

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Wednesday, January 15, 2025 | 6 pages | Volume 9 • Issue 16



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Chiefs sweep Hounds

TUESDAY: Lady Hounds and Bloodhound boys both suffer losses at home in Southeast play

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

The moment that encapsulated the night for Fort Madison's girls basketball team came midway through the second quarter of Tuesday's home game against Keokuk.

Fort Madison coach Landon Bentley, frustrated at the number of turnovers his team had committed, called a timeout. The Bloodhounds inbounded the ball after the timeout — and were called for traveling.

It was that kind of night for the Bloodhounds in the 68-41 loss.

The battle of the two teams at the top of the Southeast Conference standings was lopsided because of Fort Madison's turnovers, and the play of Keokuk's Kendra Boatman, who finished with 28 points.

The Chiefs (9-3 overall, 4-1 conference) won their eighth consecutive game.

"We're playing a team that's leading (Class) 4A in steals, close to 17 a game," Bentley said. "They feed off that. Something I would give them, and we talk about it a lot, is their transition is very good. Their press will cause some problems. We tried to prepare, but it's hard to simulate that in practice."

Fort Madison (7-4, 4-1) went almost

See **HOUNDS**, page 7



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Dayonna Davis battles for position following a freethrow in the 1st half of the Lady Hounds' 68-41 loss to Keokuk in Southeast Conference girls' basketball action Tuesday in Fort Madison.

CENTRAL LEE

Next school calendar ends June 1

OPTIONS: School board wants options to bring final day back into May

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONNELSON – For the first time in almost a decade, the Central Lee school district could be looking at the school year for 2025-26 ending in the month of June - just barely.

Superintendent Dr. Andy Crozier said the district calendar pushes the school year into June 2026 following a calendar committee meeting held Monday night.

"In 2026 our last day is June 1, Nobody loves that and we've sliced it a lot of different ways. We'll probably get a couple snow days no matter what," he said.

The following year the school year regresses back into May, but this year the district is challenged to find where to save days knowing that snow days will probably occur.

"The 2026-27 calendar lines up pretty normal and we get out May 26 before Memorial Day so it's pretty good," Crozier said at Tuesday morning's regular school board meeting.

"But this one we're not sure where we can find days to get us out before June 1. With the start date being pushed back to Aug. 23 due to a Saturday, we lose two days. Thanksgiving is very late. One option is to have school on Dec. 22 and 23rd but nobody's going to like that. So if you want to go to school those days and get out before June 1, that's the only option we see."

Mark Hulsebus asked what the issue was with going to school on Dec. 22 and 23. He said his option would be to

See **CALENDAR**, page 4



CROZIER

HEALTH NEWS

Great River Health campuses earn CIHQ accreditation

WEST BURLINGTON – Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center with campuses in West Burlington and Fort Madison has been surveyed by the Center for Improvement in Healthcare Quality (CIHQ) and has successfully met the requirements for Hospital Accreditation by demonstrating compliance with CIHQ Standards and the Conditions of Participation by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. This recognition reflects the hospital's continuous commitment to safety and quality patient care.

Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center underwent a rigorous unannounced onsite assessment in November. The CIHQ team toured the hospital, reviewed medical records, observed care practices, and interviewed staff and patients.

"CIHQ's goal is to partner with hospitals to improve the care provided in our communities," states Richard Curtis, Chief Executive Officer of CIHQ. "CIHQ is proud to recognize Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center for achieving accreditation."

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WEATHER

WED 15 Jan..... Clear & cold, 24° F/20° F
THU 16 Jan..... Clear skies, 38° F/28° F
FRI 17 Jan..... Clear skies, temps warming, 46° F/25° F

IOWA LOTTERY

DOUBLE PLAY 01/13.....	29 30 32 37 56, Powerball: 18
LOTTO AMERICA 01/13.....	5 11 37 49 50, Star Ball: 4 All Star Bonus: 3
LUCKY FOR LIFE 01/13.....	13 17 35 41 44, Lucky Ball: 5
PICK 3 MIDDAY 01/13.....	176
PICK 3 EVENING 01/13.....	3 2 0
PICK 4 MIDDAY 01/13.....	6 8 9 6
PICK 4 EVENING 01/13.....	9 9 8 3
POWERBALL 01/13.....	4 6 16 39 66, Powerball: 9 Power Play: 2

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Obituaries/For the Record

OBITUARIES

MARCUS J. DAVIS

Marcus J. Davis, 51 of Keokuk passed away, January 11, 2025 at his home. He was born February 15, 1973 in Keokuk the son of John and Mary Helen Sandidge Davis. He graduated from Keokuk High School with the class of 1991. On June 18, 1994, Marc was united in marriage to his high school sweetheart, Jenny Courtois. She survives.



