His commitment to Fort Madison included the preservation of the 1812 Battlefield Site, and his support for the rehabilitation of Central Park, the Sunday band concerts in Central Park, and the YMCA Test Kitchen.

Lyle was a proud Iowa Hawkeye alum and could be seen sporting black and gold on game day and his license plate. That pride in the University of Iowa and his commitment to helping young people seek higher education led to the establishment of the Gwen & Lyle Brown Scholarship Fund which supports selected incoming freshman from Fort Madison and Clinton High Schools. To date, over 50 young people have received a scholarship, and Lyle continued contact and support with several of them, tracking their success.

The adventure of travel was important to Lyle, and he ensured that the family took several trips to Europe to see the history and culture as well as spending time researching and meeting an extensive group of relatives in Wales and England. In retirement he loved to travel with Gwen, and they enjoyed many memorable vacations in Europe, China, Thailand, Alaska, and Russia as well as the US, with a highlight of traveling the Mississippi on the American Queen. He was a sharp investor, and even set up a family cattle business on the 5th generation pasture land in Kansas which he managed with his children, teaching them about business and responsibility.

Lyle is survived by his children, daughter Megan Brown in Alexandria, VA, son Matthew Brown (Abby his wife) in Apex, NC, and his faithful cat Romeo. He was a devoted grandfather to Gavin and Caroline Brown and enjoyed building Legos with Caroline. He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Gwen. Thanks to his interest in genealogy, the history of the family has been documented back prior to the Revolutionary War to Wales, Scotland, Ireland, and England.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A memorial service for family and friends will be held at a later date at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Online condolences to the Brown family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

Memorials in Lyle's honor may be made to University of Iowa Center for Advancement, 1 West Park Road, Iowa City, IA 52242 for the Gwen & Lyle Brown Scholarship Fund or St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 605 Avenue E, Fort Madison, IA 52627 for the St. Luke's Discretionary Fund.

ROSEANNE S. SADEGHI

Roseanne Sheryll Sadeghi, 80, of Keokuk, IA passed away Saturday, November 18, 2023 at the University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City, IA.



SADEGHI

She was born August 23, 1943 in Keokuk, IA the daughter of Glenn and Ruth Linn Burgess. Roseanne graduated from Keokuk High School with the class of 1963.

On May 1, 1970, Roseanne was united in marriage to Rahmat "Rocky" Sadeghi in Keokuk. He preceded her in death on October 5, 1998.

Roseanne had been employed by Sheller Globe/Schelgel in Keokuk for forty years, until her retirement on September 1, 2005.

She was a member of the United Steelworkers Local 444.

Roseanne loved to bowl and had been on several leagues through the years. She kept her mind sharp by working word search puzzles. Roseanne had a kind heart and warm smile. She loved and appreciated the simple things in life. Her greatest joy was spending time with her children and grandchildren.

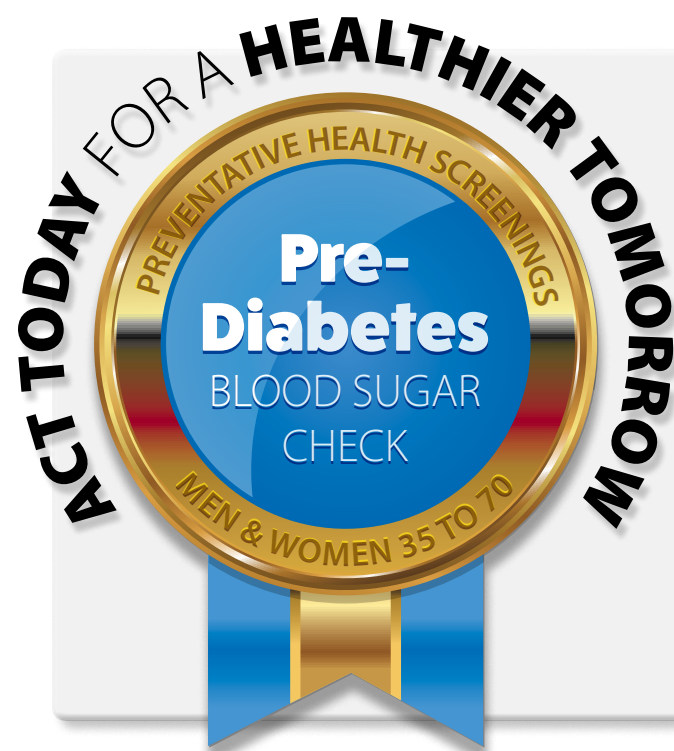
She is survived by three sons, Donald Lee Burgess of Keokuk, Dr. David Lee Sadeghi (Anissa) of Colorado and Justin Sadeghi of Keokuk, four grandchildren, Brendan (Kila), Camiran (Camille), Emily and Jenna Sadeghi and two great-granddaughters, two step-granddaughters, four step-grandchildren.

