

# Council to talk Block

**REPAIRS:** Schickedanz steps up to help with repairs of James Block building

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison City Council will hear a proposal from city staff to put a quarter million dollars into the James Block Building downtown.

According to a report issued to councilmembers last week, City Building Director Doug Krogmeier and City Manager Laura Liegois are recommending that the council put the money into the building to extend its life and increase the chances for getting the building in the hands of a developer

at some point.

Demolishing the building would cost the city about \$500,000 according to city estimates.

The city has a quote from Schickedanz Construction to repair a side wall and do some roof stabilization for \$165,000. An alternative bid for repairing the wall and then providing a complete roof replacement including removal of the cupola was submitted for \$270,500.

The city has already put \$193,000 into the building and

See **BLOCK**, page 8

## BHS hits FM girls with first loss of year

Fort Madison High School's Hadley Wolfe (6) traps the ball during their game against Burlington High School, Monday, May 5, 2025 at Burlington's Bracewell Stadium.

The Lady Hounds dropped their first match of the season as the Grayhounds avenged a tie the two encountered in their previous meeting. See page 5 for the complete story and more photos.

Photo by John Lovretta/  
Special to Pen City Current



## SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

### District offers Wolter 3-year contract at \$190K/year

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison Community School District has offered a three-year contract to the district's newest superintendent.

The district offered former Fort



WOLTER

Madison instructor Mike Wolter the position on Thursday and, Monday morning in a special meeting of district's board of directors, voted unanimously to offer Wolter the 3-year deal

and a \$190,000 annual salary, which amounts to \$15,833.33 per month for 12 months.

The contract will be effective July 1 and run through June 30, 2028 with options to extend the contract with

See **DISTRICT**, page 8

## CITY NEWS

# Staff to take deeper look at city's financials

City issues 3-year projection showing increased deficit spending through 2029

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison city officials are looking to start discussions already on the 2027 fiscal year budget due to changes in funding streams impacting the city.

City Manager Laura Liegois and City Finance Director Peggy Steffensmeier will be leading a discussion at Tuesday's regular council meeting about future city budgets.

The discussion Tuesday is what the two called a starting point in a report to the Fort Madison City Council.

"The past two fiscal year budgets have been affected by Iowa legislation with House File 718, which removed emergency tax levels and changed the property taxes that all cities receive," the report read.

"As we have seen, this has had impacts on our budgets for (Fiscal year) 2025 and 2026. During this current year's legislative session, there have been four bills presented on changing how property taxes are figured and directed to local government(s)."

The 2025 Iowa legislative session has gone into overtime as legislators grapple with, among other things, property tax reform. Some legislators have indicated they are comfortable with moving the discussion into the next session, while some are holding the session open while eminent domain issues around carbon pipelines are worked out.

Discussion points for the fiscal year include:

See **BUDGET**, page 8

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## WEATHER

TUE 06 May.....Patchy fog then sunny, 73° F/ 51° F  
WED 07 May.....Partly sunny, 77° F/ 50° F  
THU 08 May.....Mostly sunny, 70° F/ 44° F

## IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 05/04.....12 26 31 35 43, Lucky Ball: 14  
PICK 3 MIDDAY 05/04.....8 9 3  
PICK 3 EVENING 05/04.....2 8 4  
PICK 4 MIDDAY 05/04.....6 2 5 7  
PICK 4 EVENING 05/04.....1 0 1 9

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

CONRAD R. GILLETT

Conrad R. Gillett, 101, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 10:16 a.m. on Saturday, May 3, 2025 at The Kensington. He was born on May 27, 1923 in Kansas City, MO to Earl “Ted” & Margaret M. Case Gillett. He married Betty J. Hamrick on November 18, 1945 in Fort Madison, IA. She preceded him in death on August 3, 2013. He retired from the Sheaffer Pen Company in May of 1985 as Manager of the Ad Specialty Department with 40 years of service. Upon his retirement, he enjoyed traveling with his wife to visit family and friends, making three trips to Europe to visit his son in the Air Force. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1942 and served in the Pacific Theater during WWII in the Solomon Islands, Guam, Guadalcanal & New Georgia. He was discharged in 1945. He was one of the last WWII vets and was likely the oldest in Fort Madison. Conrad was likely the oldest man in Fort Madison as well. He was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church and a former member of the Fort Madison Jaycees. He was an avid fisherman all of his life and especially enjoyed his annual trip to Lake of the Woods, Canada with his son. He spent much time fishing on the Mississippi River throughout his life.