DAVIS

In addition to his wife, he is also survived by his sons, Brendin Davis of Burlington and Blake Davis of Keokuk, his parents, John and Mary Helen Davis of Keokuk, his sister, Beth Farnsworth (Mark) of Keokuk and two nephews, Daniel Allen and Thomas Allen. He is also survived by his mother-in-law, Jean Courtois of Warsaw, brother-in-law, Todd Courtois (Sue) of Sutter, two nieces, Alex Morgan (David) of Hamilton, and Danielle Courtois of Tucson, AZ, an aunt, Suzie Kelley of Keokuk, three cousins, Jamey Washburn, Jody Martin (Bob) and Casey Kelley, and other extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father-in-law, Hank Courtois and two uncles, Herb Sandidge, Jr and Lorenzo "Rennie" Kelley, Jr.

He volunteered at the Warsaw Fire Department for eight years prior to dedicating over twenty-one years to protecting and serving his hometown as a firefighter with the Keokuk Fire Department. Beyond his firefighting career, he pursued his entrepreneurial spirit as the owner and operator of American Solar Panel and Window Cleaning.

Above all, Marc was a devoted family man. He was his sons' biggest fan, never missing a practice, game, or tournament, whether he was in the stands or offering encouragement. His love for his family was the cornerstone of his life.

He enjoyed spending quality time with family and friends. He loved to BBQ and experiment in the kitchen, often sharing his culinary creations at work. He embraced life with enthusiasm, always seeking opportunities to explore, laugh, and create memories. His great sense of humor was brought to every room he entered.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, January 18, 2025 at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Pastor Kevin Hardcastle officiating.

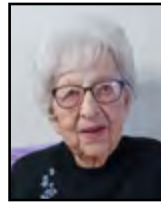
Visitation will be held two hours prior to the service with the family meeting with friends from 9 a.m. until service time.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Central Lee Baseball Complex renovation. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

OBITUARIES

ANNA R. PICKARD

Anna Ruth "Ann" Pickard passed away on Friday, January 10, 2025 at the age of 96 after recently celebrating her birthday on November 27, 2024. Ann remained very active and sharp of mind in her home. She was born in Bethel, Missouri on November 27, 1928 to William Kessler and Annie Grace (Wharton) Thomas. She was united in marriage to Willard E. "Bill" Pickard on March 22, 1947.



PICKARD

Ann formerly worked at the Holiday Inn as a hostess and cashier, and was last employed at the Kings Daughters and Sons home. She was a faithful member at the First Christian Church and attended church regularly. She was a member of the Mississippi Mums Red Hat Society. She loved playing cards with her friends at Rose Michael Gardens, and she cherished their friendship.

She was well known to her family for her sugar cookies, pea salad, ham balls, and chicken salad.

She was a graduate of Fort Madison High School. She was a longtime member of Order of Eastern Star, E.C. Blackman Chapter #306, Burlington, Iowa.

She is survived by her children: Debbie McElderry, Carol (Dan) Kelley, and Greg Pickard; her grandchildren: Shane (Kim) Kelley, Robyn (Brian) Hamilton, Heather Kelley, Brandon McElderry and Kristina Pickard (Patrick O'Connor); five great-grandchildren: Hunter Kelley (Tatiana Matta, and Taj and Kai), Chase (Hailey) Brown, Aiden Kelley, Charlotte Kelley, and Raylan O'Connor; one great great grandchild Oliver Brown. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and daughter-in-law Monika Pickard.

Her family will greet friends from 9:30 - 10:30 am Saturday, January 18, 2025 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Memorial services will follow and begin at 10:30 am at the Barr Memorial Chapel, with Pastor Leslie Dalstra officiating. Burial will be at the Claypoole Cemetery, Wever, Iowa. A memorial has been established for the Shriners Children's Hospital, contributions may be made at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Online condolences to the Pickard Family may be made from the Barr Memorial Chapel, www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report
01/13/25 - No activity reported.