She is also survived by one brother, Ronald Burgess of Peoria, IL and one sister, Chris Kellum (Kevin) of Keokuk.

Besides her husband, Roseanne was also preceded in death by her parents, two granddaughters, Faith Leona Burgess and Kimberly Burgess, one grandson, Corbin James Sadeghi, two sisters, Patricia "Pat" Hultquist and Sharon Munson, one cousin, Albert Burgess and one brother-in-law, J.R. Munson.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at the Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk, IA.

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



What is prediabetes?

Prediabetes is a serious health condition where blood sugar levels are higher than normal, but not high enough to be diagnosed as type 2 diabetes. Approximately 96 million American adults have prediabetes. Of those more than 80% don't know they have it.

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Lee County News/From the Front

WEST POINT NEWS

Task force makes arrests on felony drug charges

BY PCC STAFF

WEST POINT - The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a West Point man and woman on felony and misdemeanor drug charges.

According to a release from the LCNTE, Richard Edward Huffman, age 60 and Peggy Ann Huffman, age 59, of West Point, IA are both charged with; Manufacturing marijuana, a class D felony; Possession of marijuana with the intent to deliver, a class D felony; Possession of 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) with the intent to deliver, a class C felony; (4) counts of Iowa tax stamp violation, each count is a



P. HUFFMAN



R. HUFFMAN

class D felony; Maintaining a drug house, an aggravated misdemeanor; Possession of cocaine, a serious misdemeanor; Possession of psilocybin mushrooms, a serious misdemeanor; Possession of a controlled substance (THC edibles/vapes), a serious misdemeanor; Possession of methamphetamine, a serious misdemeanor; and Possession of drug paraphernalia, a simple misdemeanor.

The charges came after

the Lee County Task Force executed a search warrant at a residence in West Point. There it is alleged that both Richard and Peggy Huffman were in possession of controlled substances and drug paraphernalia.

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force was assisted by the Fort Madison Police Department, the Lee County Sheriff's Office, and the Lee County Attorney's Office.

The defendant's in this case are presumed innocent until 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.

Selection of city manager requires heavy discussion

CITY - Continued from Page 1

information released before the city was prepared to release it. Then a 24-hour run-pass option on what the media was told.

But, as we observe the process being undertaken to hire the next city manager we watched with a wary eye as the city council invited community members, department heads, the city attorney into closed sessions to evaluate the qualifications of three candidates recommended from Hinton Consulting out of Mason City.

Many, including those on the council, were concerned about the number of people in the closed session. We would assume that members of the public would be just as concerned with that dynamic.

However, it's legitimate. The council can, per Iowa rules, invite whomever they want into closed session. We, as a news organization, watch that closer than anyone.

We are content. In this one instance, we are content.

It's imperative the city get the right one person to lead the progress that's being undertaken. The one person that gets that sometimes you have to deficit spend. It should be rare and when absolutely necessary to make something happen when it can't happen later. When interest rates, or bonding capabilities, or markets, or sheer public need dictates that now is the time to act, you need someone with insight in that moment.

Clearly, that isn't the only litmus test for a good city manager. Someone with proven communication skills, negotiation skills, abilities to work within multiple departments and balance multiple projects at the same time. The ability to work with politicians, residents, economic development officials, business leaders, and yes, the media, sometimes all in the same day.