Conrad survived by his son, Keith R. Gillett of Belleville, IL. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, 1-daughter: Patricia Gillett in 1971, 1-sister: Marie & 3-brothers: Ed, Frank & Earl.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A visitation will be held from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A memorial service will immediately follow at 10:00 a.m. with Pastor Dave Poland officiating. Burial will be held at Oakland Cemetery. A memorial has been established for St. Paul Lutheran Church. Online condolences to the Gillett family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).



GILLETT

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

ANNA L. BEASLEY

Anna Louise “Anne” Beasley, 97, went home to be with her lord, at the Kensington in Fort Madison at 9:55 a.m. Saturday, May 3, 2025.

Born August 17, 1927 in Donnellson, Iowa, the daughter of Otto and Valley (Robinson) Herrmuth. On September 14, 1946 she married her high school classmate Charley R. Anderson Sr. , he preceded her in death September 27, 1982. She later married Donald L. Beasley on April 2, 1988, he preceded her in death October 4, 2011.



BEASLEY

Survivors include two daughters Becky J. Anderson of Santa Barbara, California and Brenda L. Anderson of Donnellson; two sons: Charley (Joan) Anderson of Fort Madison and Ben (Karen) Anderson of Donnellson, Iowa; step-son John (Deb) Beasley of Cincinnati, Ohio; step-daughter Sandra (Jeff) Brown of Wever; six grandchildren: Derek (My), Brita (Joe), Rachelle (Mark), Tom, Jason, and Thad; eight step-grandchildren; and many great grandchildren and step-great grandchildren. Also surviving are several nieces, nephews, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents; parents; husbands; five sisters: Mary (Spiesz) Pruett, Mildred Beach, Rosalie Herrmuth, Grace Niggemeyer, and Lillian (Nugrass) Niggemeyer; brother Willard Herrmuth

Anne graduated from Fort Madison High School in 1944. in 1946 she received her business certificate from Carthage College in Carthage, Illinois. She owned her own antique shop for ten years. She was a former member of the First Baptist Church in Fort Madison, the Fort Madison Federated Women’s Club, Double Ten Kings Daughters, Chap KV of PEO, and Lee County Farm Bureau Women. In 1984 at the age of 57 she was chosen as the Fort Madison Women of the Year by the Business and Professional Women’s Club. After retirement in 1991, she and her husband joined the Roving volunteers in Christ’s Service. Anne was fond of sewing, antiques, piano, and music. She loved sports, swimming, and biking. She was very proud of her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren

The family will receive friends from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Friday, May 9, 2025 at the First Baptist Church in Fort Madison. A funeral service will be held at 6:00 p.m. Friday, May 9, 2025 at the First Baptist Church in Fort Madison with Pastor Les Featheringill officiating. Following the funeral service, her body will be entrusted to the crematory of Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation. A private family burial will be held at Hillcrest Memorial Park in Fort Madison.

A memorial has been established in her memory for the Roving Volunteers in Christ’s Service Headquarters or First Baptist Church in Fort Madison.

Schmitz Funeral Home of Donnellson is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com](http://www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com).

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Obituaries/For the Record

For the Record

**Fort Madison Police Report**  
05/01/25 – 9:30 a.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Randy Allen Davis, 61, of Fort Madison, in the 2700 block of Avenue J, on warrants for probation violation, and charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance. He was held in Lee County Jail.

05/01/25 – 2:56 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Beau Garrett Jones, 36, of Mt. Pleasant, at 15th Street and Avenue B, on a warrant for escape from residential facility, and charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance, and eluding. He was held in Lee County Jail.

05/02/25 – no time listed – Fort Madison police arrested Adam Robert Cloyed, 37, of Fort Madison, in the 600 block of 7th Street, on a charge of driving while barred. He was held in Lee County Jail.