Keokuk Police Report
01/10/25 - 12:30 a.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of burglary in the 1000 block of Morgan St.

01/10/25 - 11:59 a.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1500 block of Johnson St. Road.

01/11/25 - 2:22 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a vandalism, at 400 block of S. 19th Steet.

01/11/25 - 9:07 - Keokuk po-

lice responded to a report of a vandalism in the 100 block of N. 4th Street.

01/12/25 - 12:03 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2000 block of Main Street.

01/12/25 - 2:30 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a vandalism in the 300 block of N. Park Drive.

01/12/25 - 3:30 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 300 block of N. Park Drive.

01/11/25 - 2:24 a.m. - Keokuk police cited Aaron Lee Bennett, 35, of Keokuk, in the 700 block of Main Street.

01/11/25 - 7:57 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a two-vehicle accident in the 1700 block of Des Moines Street. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Beth Lynn Wreider Alvis was westbound through an alley when she saw a women standing near the Car. Alvis attempted to hit the brakes but slid on the slick surface and struck another vehicle, which in turn hit the pedestrian who was entering the rear door of the second vehicle. She was cited for failure to maintain control.

01/11/25 - 9:28 p.m. Keokuk police cited Brian Schmidt, 19,

of 100 block of Johnson Street on a charge of driving under suspension, He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/11/25 - 11:50 p.m. - Keokuk police arrested Laura Lee Rogers, 29, of Keokuk, in the 1100 block of Timea Street, on charges of interference with official acts, assault on a law enforcement officer, child endangerment, assault, 3rd-degree criminal mischief and 3rd-degree theft. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/12/25 - 3:44 p.m. - Keokuk police cited Kirstjan DeWayne Sant, 21 of Keokuk in the 2400 block of Main Street,

on a charge of 4th-degree theft.

01/12/25 - 7:22 p.m. - Keokuk police arrested David Eugene Rogers, 39, of Keokuk, in the 300 block of N. Park Drive on charges of interference with official acts, possession of paraphernalia, and possession of a controlled substance. He was held in Lee County Jail.

01/13/25 - 6:45 a.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 300 block of Main Street.

01/13/25 - 3:11 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1700 block of High Street.

01/13/25 - 4:58 p.m. - Keokuk

police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 100 block of N. 16th Street.

01/13/25 - 9:17 p.m. - Keokuk police arrested Alexis Marie Bray, 21, of Keokuk, in the 1500 block of Johnson Street Road on a charge of 3rd-degree burglary. She was held in Lee County Jail.

01/14/25 - 12:10 a.m. - Keokuk police cited Aaron Lee Bennett, 35, of Keokuk, in the 200 block of S. 8th Street, on a charge of assault with bodily injury.

Lee County Sheriff's Report
01/13/25 - No activity was reported.

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

JOYCE MILLIGAN

Joyce Milligan, 77, of Keokuk, passed away on Sunday, January 12, 2025, at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in West Burlington, Iowa.

Joyce was born on February 3, 1947, in Keokuk, Iowa, the daughter of Simmie and Irene (Harrison) Jones. She was united in marriage to Everett Newberry, they were later divorced. She was then united in marriage to Charlie Milligan, they were later divorced. Throughout her working career she was employed at many establishments, including the Daily Gate City, Little Country Store, County Market and in housekeeping.



MILLIGAN

Joyce was a member of First Baptist Church in Keokuk and the Keokuk Racer's Reunion. She was a huge Golden Girls and NASCAR fan, rooting for Kevin Harvick when he raced. She always loved horses, even showing them in her younger years. She was an avid puzzler and could often be found in the lobby of River Hills putting them together. Most importantly, she was the ringleader of her family, and she loved them all dearly.

Joyce is survived by two daughters: Cindy Newberry Johnson of Mooresville, North Carolina, and Chrissy (Jon) Campbell of Keokuk; three grandchildren: Midori Johnson of Greenville, North Carolina, and Keira and Kyan Campbell, both of Keokuk; three siblings: Larry (Diane) Jones of Colorado, Simmie (Cindy) Jones of Keokuk, and David (Teri) Jones of Keokuk; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Joyce is preceded in death by her parents and a great-nephew Chance.

