

IUC holds hearing on ITC project

TRANSMISSION: ITC Midwest talks about 15-mile, 345 kilovolt transmission line

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Officials with ITC Midwest met with Lee County property owners Tuesday afternoon regarding a large transmission line that is being planned to run through a good chunk of the county.

Construction on the 345 kilovolt transmission line is set to begin in late 2028, but the group needed to meet with property owners for an informational meeting that was overseen by the Iowa Utilities Commission at Quality Inn and Suites in Fort Madison Tuesday.

The line will run from the company's new Deeds substa-

tion being constructed near Denmark all the way through Lee County to the southeast and then across the Mississippi River to the Ameren Ipava substation in Illinois.

ITC can begin talking with landowners about possible easements now that the public hearing has been held, however they cannot petition the IUC for a franchise for 30 days. The franchise is required by the IUC for authority to build, operate, and maintain the transmission lines.

ITC officials said that all their previous transmission lines have been met with 99% volunteer easement agreements, however eminent domain could be in play if there is signifi-

See HEARING, page 8



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

A panel of officials from ITC Midwest answers questions from a Lee County property owner Tuesday afternoon at Quality Inn and Suites in Fort Madison. ITC is proposing a 15-mile 345 kilovolt transmission structure in Lee County scheduled for construction in 2028.



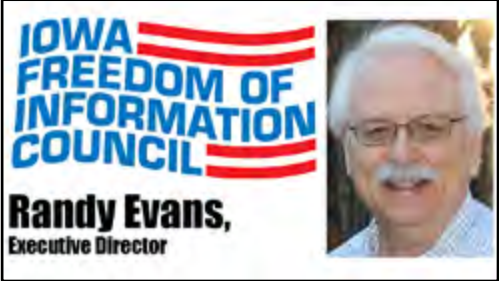
Pinnings

Fort Madison Mayor Matt Mohrfeld administered oaths to new Lt. John Lange and Engineer Justin Cain at Tuesday's City Council meeting.



See EVANS, page 8

COMMENTARY



Bad tactics and optics in Thomson's demands

At least one member of the Iowa House appears to live by the mantra “Do as I say, not as I do” as he demands access to sensitive personal information and commands silence as he trolls for documents.

The audacity of Representative Charley Thomson's recent demands to a nonprofit organization should offend all, regardless of where you land on the political spectrum.

The Associated Press broke the news last week that the Charles City Republican, who chairs the Iowa House Government Oversight Committee, recently sent a letter to the Iowa Migrant Movement for Justice demanding the nonprofit organization give him the names and addresses of its clients, its donors and its members.

Thomson's letter also warned the civil rights group to “not discuss ... or notify any person or entity that you have been directed to provide this information.”

As a politician, Thomson should know his demands contradict the rhetoric on his campaign webpage, where he states, “I will continue the fight against government overreach.”

As an attorney, Thomson should know his demand and the accompanying code of silence he ordered are ham-handed, at a minimum.

First, his attempted information grab contradicts an Iowa Code chapter the Legislature enacted just four years ago, the year before Thomson was first elected.

In 2021, lawmakers wrote Chapter 22A,

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WEATHER

WED 07 May.....Partly sunny, 76° F/ 49° F
THU 08 May.....Mostly sunny and cooler, 68° F/ 43° F
FRI 09 May.....Sunny, 71° F/ 47° F

IOWA LOTTERY

DOUBLE PLAY 05/05.....21 26 28 62 63, Powerball: 1
LOTTO AMERICA 05/05.....5 13 20 22 28, Star Ball: 5 All Star Bonus: 2
LUCKY FOR LIFE 05/05.....3 26 30 32 39, Lucky Ball: 8
PICK 3 MIDDAY 05/05.....125
PICK 3 EVENING 05/05.....6 61
PICK 4 MIDDAY 05/05.....7 6 3 5
PICK 4 EVENING 05/05.....6 7 3 9
POWERBALL 05/05.....16 34 40 45 66, Powerball: 19 Power Play: 2

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Obituaries/For the Record

OBITUARIES

BETTY L. SCHAU

Betty Lou Schau, 97, of Fort Madison, Iowa, passed away at 9:30 p.m. Monday, May 5, 2025, at Birkwood Village in Fort Madison.