05/02/25 – 12:39 a.m. – Fort Madison police cited Lisa Ann Cloyed, 62, of Fort Madison, in the 800 block of 19th Street, on a charge of driving under suspension.

05/03/25 – 11:37 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 400 block of 23rd Street.

05/03/25 – 4:30 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 3000 block of Avenue H.

05/03/25 – 8:08 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Lon William Spurgin, 74, of Fort Madison at Crescent Lane and Bluff Road, on a charge of OWI. He was held at Lee County Jail.

05/03/25 – 10:10 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Matthew Robert Popejoy, 47, of Fort Madison, in the 2800 block of Avenue N, on a charges of OWI and possession of drug para-

phernalia. He was held in Lee County Jail.

05/04/25 – 11:10 a.m. – Fort Madison police cited Adam James Hardin, 44, of West Point in the 2200 block of Avenue F, on a charge of trespassing.

05/04/25 – 2:44 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2600 block of Avenue L.

05/04/25 – 6:47 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Stephanie Lynn Hemm, 34, of Fort Madison in the 2200 block of Avenue L, on a charge of domestic abuse assault. She was held in Lee County Jail.

05/04/25 – 11:05 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Mitchell J. Trelstad, 34, of Niota, Ill, in the 4700 block of Bluff Road, on a charge of OWI. He was held in Lee County Jail.

**Keokuk Police Report**  
04/29/25 – 9:25 a.m. – Keokuk police responded to a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of 5th Street and Johnson Street. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Sheila J. Monroe, 64, of Hamilton was stopped at the intersection, then turned left and struck a vehicle driven by Shian-na Jo Matlock 42, of Keokuk. No injuries were reported and Monroe was cited for failure to yield.

05/01/25 – 2:32 p.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2000 block of Main Street.

05/02/25 – 2:15 a.m. – Keokuk police arrested Joseph William Taylor, Jr., 48, of Keokuk, in the 500 block of Bank Street, on warrants for escape from custody and voluntary absence from custody. He was held in Lee County Jail.

**Lee County Sheriff's Report**  
05/01/25 – 1:14 a.m. – Lee

County Sheriff's deputies arrested Ivan Kirilov Petlitchki, 36, of Fort Madison, in the 200 block of the Hwy. 61 bypass, on a charge of OWI, he held in Lee County Jail.

05/01/25 – 10:02 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident on Hwy. 61 near milemarker 19. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Tara Marie Tanner, 27, of LaHarpe, Ill., was southbound and left the roadway entering the median and struck a culvert due to wet road conditions. No charges were reported. Tanner was evaluated by EMS personnel and released.

05/02/25 – 9:47 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Anthony Joseph Davis, 46, of Fort Madison at the N. Lee County Courthouse on a warrant for 2nd-degree theft. He was held in Lee County Jail.

05/02/25 – 11:30 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies cited Geremias Gomez Perez, 21, of Omaha, in the 2700 block of Hwy. 61 on charges of trespass and littering.

05/03/25 – 2:18 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Konnor Gene Alan Meierotto, 22, of Hamilton, at the S. Lee County Courthouse, on warrants for no insurance and failure to maintain control. He was taken to Lee County Courthouse and released on a promise to appear.

05/04/25 – 12:03 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jayden Lee Bartenhagen, 21, listed as homeless from Keokuk, at the sheriff's office, on a charge of criminal mischief. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

*Those listed above should be and are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

OBITUARIES

NORMAN H. COFFMAN

Norman H. Coffman, 61 years, of Coralville, Iowa and formerly of Fort Madison, Iowa died Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at his apartment. He was born December 28, 1963 in Tennessee, a son of Blaine Jarvis “Bud” Coffman and Norma (Lawrence) Coffman. He was raised in Nauvoo, Illinois by Bud and Betty Coffman. Norman was a graduate of Nauvoo Colusa High School. He work 26 years as a guard at the Iowa State Penitentiary. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinals and Iowa Hawkeye fan.