The exposure to the media in Fort Madison is somewhat diminished compared to larger metro areas. But there are several reporters locally now that push for transparency and following rules set out in Chapters 21 and 22 of the Iowa code.

These closed meetings were necessary to allow an open and frank conversation around who is the best candidate. As long as the conversations are focused on qualifications only, not gender, race, or religious preference, but qualifications.

Let's not be confused here. You can have those frank discussions in open session, but the people having them have to feel comfortable doing that in public. That, very rarely, is the case.

So having an evaluation of a potential employee in closed session is legitimate. It becomes even more legitimate if that person is applying unbeknownst to his/her current employer because that's where the threshold of the "irreparable harm" language of the chapter 21.5 (i) could be reached.

So instead of protesting the closed session, which we regularly do, we're going to sit and watch this one. We may ask for recordings of the sessions following the selection process for the candidate who is hired as the irreparable harm language would be negated, but we may not.

The bottom line is the city is doing the right thing in assuring they get the most raw conversation with potential candidates they can get. The process could very well be the story, but in the interim, we will continue to monitor the situation with a watchful eye.

That watchful eye is also looking at other potential items, like a proposed wind generation field where the companies interested weren't sure if they had to go through the Iowa Utilities Board, or whether they would use eminent domain for land grabs. We're here and watching, but That's Beside the Point.

Chuck Vandenberg is editor and co-owner of Pen City Current. He can be reached at Charles.V@PenCityCurrent.com.

Flags at half-staff for Mrs. Carter

(DES MOINES) - Gov. Kim Reynolds ordered all flags in Iowa to be lowered to half-staff effective sunrise November 25, 2023 until sunset the day of interment in honor and remembrance of former First Lady Rosalynn Carter. The governor's order is issued in conjunction with President

Joe Biden's proclamation to lower all United States flags to half-staff for the same length of time.

"Rosalynn Carter modernized the role of First Lady as a trusted advisor to her husband, a working mom, and humanitarian," said Gov. Kim Reynolds. "America remembers her fondly

and with gratitude for her incredible life of service. Kevin & I pray for peace and comfort for President Carter and their family."

Flags will be at half-staff on the State Capitol Building and on flag displays in the Capitol Complex. Flags will also be half-staff on all public buildings, grounds and facilities throughout the state.

Individuals, businesses, schools, municipalities, counties and other government subdivisions are encouraged to fly the flag at half-staff for the same length of time as a sign of respect.



Will it be EASY? NOPE.

Worth it? ABSOLUTELY.

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Agenda
DATE: Monday,
November 27, 2023
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
10:00 A.M. (CDT)
LOCATION:
933 Avenue H
Fort Madison, IA

---AGENDA---

Lee County Board of Supervisors
 Nov 27, 2023, 10:00-11:30 AM (America/Chicago)
 Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
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If you would like to pose a question to the Board, please use the Chat feature and wait for the Chairman to address you. If you are participating by phone, please wait until everyone is done speaking before addressing the Board. Please keep your microphone muted to cut down on background noise. If you are participating by phone, press #6, this will mute your phone.

Pledge of Allegiance
 Approve Agenda
 Public Input
 Consider Approval of Resolution of Assessed/Taxable Values of Utility Companies for 2023
 Consider Approval of Tax Abatement Resolutions (2)

Discussion and possible action on County Emergency Sick Leave & Pandemic Policy Consent Agenda • Monday, November 20, 2023 Board Minutes

• Claims for Payment
 Personnel:
 A. New Hire Replacements, EMS (2)
 Commission or Committee Reports
 Adjourn

Possible Workshop to Follow
PUBLIC MEETING
CITIZENS WELCOME

Vision and hearing assistance available

upon request
 Contact Title VI Administrator
 319-372-3705
 County Website:
www.leecounty.org

PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING NOTICE
GREEN BAY LEVEE & DRAINAGE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 30, 2023
7:00 P.M.

The Green Bay Levee & Drainage District will hold a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, November 30, 2023, at Heartland Co-op, east of Wever.

PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING NOTICE

THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE LEE COUNTY COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WILL BE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023 AT THE KEOKUK AMERICAN LEGION LOCATED AT 727 MAIN ST, KEOKUK, IA AT 12:00 NOON.