She was born on January 17, 1928, in Lincoln, Nebraska, the daughter of Albert and Louella (Rush) Davidson. On September 28, 1947, she married Lester Schau in Primrose, Iowa. He preceded her in death on May 13, 1989.



SCHAU

She is survived by two sons: Michael (Mary Lou) Schau of Oxford, Kansas, Roger (Sandy) Schau of Bonaparte, Iowa; six grandchildren: Amy (Troy), Tyler (Jackie), Heather (Rich), Anna (Casey), DaLane (Kyle), Kylee (Mitch); fourteen great grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren and one sister: Patty Smith of Bonaparte, Iowa. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband: Lester; daughter-in-law: Pam Schau; step-grandson: Jason Schau; three brothers; six sisters and good friend: Bob Rohdy.

Betty Lou was a 1946 graduate of Donnellson High School. She started working at W.A. Sheaffer Pen Company in Fort Madison. She was a member of St. Paul United Church of Christ in Donnellson and the American Legion Auxiliary 474 for seventy-seven years. Betty Lou loved spending time with her family, grandchildren, great grandchildren, great-great grandchildren and friends.

Her body has been entrusted to the crematory of Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation.

Per her wishes, no services will be held.

Burial will be at the Primrose Cemetery, Rural Primrose, Iowa.

The family request no flowers. Memorials have been established in her memory for Special Olympics or Susan Komen Breast Foundation and can be mailed to the family at: Roger Schau, 22491 White Avenue, Bonaparte, Iowa 52620.

Schmitz Funeral Home of Donnellson is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report
05/05/25 – 11:11 a.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Clinton Allen Kennan, Jr., 19, of Fort Madison, in the 800 block of Avenue G, on a warrant for violation of probation. He was held in Lee County Jail.

Keokuk Police Report
05/02/25 – 3:00 a.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1900 block of Franklin Street.
05/02/25 – 8:32 a.m.- Keokuk police cited Desiree Kristina Trent, 32, of Keokuk, in the 1200 block of Johnson Street, on a warrant for failure to appear.
05/02/25 – 11:13 a.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1100 block of Franklin St.
05/02/25 – 11:43 a.m. – Keokuk police arrested Darcy Rose Johnson, 36, of Keokuk, in the 100 block of 12th Street, on a charge of violating a no contact order. He was held in Lee County Jail.
05/02/25 – 11:48 a.m. – Keokuk police arrested Michael Joe Spring, 28, of Keokuk, in the 200 block of

N. 11th Street, on a warrant for failure to appear, and charges of violating a no contact order, interference with official acts, possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was held in Lee County Jail.
05/02/25-3:06 p.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 300 block of S. 9th Street.
05/02/25 – 8:21 p.m. – Keokuk police cited Cole Christopher Lockwood, 35, of Keokuk, in the 2300 block of Main Street, on a charge of OWI.
05/02/25 – 10:04 p.m. – Keokuk police cited Colton James Blint, 21, of Donnellson, in the 900 block of Main Street, on a charge of driving while license revoked.
05/03/25 – 12:50 a.m. – Keokuk police arrested Christopher Adam Barnes, 34, of Keokuk, at 18th Street and Bank Street, on a charge of driving while barred. He was held in Lee County Jail.
05/03/25 – 3:43 a.m. – Keokuk police arrested a 17-year-old male on a charge of driving under suspension. No disposition was listed.
05/03/25 – 9:26 a.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1500 block of Franklin Street.
05/03/25 – 11:08 a.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1400 block of Ash Street.
05/03/25 – 6:41 p.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1200 block of Bank Street.
5/04/25 – 12:27 a.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of a burglary in the 100 block of S. 2nd Street.
05/04/25 – 12:50 a.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of vandalism in the 900 block of Concert Street.
05/04/25 – 1:00 a.m. – Keokuk police arrested Rhea Anne Humes, 57, of Keokuk, in the 100 block of S. 2nd Street, on a charge of violating a no contact order. He was held in Lee County Jail.
05/04/25 – 8:34 a.m. – Keokuk police arrested Megan Ann Garcia, 30, of Keokuk, in the 300 block of S. 12th Street, on charges of trespassing, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of controlled substance.
He was held in Lee County Jail.
05/04/25 – 9:45 a.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 100 block of S. 2nd Street.
05/04/25 – 4:49 p.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of vandalism in the 500 block of N. 3rd Street.
05/04/25 – 7:10 p.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 100 block of N. Water Street.
05/04/25 – 7:45 p.m. – Keokuk police arrested Macon Kentrell Peoples, 18, of Keokuk, in the 1000 block of N. 13th Street, on a charge of interference with official acts. He was held in Lee County Jail.
05/05/25 – 2:35 a.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of vandalism in the 200 block of High Street.
05/05/25 – 3:13 a.m. – Keokuk police arrested Chad Alan Riddle, 42, of Keokuk, in the 800 block of Morgan Street, on charges of possession of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana, and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was held in Lee County Jail.
05/05/25 – 8:33 a.m. – Keokuk police cited Zachary Taylor Brackeliere, 31, of Keokuk, in the 2000 block of Orleans Avenue, on a charges of allowing dog to attack and permitting dog to run at-large.
05/05/25 – 4:02 p.m. – Keokuk police arrested a 16-year-old male on a charge of 4th degree criminal mischief. He was referred to juvenile court.