He is survived by two children, Duane (Leslie) Coffman of Fort Madison and Paige (Jake) Poggemiller of Burlington, Iowa; seven siblings: Rick (Aundrea) Franklin, Lynette Carter, Lisa (Steve) St. Clair, Anthony (Tina) Franklin, Randy (Denise) Coffman, Glen Wyatt, and Janie Wyatt; four grandchildren: Reece, Collin, and Wyatt Coffman and Tauren Poggemiller; numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents and one sibling, Blaine Jarvis Coffman Jr, and his dog, Lady Bug.

His family will greet friends and celebrate his life 4:00 - 6:00 pm Friday, May 9, 2025 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Everyone is invited to wear their favorite Cardinals or Hawkeye shirt. A private burial will be held at a later date. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Coffman family and an on-line guest book may be found at [www.barrmemorialchapel.com](http://www.barrmemorialchapel.com).



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Sports

# Lady Hounds drop first match of the year at Bracewell

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP  
PCC SPORTS

BURLINGTON — Fort Madison’s girls soccer team found itself in an unusual position.

The Bloodhounds haven’t been behind in a match all season, but that changed in Monday’s Southeast Conference match against Burlington, and it proved costly to their conference title hopes.

Fort Madison fell, 3-0, in a battle of conference leaders at Bracewell Stadium.

Burlington (9-1-2 overall, 6-0-1 conference) now has a one-game lead over the Bloodhounds (8-1-2, 5-1-1) in the standings — the Grayhounds have two conference matches remaining while Fort Madison has three. The two teams played to a scoreless draw earlier this season.

The Bloodhounds had given up only one goal this season, and that one tied last Tuesday’s match against Mediapolis. So when Burlington’s Kiara Winski scored eight minutes in, Fort Madison found itself trying to mount a comeback.

“I mean, we haven’t played from behind all year,” Fort Madison coach Carrie Burken said. “So I think as far as our confidence and just having composure and being able to stay positive, I think that impacted that.”

The pressure was really on when Burlington’s Hunter Pender scored four minutes into the second half. Isabella Ziegler scored off a corner kick with 14:08 left to seal the win.

Fort Madison’s offense couldn’t find a solution against the Grayhounds. Teagan Snaadt had the only shot on goal for the Bloodhounds, and Halle Menke and Hadley Wolfe combined for three other shots that went wide.

The Bloodhounds didn’t get their first corner kick until 6:40 left in the first half, and only had three for the entire match.

“We couldn’t get possession,” Burken said. “Normally, we can figure it out a little bit where we can start having success, and we just weren’t able to today. And sometimes that just happens. Burlington looked good tonight.”

“I don’t know if that was me rotating too many people in and, like, too much rotation, or if we just got tired. We couldn’t get anything going. That just happens sometimes. And Burlington does that because they’re such a good possession team. They make it hard to keep possession, so I think that frustrated us and made it a little bit more difficult.”

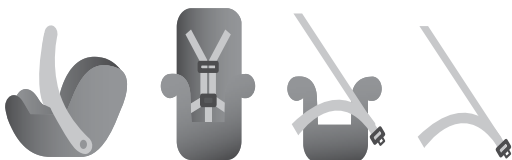
The two teams, rivals for the conference title in recent seasons, always get matched up somehow in the post-season, and Burken knows the Bloodhounds might get another chance to face the Grayhounds.

“So I think that’s just the mindset, knowing that if we do run into them in the postseason, it will be here,” Burken said. “I think that’s the big thing. But we’ll talk as a team tomorrow. I feel like sometimes it’s hard to think about what you can learn from an experience until you have time to process it. So that’s the biggest thing that we have to do, is we have to figure out how to learn from this experience and move on from it.”