The agenda includes: 1 request for Veterans financial assistance, October 2023 monthly financial report, minutes, and monthly client report.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
KEOKUK CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 26, 2023
501 MAIN STREET
5:30 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in special session on October 26, 2023, 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, Tyler Walker, Shelley Oltmans, John Helenthal (via phone and exiting meeting at 6:30 p.m.) Steve Andrews, Dan Tillman, Roger Bryant, and Michael Greenwald were present. Roslyn Garcia was absent. Staff in attendance: City Clerk Celeste El Anfaoui, Public Works Director Brian Car-

roll, Chief of Police Zeth Baum, Fire Chief Gabe Rose, and Code Enforcement/Housing Casey Barnes.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Walker to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 328-2023: "A RESOLUTION GUARANTEEING A LINE OF CREDIT FOR KEOKUK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION." After discussion a roll call was requested.

Roll Call Vote: AYES – Oltmans, Helenthal, Andrews, Tillman, Bryant, and Greenwald. NAYS – Walker. ABSTAIN – Crenshaw. ABSENT – Garcia. Motion carried 6-1.

Motion made by Crenshaw, second by Oltmans to consider hiring Hinson Consulting, LLC for Interim City Administrator and City Administrator search proposal.

Dorothy Cackley commented on budget and her thoughts on a City Administrator position. Oltmans phoned Mark with Hinson Consulting, LLC to give overview of services and proposal.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Crenshaw to amend original motion to hire for a permanent search of administrator. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried to amend.

Motion by Crenshaw, second by Oltmans to accept proposal as amended. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Crenshaw to hire Hinson Consulting, LLC for interim. Roll call requested.

Roll Call Vote: AYES – Oltmans, Andrews, and Bryant. NAYS – Crenshaw, Walker, Tillman, and Greenwald. ABSENT – Garcia & Helenthal. 3-4 Motion failed.

Meeting adjourned at 6.49 p.m.

K. A. Mahoney, Mayor
 Attest: Celeste El Anfaoui, City Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
DONNELSON CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, NOVEMBER
13TH, 2023
7:30PM, CITY HALL

The regular meeting of the Donnellson City Council was called to order by Mayor Dave Ellingboe, with Council

Members Moeller, Marshall, Weber, Newton & Estrada present.

Motion by Newton, second by Estrada to approve the agenda: all ayes.

Citizen comments – None

Motion by Marshall, second by Moeller to approve the minutes of the October '23 meeting: all ayes.

Motion by Weber, second by Newton to approve the October '23 financial reports: all ayes.

Motion by Newton, second by Weber to approve the October '23 disbursements and November '23 bills to be allowed: all ayes.

Fred Heins addressed the council regarding the Notice and Order to Abate Nuisance letter he received. He is working to clean up the property, nuisance committee & chief of police will visit the property prior to next meeting to see progress. Timeline to complete has been extended while progress is being made.

Public Hearing – Resolution 2023-17 Adoption of Donnellson Comprehensive Plan 2040 – no written or oral comment.

Motion by Moeller, seconded by Newton to approve Resolution No 2023-17 Resolution approving City of Donnellson Comprehensive Plan

2040, RCV all ayes.

Public Hearing – Amend Ordinance to revise regular council meeting date and time to the second Monday of the month @ 7:30pm – no written or oral comments.

Motion by Moeller, second by Marshall to approve First Reading of Ordinance 17.04 revising regular council meeting date & time to the second Monday of the month @ 7:30pm, RCV all ayes.

Motion by Newton, second by Moeller to approve Blue Top Excavating Pay Estimate #2 for trail project @ Westview Park, all ayes.

Motion by Moeller, second by Marshall to dis-

VROOM. VROOM.

Get Pre-Approved in Seconds.

**maybe even faster than this car gets to 60, just sayin'!*



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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

continue Managed IT Service with RSM effective 11-30-2023 and switch 4 users to Microsoft 365, all eyes.

Election results – Jeremy Marshal was reelected as city council member & Erin Wagner was the write in vote winner for the second city council member vacancy.