Lee County Sheriff's Report
05/04/25 – 8:02 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident in the 300 block of Hwy 27. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Violet Siouxzanne Conway, 19, of Jefferson City, Mo, was traveling in the 300 block of Hwy. 27 when she came upon several slow moving vehicles, one of which changed lanes as she was passing. She stated she had to take evasive maneuvers and ended up in the median. No injuries or citations were reported.

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

DOROTHY C. HENSON

Dorothy Carroll Henson, 84, of Dallas City, Illinois, passed away at 1:15 a.m. Monday, May 5, 2025 at her home.

She was born September 28, 1940 in Burlington, Iowa, the daughter of Karl Fredrick and Marjorie M. (Davey) Ruschill. Dorothy first married Edward E. Kentch. They later divorced. On May 13, 1975 she married Daniel Henson. He preceded her in death on January 21, 2009.



HENSON

Dorothy was a graduate of Denmark High School. She worked for a short time at the former St. Francis Hospital in Burlington and spent 30 years employed at Sheaffer Pen in Fort Madison, Iowa. Dorothy served as secretary of Ducks Unlimited. She enjoyed shooting pool, bowling, going to the casino and raising flowers. She also liked to dance, shop with friends and joke around with friends and family. She especially loved spending time with her grandchildren and had fond memories of being on the farm with her dad.

Dorothy is survived by her longtime companion, Stan Markham, two daughters, Carla Kentch of Dallas City and Christi Kentch of Fort Madison along with Stan's children, Mark (Elizabeth) Markham, Tammy (Brad) Johnson, Troy Markham and Tad (Carrie) Markham.

Also surviving are five grandchildren, Billy Jack Dewein, Blake Rea, Rashei (Will) Stuekerjuergen, Clark Rutledge and Curstin Rutledge, 4 great-grandchildren, Ellee Taylor, Broc Rutledge, Jaylyn Rea and Chase Lovall, one step-great-grandson, Christian Stuekerjuergen, two sisters-in-law, Delores Ruschill and Mary Ruschill both of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by one son, Curtis Eugene Kentch, one daughter, Carroll J. "CJ" Kentch, husband, Daniel Henson, great-grandson, Dante Stuekerjuergen, sister, JoAnn Yaley, two brothers, Donald and Jim Ruschill and her dog, "Buddy".

A memorial service will be held at 4:00 p.m. Saturday, May 10, 2025 at Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Dallas City with Pastor Jordan Knight officiating. Burial will follow in the Harris Cemetery near Dallas City.

The family will meet with friends Saturday at the funeral home from 2:00 p.m. until time of services.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Dallas City Food Pantry or Hospice Compassus. To leave an online condolence, please visit Dorothy's obituary at banksandbeals.com.

OBITUARIES

JERRY L. CARLSON

Jerry Lee Carlson, 85, of Dallas City, Illinois, passed away Sunday, May 4, 2025 at his home.

Jerry was born October 6, 1939 in Dallas City, the son of Lee and Treo (Admire) Carlson. On December 21, 1962 he married Edna Walker in Carthage, Illinois. She survives.



CARLSON

Jerry attended school in Dallas City before enlisting in U.S. Marine Corps. Following his discharge, he worked construction in the Dallas City area. He also built and refinished cabinets and furniture with his brother, Bob. He enjoyed watching Westerns.