Photo by John Lovretta/Special to Pen City Current

Fort Madison High School goalkeeper Ellie Hellman (1) retrieves the ball after being scored on during their game against Burlington High School, Monday, May 5, 2025 at Burlington’s Bracewell Stadium. Below left, Reilynn Turnbull (24) heads the ball, while at below right, Molly Schulte (20) takes the ball past Burlington High School’s Daphne Brown (28)



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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE  
West Burlington  
Special City Council  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday,  
April 2, 2025

The West Burlington City Council met in Special Session on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at West Burlington City Hall, 122 Broadway Street, West Burlington, Iowa, with Mayor Ron Teater presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT:  
Andy Crowner, John Johnson, Melanie Young, Therese Lees, and Ringo Covert

MEMBERS ABSENT:  
ALSO PRESENT:  
Mayor Ron Teater, Police Chief Jesse Logan, City Clerk Kelly Fry, and City Administrator Gregg Mandsager

CALL TO ORDER  
ROLL CALL  
PERFECTING & APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
Moved by Lees, seconded by Young, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by the following votes:

Ayes: Crowner, Johnson, Young, Lees, and Covert

PUBLIC HEARING  
West Burlington - Proposed Property Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2025-2026  
Mayor Teater opened the Public Hearing on the Proposed Property Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 at 5:31 p.m.

When the Public Hearing date was set on February 26th, the Council intended for the maximum levy rate to be set at \$10.25, which would allow the Council to approve an increase in the levy from the current \$10.10 up to \$10.25.

Due to changes in the Iowa Department of Man-

agement's software, the maximum levy rate was inadvertently published at \$10.10. In a memo to the City Council, Finance Manager Moore explained that in the previous version of the software, the maximum levy amount could be entered directly on the "Max Levy" page, which would then lock the figure. The updated system now requires the property tax levy amount to be entered on the Property Tax page, which also determines revenue projections for the General Fund and Special Revenue Fund. While working to finalize numbers in preparation for adopting the budget, various levy amounts were modeled to evaluate potential scenarios. At the time of submission, the Property Tax page reflected a levy of \$10.10 rather than the intended \$10.25. As a result, the proposed levy was submitted at \$10.10.

The proposed budget has been calculated using the \$10.10 levy rate. The \$10.25 rate would have increased the proposed property tax levy and corresponding revenue, contingent on Council direction and support. Since the proposed maximum levy rate was submitted at \$10.10, the Council is not able to increase the rate beyond that figure.

To address the shortfall, the council can consider the use of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and adjust the levy in the following fiscal year as needed.

There were no verbal or written comments received during the Public Hearing. Mayor Teater closed the Public Hearing at 5:33 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

CITIZEN INQUIRIES  
ADJOURN  
Moved by Lees, seconded by Crowner, to adjourn at 5:35 p.m. Motion carried by the following votes:  
Ayes: Crowner, Johnson, Young, Lees, and Covert  
Approved  
Ron Teater, Mayor  
Kelly D. Fry, City Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE  
MINUTES  
KEOKUK CITY  
COUNCIL MEETING  
April 3, 2025  
501 Main Street  
5:30 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in regular session on April 3, 2025, at 501 Main Street. Mayor Mahoney called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. There were nine council members present, none absent, Carissa Crenshaw, Tyler Walker, Jeff Mullin, Dorothy Cackley, Devon Dade (entered at 5:15) Steve Andrews, Dan Tillman, Roger Bryant, and Michael Greenwald were present. Staff in attendance: Interim City Administrator Dave Hinton, City Clerk Celeste El Anfaoui, Community Development Director Pam Broomhall, Chief of Police Zeth Baum, Assistant Chief of Police Andrew Whitaker and other city employees.

MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE: Informed of upcoming area events. Chief Baum recognized Officer Mason Schau as the 2024 Officer of the Year and highlighted his accomplishments. Alta Medea from the Domestic Violence Intervention Program provided an overview of the services offered and how the

program assists those in need. Mayor Mahoney proclaimed April 2025 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and read an official proclamation.. The mayor also offered prayers and condolences to the family of Joe Shuman, recognizing his contributions and the great things he did for the City of Keokuk.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Crenshaw to approve the agenda, including the consent agenda. (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

- Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting & Council Workshop of March 20, 2025;
- Special Event Permit for Rand Park Pavilion Commission, Pavilion Sponsored Concerts for the 2025 season, requesting permission for BYOB at these concerts;

- Special Event Permit for Crossview Church, Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 19, 2025, 7 a.m. to noon at Tumelty Park;

- Special Event Permit for J & M Displays Inc, City of Keokuk Fireworks, July 4, 2025 @ Rand Park, 9:30 p.m.;

- Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5464-5465;

Mayor Mahoney opened a public hearing at 5:59 p.m. on the proposal to enter into a Development Agreement with ATTTH Group Inc. A public hearing notice was published in the Daily Gate City on March 25, 2025.