Update was given on the current nuisance properties.

Police Report – There were 45 calls for service, 10 traffic stops. 29 building checks were done during the day & night

time hours. An arrest was made after completing an investigation into sexual abuse assault, with the assistance from the Department of Human Services.

Clerk Report – Budget workshop is set for December 11th 2023 @ 6:30pm prior to regular city council meeting.

There being no other business to come before the Council, motion by Moeller, second by Marshall, Mayor Ellingboe declared the meeting adjourned: all eyes.

Dave Ellingboe, Mayor

Attest: Rebecca Schau, City Clerk

Summary of All Receipts: General \$88,954.33 Capital Equipment Reserve \$0 Road Use Tax \$9,935.96 Employee Benefit \$6,908.31 Local Option Sales Tax \$8,171.71 Debit Service \$13,332.94 Rathbun \$0 ARPA \$0 Water \$21,495.66 Water Sinking USDA \$1,816.00 Sewer \$28,389.51 Sewer Sinking \$0. Summary of All Disbursements: General \$54,576.21 Capital Equipment Reserve \$0 Road

Use Tax \$2,949.15 Employee Benefit \$1,457.12 Local Option Sales Tax \$711.52 Debit Service \$0 Capital Project Fund \$0 Rathbun \$0 ARPA \$0 Water \$15,341.79 Water Sinking \$1,816.00 Sewer \$13,879.64 Sewer Sinking \$0.

DONNELSON TIRE & SERVICE, Service 15 Chevy 69.00 AFLAC, Aflac 121.14 MASTERCARD, Misc Supplies..... 2,392.77 WINDSTREAM, Internet 416.94 ALLIANT ENERGY, Elec-

tric..... 4,310.58 GRRWA, Landfill Fees 1,906.00 USA BLUE BOOK, Supplies 227.54 FRENCH-RENEKER-ASSOCIATES, Engineer Fees..... 1,043.14 MID AMERICAN ENERGY, Gas 64.03 EFTPS, FED/FICA TAXES 3,968.91 IPERS, IPERS-REGULAR..... 2,630.96 TODD HERDRICH, cell-phone..... 50.00 DONNELSON LUMBER CO, Spray paint..... 15.98 DAILY DEMOCRAT, PROCEEDINGS... 235.96 PILOT GROVE SAVINGS BANK, Loan Interest Payment..... 6,667.50 HUFFMAN'S FARM AND HOME, Antifreeze..116.77 IOWA FINANCE AUTHORITY, Interest Payment..... 27,692.45 PAUL'S PLUMBING, Replace furnace - City Shop 3,010.00 POSTMASTER, Water Bills 193.80

CITY OF WEST POINT, Chief Wages 3,284.00 KEMPKERS TRUE VALUE, USPS Charge...11.76 WEX BANK, Fuel.. 462.13 VERIZON, Data Plan 120.03 JM ELECTRIC, INC, Electrician 620.00 MICROBAC LABORATORIES, Testing 15.00 WESTECH, Brush Set 1,996.01 IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, Sewer Tax 259.34 IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, Water Service Excise Tax 1,102.81 LITHO SPECIALISTS, Laser Bills 456.00 RATHBUN REGIONAL WATER, Bulk Water 5,558.40 GWORKS, Annual Support 3,047.00 IOWA RURAL WATER ASSOC, Dues..... 305.00 CHUCK FULLENKAMP, Hats 34.00 USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT, Loan Payment 1,816.00 KOHLMORGAN HAULING, Trash Service 5,440.00

HELP WANTED

LEE COUNTY SECONDARY ROADS CLASS VII ROAD MAINTENANCE FOREMAN

Lee County is taking applications for a Class VII Road Maintenance Foreman, to work at the Ambrosia Maintenance Shop. Duties will include planning, organizing, scheduling, directing, coordinating, and inspecting the work of road maintenance crews.

Requires a high school graduate or G.E.D. equivalent and must possess a valid Class A commercial driver's license with air brake and tanker endorsements. The wage range is \$29.18 to \$32.90.

Lee County provides equal opportunity in employment to all persons regardless of age, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion or disability.