Besides his wife, Edna, survivors include two children: Nikki (Richie) Eaves of Nauvoo and Jerry Carlson Jr. of Dallas City and three grandchildren: Reagan Eaves, Kennedy Eaves and Sven Carlson.



He was preceded in death by one son: Jason Carlson, one brother: Bob Graham and one sister: Bonnie Webb.

Banks & Beals Funeral Home of Dallas City is assisting the family. Private family burial will be held at Dallas City Cemetery.

A memorial fund has been established for the family. Memorials and cards may be sent to the Jerry Carlson Memorial Fund, c/o Banks & Beals, PO Box 70, Dallas City, Illinois 62330. To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit Jerry's obituary at banksandbeals.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy

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

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Sports

Hounds drop crucial Southeast Conference match with BHS

SOCCER: Bloodhounds suffer through off night in 4-0 loss to 1-7-2 Burlington

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – It just wasn’t the Hounds’ night. Fort Madison Head Coach Kevin Wellman didn’t have a lot to say other than that after the Bloodhounds dropped a crucial Southeast Conference matchup with Burlington 4-0 Monday night at Baxter Sports Complex.

“We had a lot of things that we didn’t do well. We didn’t connect passes - we chose to go backward more than we chose to go forward,” Wellman said.

“We didn’t have a lot of awareness to see when we should turn to go forward. It was just a really off night in a lot of different ways.”

The Grayhounds came into the game 1-7-2 on the season and 1-3-1 in the conference, while Fort Madison was a game back of front-runner Mt. Pleasant at 4-1-0 and looking to keep the pressure on the Panthers.

A defensive battle ensued in the first half where the teams battled to a 0-0 tie. The Grayhounds fired an early shot just 35 seconds into the match that struck the upper cross bar and narrowly missed going in. Fort Madison would get two shots on goal in the first half, the first by senior Henry Graham and then another with about nine minutes left by Jonah Santiago that went center high. At the 15:25 mark Graham had another chance at scoring and bent a free kick around a 3-man wall but right into the waiting arms of the Grayhounds’ keeper.

At the half, Wellman put a charge into the Bloodhounds and asked for a goal within the first eight minutes. He didn’t get a goal the whole evening.

Burlington on the other hand had another shot on goal quick off the whistle with a blast that went high and right over Keelynd Ross’ head in the net.

They would get another shot on goal about a minute later that Ross was able to gobble up. However, just a minute later, the odds broke in BHS’ favor and a shot got into the net past Ross who got caught leaning to the left for a 1-0 lead.

Burlington would score again about five minutes later on a shot that went across the front of the goal and snuck into the back left corner for a 2-0 lead. The Grayhounds would get all the momentum and two more shots on goal that were both denied by Ross, but at 19:41, with Ross moving to his right, BHS blasted a shot across to the right past Ross who lost his footing trying to cut the angle.

Burlington would add a final goal at 11:58 as Fort Madison had trouble getting anything comprehensive going on offense with the Grayhounds regularly breaking up pressure from Fort Madison after two to three passes on the Bloodhounds’ side of the field.

Wellman said he’s pretty frustrated with the Hounds’ inability to fix some simple things to control the game a little more.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Bloodhound goalie Keelynd Ross dives for a ball in the first half of Fort Madison’s 4-0 loss to the Grayhounds in Fort Madison. Fort Madison dropped another game behind front-runner Mt. Pleasant with the loss.

“In the first half, our defenders turned the ball inside instead of outside several times. That sounds simple as heck and, if we do that, then they don’t have as many looks at the goal,” Wellman said.

“And that was in the first half and they didn’t score in the first half, but it’s kind of a momentum thing, right?” Some of the players talked about how we didn’t do a very good job of applying pressure to their midfielders into their attacking third and that’s just a matter of paying attention to where you are on the field and staying home to where you’re in a position to do that properly. Something again pretty simple to fix.”

The Bloodhounds travel to the Washington Wellness Center on Thursday and try to get the season back on track. Fort Madison has dropped four of their last five, including going 1-2 against Southeast Conference foes during the stretch.

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Sports

Hounds win Brookhart-Crew Relays

Hawks runners wrap up regular season

BY PCC STAFF

FAIRFIELD – The Fort Madison boys captured the title in the five-team field at the Brookhart-Crew Relays Monday night in Fairfield. The Lady Hounds took third place overall.