COMMENTS: Broomhall gave overview and process of rebating through Tax Increment Financing (TIF) was explained.

No further comments

were received, Mayor Mahoney closed the hearing at 6:03 p.m.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Dade to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 194-2025: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF KEOKUK AND ATTTH GROUP." (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Mayor Mahoney opened a public hearing at 6:04 p.m. to award a contract for the Grand Avenue 2025 reconstruction from North 17th to Boulevard Road Project. A public hearing notice was published in the Daily Gate City on February 25, 2025.

COMMENTS: Mayor Mahoney provided an overview of the matter. The council discussed the issue, with several members expressing concerns and inquiring about the plan if the contract is not awarded.

No further comments were received, Mayor Mahoney closed the hearing at 6:23 p.m.

Motion made by Bryant, second by Tillman to approve the following proposed resolution "A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR GRAND AVENUE 2025 RECONSTRUCTION FROM NORTH 17TH STREET TO BOULEVARD ROAD PROJECT."

Roll Call Vote: (4) AYES – Dade, Tillman, Bryant and Greenwald. (5) NAYS – Crenshaw, Walker, Mullin, Cackley and Andrews. Motion failed.

Motion made by Crenshaw, second by Greenwald to approve

the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 195-2025: "A RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO THE FINANCIAL SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH PIPER & SANDLER CO. WITH RESPECT TO THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL LOAN NOTES." (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Andrews to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 196-2025: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT FOR FIREWORK DISPLAY WITH J & M DISPLAYS." (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Walker, second by Dade to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 p.m.

PUBLIC NOTICE  
TENTATIVE AGENDA  
FORT MADISON  
CITY COUNCIL  
Date: Tuesday,  
May 6, 2025  
Time: 5:30 P.M.  
Place: City Council  
Chambers, City Hall

INVOCATION  
ROLL CALL  
PINNING CEREMONY  
VISITORS AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS:  
At this time persons may address Council on any matters not on the Council agenda. After identifying yourself by name and address, please briefly state your issue.

PLEASE NOTE: This is not an opportunity to discuss issues with Council or to get information. In accordance with Open Meetings law, Council may not deliberate upon, nor take action on any complaint or suggestion



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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

or respond to any allegations which are not part of the published agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve the consent agenda:

- Minutes of April 15, 2025;
- New Liquor License: A. TSR Summer Roundup, 2103 303rd Avenue, Effective June 18, 2025 – Class C Retail;
- Liquor License Renewal: A. B.P.O. Elks Lodge #374, 719 Avenue H, Effective July 1, 2025 – Class F Retail;
- Noise Permit: Vinnie's Longbranch, Dry Creek Festival, Sunday, May 25th, 2025, until 11:00 P.M.
- Claims dated May 1, Manual Claims, Library Claims, April Financial Report; and
- Payroll of April 18, 2025, and May 2, 2025.

COMMUNITY REPORTS: Tri-State Rodeo Summer Roundup, Bobby Holtkamp

PUBLIC HEARING(S): Concerning Voluntary Annexation & Rezone: Postponed

SPECIAL EVENT PERMITS

1. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve the Special Event Permit(s) and waive the associated fees:

A. FM Farmers Market, June 2 – September 29, 2025

B. Fort Madison Fireworks, July 4, 2025

C. Parade of Lights, November 28, 2025

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

2. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution setting public hearing at 5:30 P.M., on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, concerning the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget Amendments.

3. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution setting public hearing at 5:30 P.M., on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, concerning updates to Title 7: Police, Chapter 12: Fireworks.

4. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving a lease agreement with the Fort Madison Rodeo Corporation for the Summer Roundup Concert Series, for a term of three (3) years.

5. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving a Sewer Reduction Meter Policy, effective May 1, 2025, as previously approved by the City Council on April 15, 2025, now brought forward for reconsideration following

the Mayor's veto.