Funeral services will be held at 11 am on Thursday, January 16, 2025, at Printy Funeral Home, 917 Blondeau Street, Keokuk, Iowa, with burial to follow at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Keokuk. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, January 15, from 2 to 7 pm, with family meeting friends from 5 to 7 pm at the funeral home. Funeral services will be livestreamed at www.printyfuneralhome.com.

Memorials may be directed to River Hills Village.

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

Printy Funeral Home of Keokuk is in charge of arrangements.

OBITUARIES

MARY C. BINKLEY

Mary C. Binkley, 92, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 9:57 p.m. on Monday, January 13, 2025 at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Fort Madison. She was born on February 25, 1932 in St. Paul, IA to William & Angela Pannenberg Spiekermeier. She married James L. Binkley on December 4, 1971 in Fort Madison, IA.



BINKLEY

He preceded her in death on November 13, 2008. She worked for several years at the Sheaffer Pen Company and later did housekeeping. She was a member of Holy Family Parish and the Altar & Rosary Society of the church. She was a member of the Fort Madison Moose Lodge and enjoyed crossword puzzles, dancing and country western music.

Mary is survived by: 2-step daughters: Collette (Denny) Evans of Cedar Rapids, IA & Tammy (Tom) Kokjohn of California; 1-step son: Mace (Lynn) Binkley of Middletown, IA; 5-step grandchildren: Tom Kokjohn Jr., Kimberly Ordanario, Nathan Binkley, Kevin Binkley & Dakota Evans; several step great grandchildren and nieces & nephews. She was preceded in death by: her parents, 2-brothers: Jim & Stanley Spiekermeier, 1-sister: Marcy Grimwood, 1-niece: Beverly McCoy & 1-nephew: Gene McCoy.

A visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The rosary will be recited at 11:00 a.m. immediately followed by the funeral service at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Rev. Gary Beckman officiating. Burial will be held at Oakland Cemetery. A memorial has been established for P.A.W. Animal Shelter. Online condolences to Mary's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.



Lunch Specials
January 13-17
11am - 1pm

Monday, January 13th

Carved Ham, Loaded Potatoes, Corn

Tuesday, January 14th

Tenderloins, Cheese Potatoes

Wednesday, January 15th

Tater Tot Casserole, Beans

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16TH

FRIED CHICKEN DINNERS

Friday, January 17th

Fish & Shrimp Dinners

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PEN CITY CURRENT

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From the Front/ Classifieds

Central Lee board gets update on construction projects

CALENDAR - Continued from Page 1

go to school on those days and get out sooner.

Crozier said out of nine calendars he's done this is the first time he's ever had classes ending in June. He said he would send a survey out to families asking them which option they would prefer.

"Does it make any sense to go to school on June 1 if it's the last day? If we get to April and we're on schedule I'll probably just say we're not going to school that day. But if we have one or two more snow dates, then the end dates are June 3 and we go to school Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday," he said.

Hulsebus said the district could also use a couple spring break days to bring the last day of school into May.

"We could do that, but it would not be popular with staff," Crozier said. "Nicole (Herdrich) would back me up on this, that spring break is really good for our high school. Those kids really need that break."

In other action, Crozier said the baseball/softball campaign has raised about \$35,000 of a goal of \$300,000. He said they will not begin working until they have \$180,000 to \$200,000 of the funding raised. The district is planning some facility upgrades to those two outdoor facilities when funds have been secured through private donations.

"We have to have enough lead time to get bids out or RFP's out for bids. If they raise that money in June and want to start in July that's just not a realistic time frame to get our stuff done," he said.

"Hopefully we get some momentum on that soon so we can get working on it and get the board an update on our progress."

Construction on the new district office just northeast of the current office is progressing. Crozier said crews are hoping to get drywall up by early February and are currently doing ductwork and electrical work.

"They are making some good progress and it's starting to look very nice."