The Bloodhounds won eight titles in the boys event led by Riley Tripp’s top finishes in the 1600 (4:43.03), the 3200 (10:35.97), and the final leg in the Distance Medley giving the Hounds a first there with a 3:44.85.

The Hounds also won the 4x400 with Mason McLey, Nolan Guzman, Julian Dear, and Peyton Lambert at 3:27.45. Other top finishes for the boys were in the Sprint Medley with Dayton Lamar, Aurelio Jaciunde, Lambert, McLey in 1:38.74. Lamar won the long jump with a 22’6.5” leap.

The Hounds finished with 151 points ahead of Fairfield (137), Washington (105), Mt. Pleasant (102) and West Burlington (74).

In the girls event, the Lady Hounds took 3rd with 125 points behind Mt. Pleasant’s 179 and Washington’s 148.

Jordyn Marshall had the top time in the 3000 meters with an 11:22.17. Avery Rump won the 1500 at 4:59.87. The 4x800 relay squad of Addison Rump, Mara Smith, McKayla Schinstrock and Avery Rump had the fastest time at 9:59.13. Brylie Lorence won the shot put at 44’8.75, one of her best throws of the season. She also won the discus with a 116’1” spin.

Top 5 results (Girls)

100 meters: Dayonna Davis 13.99 (5th)

200 meters: Olivia Buckner 29.37 (5th)

400 meters: Esther Gnann (1:06/41 (4th), Lyla Smith 1:08/12 (5th)

800 meters: Jordyn Marshall 2:34.14 (2nd), Ellie Huebner 2:41.46 (4th)

1500 meters: Avery Rump 4:59.87 (1st), Addison Rump 5:15.15 (2nd)

3000 meters: Marshall 11:22.17 (1st), Mira Koser 14:33.96

(3rd)

400 hurdles: Alaina Schwerin 1:15.64 (4th), Alexa Walz 1:20.91 (5th)

4x200: Mia Mason, Lillian Gelsthorpe, Dayonna Davis, Schwerin 1:59.23 (4th)

4x400: Gnann, Mara Smith, Lyla Smith, Ellie Huebner 4:27.09 (2nd)

4x800: Addison Rump, Mara Smith, McKayla Schinstock, Avery Rump 9:59.13 (1st)

Sprint Medley: Mason, Andrea Yrigoyen, Davis, Huebner 2:02.00 (3rd)

Distance Medley: Gelsthorpe, Buckner, Mara Smith, Marshall 4:41.57 (3rd)

Shuttle hurdle: Schwerin, Walz, Lyla Smith, Jordyn Grisham 1:19.72

Shot put: Brylie Lorence 44’8.75” (1st)

Discus: Lorence 116’1” (1st).

Top 5 results (boys)

100 meters: Julian Dear 11.28 (2nd)

200 meters: Nolan Guzman 24.86 (3rd)

400 meters: Guzman 52.16 (1st), Henry Ireland 58.89 (3rd)

1600 meters: Riley Tripp 4:43.03 (1st)

3200 meters: Tripp 10:35.97 (1st)

110 hurdles: Gavin Callahan 16.12 (1st), Dominic Fullenkamp 21.04 (5th)

4x100: Noah Schinstock, Liam Prier, Devin Feuerhammer, Max Barnes 48.25 (4th)

4x200: Prier, Schinstock, Ireland, Hunter McGinity-McKasson 1:44.75 (4th)

4x400: Mason McLey, Guzman, Dear, Peyton Lambert 3:27.45 (1st)

4x800: Noah Krogmeier, Ireland, Calvin Johnson, Schinstock 9:33.70 (3rd)

Sprint Medley: Dayton Lamar, Aurelio Jaciunde, Lambert, McLey 1:38.74 (1st)

Distance Medley: Lamar, Jaciunde, McLey, Tripp 3:44.85 (1st)

110 hurdles: Callahan, McGinity-McKasson, Justice Lightfoot and Lucius Zimmerman 1;13.49 (3rd).

High Jump: Guzman 6’0” (4th)

Long Jump: Lamar 22’6.5” (1st)

Shot put: Urijah Brooks 49’5.75” (2nd), Caden Barnes 41’5.25” (5th)

Discus: Brayton Scheider 142’9” (2nd)

BY PCC STAFF

VAN BUREN – The Central Lee boys and girls had their last regular season meet Monday night at Van Buren and captured a couple first-place finishes to go along with some season-best performances.