For a job description and to apply, download an application from our county website, www.leecounty.org/employment.aspx or you can pick an application up at the Engineer's office and return your completed application along with a resume to Lee County Engineer, P.O. Box 158, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627, or email it to engineer@leecounty.org. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

If you have any questions, please contact Lee County Engineer Office at (319) 372-2541 or email them at engineer@leecounty.org.



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Scene Around Town/Education News

BUSINESS NEWS

Siemens outlines plan to fix wind business by 2026

HAMBERG, Germany - At its third Capital Market Day in Hamburg, Germany, Siemens Energy presented a strategic outlook to analysts and investors. The Executive Board outlined a clear path to create shareholder value along three priorities: Deliver on profitable growth, fix the wind business and maintain a solid financial foundation.

“We are achieving consistent and impressive results in 70% of our businesses. Those results show that our underlying strategic north star to become a leader in the energy transition is right. Our portfolio is excellently positioned, and our record order backlog of 112 billion Euros clearly demonstrates this. As a next step, we will accelerate profitable growth and execute our order backlog with improved margins and operational excellence. The turnaround of Siemens Gamesa remains our highest priority and we now have a defined path and action plan to reach break-even for the wind business in fiscal year 2026 and to return to profitability thereafter,” said Christian Bruch, President and CEO of Siemens Energy. Siemens Energy’s CFO Maria Ferraro emphasized prudent resource allocation with focused investments geared towards growth or customer requirements. In addition, she re-emphasized the company’s commitment to maintain its investment grade credit profile which underlines Siemens Energy’s fiscal year 2024 net cash target.

The business areas Gas Services, Grid Technologies, and Transformation of Industry, which account for 70% of Siemens Energy’s revenue, are all on track to achieve or exceed their mid-term targets. Here, Siemens Energy benefits from strong market trends and its well positioned portfolio supporting customers with their decarbonization efforts. In these three business areas, Siemens Energy expects margins of 7-9% for Transformation of Industry (target upgraded), 9-11% for Grid Technologies (target upgraded) and 10-12% for Gas Services (target confirmed) by fiscal year 2026.

Global energy trends, like major grid investment and decarbonization, act as a catalyst for profitable growth across the entire Siemens Energy portfolio. Investment in the energy transition amounted to US \$1.7 trillion¹ in 2023 – highlighting the pace and scale at which clean energy technologies are being deployed. Demand for electricity is set to double between 2022 and 2050. By 2050 there will be six times more installed global capacity on the grid from renewable energy sources. The market is now starting to see traction from governmental decarbonization investment programs and supportive regulatory frameworks like the EU Wind Package. This, coupled with the arrival of decarbonization targets in new and emerging markets, is boosting future market prospects for Siemens Energy with its energy technology portfolio that supports the entire value chain.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Peace on Earth decorated Avenue G in downtown Fort Madison Friday night as part of the Fort Madison Lighted Christmas Parade. Floats moved east down Avenue G for about 30 minutes to kick off the holiday season.



Courtesy photo

The National FFA Convention & Expo is all about growing the next generation of leaders. No matter where you are in FFA, you’ll find inspiration and direction to become a leader and influencer, ready to make an impact. During the event, students find out who they are, who they want to become and how they can change how the world grows. This past month 27 Central Lee FFA members attended the convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. Students were involved in convention sessions, leadership workshops, team building activities, tours, a career show and inspirational speakers. The 96th National FFA Convention & Expo is approved for listing by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Front(L-R) Kamryn Cox, Makayla Howard, Charlee Clay, Jalyn Hawk, Josie Mueller, Sidney Gruntmeir, Aubrey Weber. 2nd row(L-R) Halle Lampe, Lila Shephard, Shanna Buford, Aubree Boyd, Josie Newton, Landan Lowenberg, Ostyn Moore, Brody Moeller. 3rd row (L-R) Sydnie Larson, Alan Bollin, Dustin Newberry, Brayden Wyrick, Landon Rudd, Adi Robinson, Riley Stuecker. 4th row (L-R) Will Ferris, Cory Jones, Owen Krogmeier, Andrew Underwood, Kylie Fortune



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