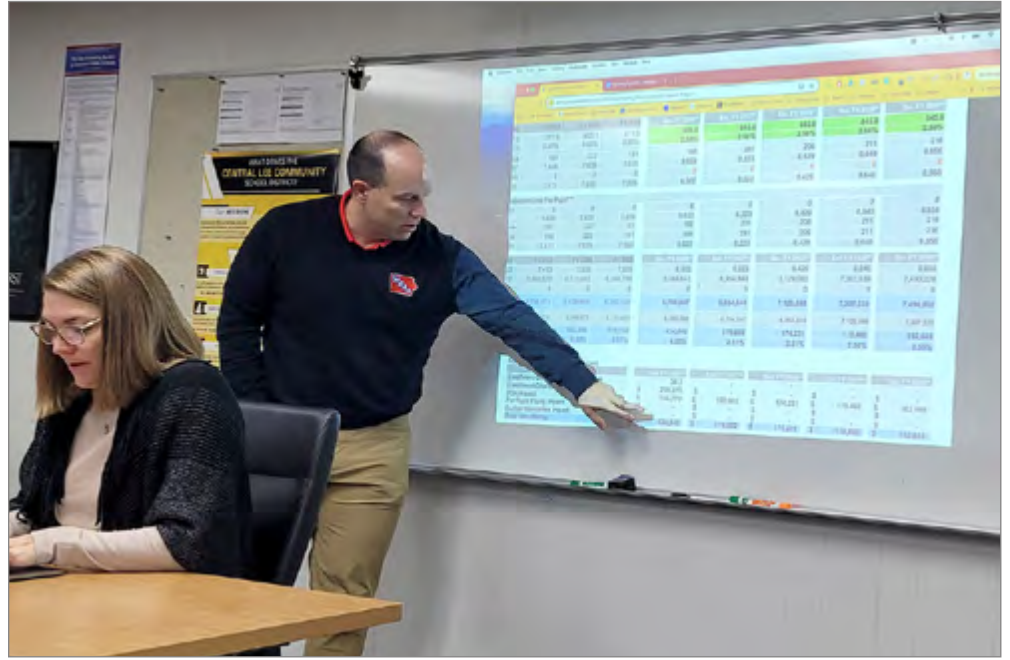


Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Central Lee School District Superintendent Dr. Andy Crozier points to some financial data during an update Tuesday morning at district offices outside Donnellson. Below, Central Lee FFA students participated in Wreaths Across America.



PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MINUTES
KEOKUK CITY
COUNCIL MEETING
January 2, 2025
501 Main Street
5:30 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in regular session on January 2, 2025, at 501 Main Street.

Mayor Mahoney called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. There were eight council members present, none absent, 3rd Ward Council Seat Vacant. Carissa Crenshaw, Tyler Walker, Steve Andrews, Dorothy Cackley, Devon Dade, Dan Tillman, Roger Bryant, and Michael Greenwald were present. Staff in attendance: City Administrator Emmanuel Bellegarde, Public Works Director Brian Carroll, Community Development Director Pam Broomhall, Police Chief Zeth Baum, Fire Chief Gabe Rose, and Bridge, Cemetery, Park & Sanitation Manager Bob Weis.

MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE: Read a letter from Janet Smith on behalf of the Keokuk Union Depot Foundation regarding all the remod-

eling that took place over the past year and how nice it has turned out. Updated on local events taking place this weekend in our community.

Motion made by Crenshaw, second by Walker to approve the agenda, including the consent agenda. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

- Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting & Workshop of December 19, 2024;

- RESOLUTION NO. 157-2025:** Approving a Liquor License for Columbian Room of Keokuk, 11 N. 6th Street, Class C Retail Alcohol License – effective January 20, 2025, pending dram;

- Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5447-5449;

Motion made by Walker, second by Dade to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 158-2025:** "A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING DEPOSITORIES FOR CITY MONIES AND CITY FUNDS NOT TO EXCEED THE SUMS INDICATED PER FINANCIAL INSTITUTION." (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Tillman, second by Andrews

to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 159-2025:** "A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE DAILY GATE CITY AS A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION FOR PUBLICATION OF OFFICIAL NOTICES. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS.

Motion carried.

Motion made by Crenshaw, second by Bryant to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 160-2025:** "A RESOLUTION MAKING THE SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX RENTED IN THE NAME OF THE CITY OF KEOKUK ACCESSIBLE TO THE MAYOR & CITY CLERK." Motion made by Greenwald, second by Crenshaw to amend the resolution by having Safety Deposit Box accessible to the Mayor, City Clerk & Mayor Pro-Tem. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS.