Brett Cook won the 800 meter run with 2:09.15 for the boys, while Ava Washburn had the only top finish in the girls’ event with a 1:15.62 in the 400-meter hurdles.

“Injuries, sickness, and absences left both teams shorthanded, but our kids still stepped up and earned some medals and 9 PRs,” said boys’ head coach Tyler Bryant.

The Hawks and Lady Hawks wrap up the season with the SEI Superconference meet at WACO on Thursday and then State qualifying next Thursday at Prairie City-Monroe.

Boys’ results:

1st- Brett Cook in the 800m Run with 2:09.15.

2nd- Kegan Damico in the 400m Hurdles with 59.69.

2nd- Ostyn Moore in the Shotput with 38-03.

3rd- Kegan Damico in the High Jump with 5-06.

3rd- Jack Benner in the Discus with 120-06.

4th- Evan Fogarty in the 100m Dash with 11.89.

4th- Owen Krogmeier in the Discus with 119-03.

PR- Kain Arrowood in the 100m Dash with 12.08.

PR- Jack Benner in the 100m Dash with 12.24.

PR- Logan Campbell in the 400m Dash with 1:05.47.

PR- Will Hayes in the Discus with 103-07.

Girls’ results:

1st and PR- Ava Washburn in the 400m Hurdles with 1:15.62.

2nd- 4x200 (Hydie Bassinger, Sapphire Cummings, Eliza Wagner, and Lakelah Wise) with 2:06.10.

2nd- Allison Gruntmeir in the High Jump with 5-00.

2nd- Aubrey Weber in the Shotput with 30-02.5.

3rd and PR- Kylie Fortune in the 100m Dash with 13.75.

3rd- Macy Anderson in the 3000m Run with 13:03.49

3rd- 4x100 (Hydie Bassinger, Aurora Edens, Sapphire Cummings, and Katherine Zuffall) with 59.84.

3rd- Kylie Fortune in the Long Jump with 4-10.

3rd- Lakelah Wise in the Long Jump with 13.03.25.

3rd- Aubrey Weber in the Discus with 88-06.

4th and PR- Afton Maynes in the 800m Run with 2:51.58.

4th and PR- Allison Gruntmeir in the 100m Hurdles with 17.30.


PR- Sapphire Cummings in the 200m Dash with 32.9.

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF
WEST BURLINGTON
Regular City Council
Meeting
Wednesday, May 7, 2025
- 6:00 PM
West Burlington
City Hall
122 Broadway Street

TENTATIVE AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLE-
GIANCE
ROLL CALL
PERFECTING & AP-
PROVAL OF AGENDA
CONSENT AGENDA
All items on the Con-
sent Agenda are Action
items that will be con-
sidered by a single vote.
Council members may
request that an item be
pulled for discussion and
held for a separate vote.
Items on the Consent
Agenda may include
claims over the City
Administrator's authorized
spending limit, payments
related to previously
approved contracts, and
non-controversial or rou-
tine expenses as defined
by the City's Purchasing
Policy.
1. Minutes from the
Regular City Council
meeting on April 16, 2025

2. Minutes from the
Special City Council
meeting on April 23, 2025
3. Payment to Land and
Water Vegetation Control
LLC - \$7,090
4. Pay Request #15
from Jones Contracting
for work completed on
Phase 2 of the Gear Ave.
Trail Project - \$5,246.94
5. Payment to Snyder &
Associates for Enginner-
ing Services related to the
Spring Street Water Main
Replacement Project -
\$9,430
6. Three-Year Right-of-
Way Permit for Mediap-
olis Telephone to install
infrastructure on S. Gear
Ave.
7. Approve donation
of Daily Admission Pool
Passes to be used with
the Burlington Public
Library Summer Reading
Program
8. Clerk's Monthly Fi-
nancial Report for March
2025
9. Payment of Claims
as listed on the Ex-
pense Approval Report
- \$96,242.38
COUNCIL & STAFF
REPORTS
• ADMINISTRATOR:
• PUBLIC WORKS:
• POLICE DEPART-
MENT:
• FIRE/BUILDING DE-