OR

6. MODIFIED RESOLUTION: (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving an amended Sewer Reduction Meter Policy, effective May 6, 2025.

7. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving the Mayor's signature on Change Order #1 for the Fort Madison Municipal Airport Rehabilitation and Remark Airfield Pavement Project.

8. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving the City Manager's signature on the Statement of Completion for the Fort Madison Municipal Airport Rehabilitation and Remark Airfield Pavement Project and approving Partial Payment Applications #1 and #2 to Fahrner Asphalt Sealers, LLC.

DISCUSSION

9. Budget Projections OTHER

10. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve a proposal from Schickendanz Construction for roof and wall repairs to the James Block Building.

CLOSED SESSION

11. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to enter into Closed Session to discuss the potential purchase or sale of real estate, pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(j).

ADJOURNMENT – The next City Council meeting will be held at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, May 20th, 2025.

PUBLIC NOTICE

LEE COUNTY

TREASURER'S OFFICE

The 2025 Iowa Property Tax Credit Claim application to be filed this year for credit on your 2024 taxes-payable Sept 2025 and March 2026 are out. They are available on our Lee County website and in the Fort Madison and Keokuk offices. Both offices are open to pick up applications Monday-Friday 830am to 430pm.

Please note who is eligible and the total household income for the year 2024 below:

- Iowa Residents.
- Total household income is less than \$26,219.00 and age 65-69 on December 31, 2024, or
- For a claimant who is at least 70 years of age and total household income for everyone living in the house is less than 250% of the federal poverty level (see last page

of application for federal poverty level guidelines) on December 31, 2024.

- Totally disabled and age 18-64 and total household income is less than \$26,219.00 on December 31, 2024.

"Totally Disabled" means:

1. You are unable to engage in any substantial gainful employment.
2. The unemployment is due to a physical or mental impairment that is: Medically determined and expected to last 12 months or longer or result in death.

If you were between the ages of 18 and 64 on December 31, 2024, and totally disabled, you are required by the State to provide currently dated proof of your disability and must be included with your claim which is:

A current statement from the Social Security Administration that in 2024 you were receiving a disability benefit due to 100% disability.

Claims without proper documentation will be denied and returned. Please make sure you have signed and dated your application, and all the required documen-

tation is attached before returning it to our office. The deadline to apply is June 1, 2025. Contact our office at 319-372-3405 with any questions.

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From the Front

City to look at multiple options to ease budget

**BUDGET** - Continued from Page 1

- franchise fee increases to 3% which would generate about \$537,000 in electrical revenue fees, and \$125,000 in gas franchise fee revenue.
- cost of services – what services does the city provide that should be charged to residents or have fees adjusted for services.
- review of expenses – what services does the city provide and should they continue doing them internally, contract them out, or cease the service.
- deeper dive into departments where additional savings to help balance the budget could be realized.

Revenues are projected to drop slightly in the 2026-27 fiscal budget year about \$45,000 to \$7.65 million

from \$7.70 million. The 3-year projection shows revenues under current funding streams at \$7.86 million in 2027-28 and \$8.12 million in 2028-29.

However, projected expenses show substantial increases with a 2026-27 figure of \$8.22 million, \$8.41 million in 2027-28, and \$8.76 million in 2028-29. All three years show deficit spending of more than a half a million each year. The city is projecting \$38,000 in deficit spending in the upcoming fiscal year. The current budget year is projected at \$422,000 in deficit spending.

The city’s fire department budget, with the costs of the new fire department included, shows an increase in projected expenses of 63% when comparing the current budget to the 2028-29 projections. The police fund is projected to increase 36% in the same comparison.

City could lose \$100K grant if work not started before May 17

**BLOCK** - Continued from Page 1

has secured a \$100,000 state grant and a \$100,000 low interest loan from the Southeast Iowa Regional Housing Trust. The rest of the money would come from a \$25,000 DNR grant for asbestos removal and the remainder, about \$45,500, would come from the city’s general fund.

The city has also applied for an EPA grant for \$350,000 for repairs on the building, but have had no response to that grant application. That would be used for a complete asbestos abatement of the building and additional environmental work on the structure.