Motion made by Bryant, no one second to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION:** "A RESOLUTION TO ASSUME SOUTHEAST IOWA DEVELOPMENT CENTER LOAN FROM KEOKUK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION." Motion made by Cackley, second by Greenwald to

table the resolution. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion failed. **TABLED.**

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Dade to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 161-2025:** "A RESOLUTION APPROVING OFFICER TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT." (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Crenshaw, second by Tillman to enter into closed session at 6:01 p.m. Closed Session pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 21.5 to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance or discharge is being considered, and when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests closed session. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Dade to enter back into regular session at 6:17 p.m. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Bryant, second by Cackley to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING MINUTES
MOUNT PLEASANT
CITY COUNCIL
Mount Pleasant, Iowa,
December 11, 2024**

The Mount Pleasant City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 307 East Monroe Street, second-floor meeting room. The meeting was called to order by the Mayor and the roll being called there were present Steven K. Brimhall in the Chair and the following named Councilmembers.

Present: Engberg, Crull, McWilliams, White, Griffith

Absent: Glaha
It was moved by Councilmember Griffith and seconded by Councilmember White that the Council approve the following consent agenda items with one roll call motion vote:

- the minutes of the November 26, 2024, City Council meeting;
- the payment of bills totaling \$242,681.48;
- the report of officers including Resolution No. 2024-108 approving November transfers.

Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.

Councilmember Griffith moved and Councilmember Engberg seconded that the Council approve the agenda as printed.

Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.

Councilmember Griffith moved and Councilmember Crull seconded that the Council read for the third time and adopt the following entitled Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 12, SECTION 12-6 STOP INTERSECTIONS OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES

Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.

Councilmember Griffith moved and Councilmember McWilliams seconded that the Council read for the third time and adopt the following entitled Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 12, SECTION 12-4 SPEED LIMITS OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES

Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.

It was moved by Councilmember Griffith and seconded by Coun-

Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

cilmember White that the Council approve the issuance of a new Class E Retail Alcohol License for Iowa Wine & Spirits at 109 S Jefferson Street. Motion approved, 5-0.

It was moved by Councilmember Griffith and seconded by Councilmember McWilliams that the Council approve the 5-year FAA (CIP) Capital Improvement Program for the Mount Pleasant Municipal Airport. Motion approved, 5-0.

Councilmember Crull moved and Councilmember McWilliams seconded that the Council adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m. to meet in adjourned session Monday, December 23, 2024.

Steven K Brimhall, Mayor
ATTEST: Lori Davis, City Clerk

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MINUTES OF THE
PROCEEDINGS**

**OF THE BURLINGTON,
IOWA CITY COUNCIL
Meeting No. 23
December 2, 2024**

The Burlington City Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. in the Thomas J. Smith Council Chambers, City Hall, 400 Washington Street, with Mayor Billups, Council Members Graham-Murray, Scott and Weiss present. Council Member Bailey was absent.

BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

PROCLAMATION OF RETIREMENT:

* Don Fitting, WWTF Superintendent

PROCLAMATION:

* Burlington City Hall Centennial Day - Hal Morton

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE: Laigha Anderson, former Burlington resident, current resident of Topeka, Kansas, congratulated the council on taking steps towards

creating a strategic plan. Anderson encouraged the council to take full advantage of the strategic planning process, emphasizing its potential to address issues important to Burlington residents and create intentional steps to make positive changes. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

CONSENT AGENDA:

To the Public:
All matters listed under Item I., Consent Agenda, having been discussed were considered to be routine by the City Council and were enacted by one motion. There was no separate discussion of these items. If discussion was desired, that item was removed from the Consent Agenda and was considered separately.

Introduced By: Scott
Seconded By: Weiss

MOTION: To approve all items listed under Item I., Consent Agenda.

DISCUSSION: Mayor Billups reviewed the items listed on the consent agenda to the viewing audience. He announced those individuals appointed to various City commissions and boards.

All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 4 - "AYES")

CARRIED

(Council Member Bailey arrived at 5:50 p.m.)

RESOLUTIONS:

Introduced By: Weiss
Seconded By: Billups
1. Resolution Calling an Election on Proposed Ordinance Amending Increasing a Franchise Fee Under the City's Gas Utility Franchise with Interstate Power and Light Company

DISCUSSION: Chad Bird, City Manager, stated that the resolution calling for a special election on March 4, 2025, to vote on a 3% increase to the franchise fee under

the gas utility franchise agreement with Alliant Energy. Laigha Anderson spoke in support of the franchise fee, emphasizing that it was necessary to maintain city services in light of state-mandated property tax reductions. Chris Roepke expressed support for putting the issue to a vote, reminding the council of other financial obligations facing taxpayers. Council Member Scott expressed his thoughts on the timing of the election and the importance of the upcoming budget process. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")

ADOPTED

Introduced By: Bailey
Seconded By: Scott
2. Resolution Calling an Election on Proposed Ordinance Amending Increasing a Franchise Fee Under the City's Electric Utility Franchise

with Interstate Power and Light Company

DISCUSSION: City Manager Bird stated that the resolution for the electric utility franchise would also propose a 3% fee increase and a special election on March 4, 2025. He stated that the details for the electric utility franchise were similar to the previous resolution. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")

ADOPTED

Adjournment: 6:00 p.m.
Approved: December 16, 2024

Katie Music, CMC, City Clerk

Jon D. Billups, Mayor
(See recording on file in the office of the City Clerk for complete discussion and documentation.)

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Sports/From the Front

Chiefs pull away from Hounds in second half

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison's Dayton Lamar looks for a rebound in the third quarter of the Hounds' game with Keokuk Tuesday night at the Hound Dome.

FORT MADISON - Keokuk's Jaxon Clark was going to be hard to defend, and Fort Madison coach Ryan Wilson understood that.

Where the Bloodhounds had to counter that, Wilson thought, was on the rebounding side.

They didn't do it.

Clark had 41 points in Keokuk's 61-50 win on Tuesday night, but it was the way he commanded the board that bothered Wilson.

"The rebounding thing ... that's unacceptable on our part," Wilson said. "Just go tip it out to half court or something. Go do something. I mean, we're watching the ball in the air, and then it's there, and then it's like, 'Oh, where's he at?' By that point it's too late. Quit watching the ball and just go block somebody out."

Eight of Clark's last 10 points came on putbacks as the Bloodhounds (4-4 overall, 3-2 Southeast Conference) were trying to come back in the fourth quarter.

The Bloodhounds were able to get the 6-foot-10 junior into foul trouble — he had four for the game — but couldn't get him out of the game.

"He's 6-10, and 300 pounds, and we don't have that," Wilson said. "We had (Hunter) Creswell last year that physically could do some things and use his body and his strength as a senior, when (Clark) was a sophomore, and that gave us an advantage last year. And that's why we were able to beat him at home last year, because we had that physicality and were able to match up. We've got a lot of athletes on this team, but I don't have just some big, strong bruiser to guard that

right now."

The Bloodhounds were able to attack Keokuk's 2-3 zone defense, but couldn't match the Chiefs' point production.

"We have the athleticism. We can attack anybody," Wilson said. "You know, early on, we didn't attack him strong and allowed him to get some blocked shots and things. We had two fouls on him in the first quarter and we didn't capitalize. So that's frustrating, too."

Fort Madison got to within 46-40 early in the fourth quarter before the Chiefs (7-3, 3-2) pulled away.

It was the seventh consecutive victory for Keokuk.

Kenden Bowie and Julian Dear led Fort Madison with 14 points each. Dayton Lamar had 12 points.

Fort Madison plays host to Fairfield on Friday and Holy Trinity on Saturday.



Boatman causes problems for FM's Lady Hounds

HOUNDS - Continued from Page 1

5 ½ minutes without a field goal in the first half as Keokuk built a 17-point lead. The Chiefs led 36-22 at halftime, then opened the second half with a quick 7-0 run, with the first five points coming from Boatman.

"Last year, I think we held her to some of her lowest (scoring) totals of the season," Bentley said. "We went with a similar game plan to start the game, and it wasn't panning out, so we switched to a zone. The importance (of defending Boatman) was there, but I would say the execution wasn't.

"We're number two in 4A for points allowed, 34.1 a game. They doubled that. That's the biggest thing. So it's something that we're going to go back, we going to watch film, and we're going to really dig in on that end."

Hadley Wolfe led Fort Madison with 10 points. Halle Menke added eight points.

Fort Madison plays Fairfield at home on Friday, then plays host to Holy Trinity on Saturday.

"Even when we're down, we don't roll over," Bentley said. "It wasn't our night tonight. But I'm not going to take away from the girls' effort at all. They fought for me. So I'm not going to sit here and yell at them or bash them. I think that execution is what it comes down to."

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