A committee of several city councilmembers and community members was established when a development proposal with Barker Financial out of Iowa City fell through. The Barker group is the entity that finished rehab on the old Lee County Bank building, the Cattermole Library, and several other buildings downtown.

According to the report, the committee is recommending the city move forward with the \$270,000 plan.

The city is up against a deadline of May 17th to show work has started on the building and request a draw-down against the grant. If that is done, the grant can be extended. If the city doesn’t move forward with the repairs, the iowa Economic Development Authority will rescind the \$100,000 grant.

The report also shows that Schickedanz has indicated there could be additional needs once the work begins, but they have submitted a bid that will not result in much of a profit margin.

“He does not intend to earn much overhead, rather, he is offering a commitment to community pride with a bid so reasonable,” the report indicated.

Other action scheduled for Tuesday’s regular meeting includes:

- an update on the Tri-State Rodeo Summer Round-up concert series.
- considering a resolution for a public hearing on May 20th to update the city’s fireworks ordinance to reflect current state code that allows fireworks on July 3rd-4th and Dec. 31. The new state legislation supercedes local codes on those three days.
- considering a three-year agreement with Fort Madison Rodeo Corporation for the Summer Roundup Concert Series.

Wolter contract offer good through May 19th

**DISTRICT** - Continued from Page 1

board and superintendent approval.

The contract also includes 25 days of vacation outside of legal holidays with a limit on accumulation of 35 days. Wolter will also receive 15 days of sick leave up to 130 days and full family medical and dental coverage at district cost. Long term disability and a \$100,000 life insurance policy are also part of the contract package.

Wolter currently is under contract with the Colum-

bus Community School District as a secondary principal and taught previously in the Fort Madison system. He also has served as assistant principal and activities director in the Mediapolis Community School District. He began his career in education as a math teacher and instructional coach in Fort Madison, and was named at-large state coach of the year in 2013.

The district emailed the contract to Wolter on Monday and he has until May 19th to sign the agreement.

Wolter is expected to receive his Ed.S. degree in the superintendency from Northwest Missouri State University in June. He also holds a master’s degree in educational leadership from Viterbo University and a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from the University of Northern Iowa.

Wolter verbally accepted the position with Fort Madison on Thursday.

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Powdered Milk  
Canned Juices  
Beans (canned and dried)

Rice (Brown/white)  
Crackers  
Cereal (Ready to Eat)  
Pasta  
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# DENMARK HERITAGE DAYS

## DENMARK, IOWA



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# JUNE 6,7,8, 2025

### FRIDAY

TRACTOR/GAS ENGINE REGISTRATION 8 AM  
TOWN WIDE YARD SALES 8 AM  
FLEA MARKET/CRAFTS 8 AM  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM AT BANK 9AM-3PM  
LIVE MUSIC IN SHELTER HOUSE 6 PM- 9 PM  
BY JIVE RADIO

### SATURDAY

BISCUITS & GRAVY IN FIRE STATION 7 AM  
BY FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILLARY  
TOWN WIDE YARD SALES 8 AM  
FLEA MARKET/CRAFTS 8 AM  
FLAG RAISING BY BOY SCOUTS 8:30 AM  
STATE HISTORICAL BUS 8:30 AM  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM AT BANK 9AM-12PM  
PEDAL TRACTOR PULLS 9 AM  
SIDEWALK CHALK DRAWING CONTEST 10 AM-12 PM  
K9 DEMONSTRATION(SMALL DIAMOND) 10:30 AM  
CUSTOM CARS & PICKUPS 10 AM - 3 PM  
TRACTOR PARADE 1 PM  
SILVER STEPPERS 1:30 PM  
LIVE AUCTION IN SHELTER HOUSE 2:30 PM  
LIVE MUSIC IN SHELTER HOUSE 6 PM - 9 PM  
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### SUNDAY

BREAKFAST AT CHURCH 7:30 AM  
FLEA MARKET/CRAFTS 8 AM  
CHURCH IN THE PARK 10 AM  
HAM BALL DINNER AT CHURCH 11 AM  
TRACTOR PARADE 1 PM

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