PARTMENT:
• CLERK/FINANCE/IT:
• OTHER STAFF RE-
PORTS:
• COUNCIL REPORTS:
• COMMUNITY RE-
PORTS:
1. Presentation from
Iowa's 2x4's for Hope
Organization
CITIZEN INQUIRIES
PUBLIC HEARING
1. Council will hold a
Public Hearing on the
Proposed Budget Amend-
ment for Fiscal Year
2025-2026
OLD BUSINESS
NEW BUSINESS
1. Consider a Resolu-
tion approving the Budget
Amendment for Fiscal
Year 2024-2025
2. Presentation of Zon-
ing and Subdivision Code
Updates by Bolten-Menk
and consider setting a
Public Hearing Date to
consider amendments
3. Consider the first
reading of an Ordinance
setting Water Rates
4. Consider the first
reading of an Ordinance
setting Sewer Rates
5. Consider the first
reading of an Ordinance
setting Garbage Collec-
tion Rates
6. Consider the first
reading of an Ordinance
setting Recycling Rates

7. Consider a Reso-
lution hiring a Part-time
Police Officer
8. Consider a Resolu-
tion setting salaries for
Non-Union personnel for
FY 25-26
9. Consider a Reso-
lution setting salary for
Deputy City Clerk
10. Consider a Reso-
lution approving End-of-
Year Transfers for Fiscal
Year 2024-2025
11. Consider entering
into an agreement with
Bohnsack & Frommelt
LLP for FY 2025 Annual
Audit
CITIZEN INQUIRIES
ADJOURN

PUBLIC NOTICE
LEE COUNTY
TREASURER'S OFFICE

The 2025 Iowa Property
Tax Credit Claim applica-
tion 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 of-
fices are open to pick up
applications Monday-Fri-
day 830am to 430pm.
Please note who is eli-
gible and the total house-
hold 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 in-
come for everyone living
in the house is less than
250% of the federal pov-
erty 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.

PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING MINUTES
MOUNT PLEASANT
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Mount Pleasant, Iowa
April 9, 2025

The Mount Pleasant
City Council met in regu-
lar session on Wednes-
day, April 9, 2025, at 5:30
p.m. at City Hall, 307 East
Monroe Street, sec-
ond-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

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Financial Advisor

Joshua Denning & Associates
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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

Councilmembers.
Present: Engberg, Crull, McWilliams, White, Griffith, Glaha
Absent:
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 March 26, 2025 5:00 p.m. adjourned City Council Meeting and the minutes of the March 26, 2025 5:30 p.m. regular City Council Meeting;
the payment of bills totaling \$290,402.24;
the report of officers including the following receipts for March - \$209,177.80 General Fund; \$84,237.08 Road Use Fund; \$119,152.74 Local Option Sales Tax; \$34,258.02 TIF; \$60,108.17 Debt Service; \$2,115.00 Trust & Agency; \$150,391.56 Sewer Revenue; \$80,228.12 Solid Waste Fund; \$705.84 Library General Fund; \$1,145.40 Library Gift Fund; and the following disbursements for the month of March - \$286,971.54 General Fund; \$123,070.93 Road Use Tax; \$129,231.92 Capital Projects Fund; \$920.00 Trust & Agency; \$125,373.93 Sewer Oper. & Maint.; \$75,555.47 Solid Waste Fund; \$34,538.12 Library General Fund; \$301.58 Library Gift Fund; and Transfer Resolution No. 2025-23 approving the following transfers for the month of March - \$32,299.00 from General Fund to Library General Fund 1/12th monthly operation costs; \$78,917.00 from Sewer Revenue Fund to Sewer Sinking Fund for 1/12th debt; \$60,000.00 from Sewer Revenue Fund to Sewer Oper. & Maint. Fund for monthly operating costs; the Renewal of a Spe-

cial Class C Retail Alcohol License for DW Costa's, LLC at 115 South Jefferson Street;
the renewal of a Class E Retail Alcohol License for Hometown Liquor & Wine located at 719 North Grand Avenue.
Roll call vote 6-0. Motion carried.
Mayor Brimhall read a proclamation designating April 2025 as sexual assault awareness month. Rachel Long with Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Crisis Services was present to explain the services they provide the community. Councilmember Glaha motioned and Councilmember Crull seconded that the Council approve the proclamation. Motion approved, 6-0.
Councilmember Griffith moved and Councilmember Glaha seconded that the Council approve the agenda as printed.
Roll call vote 6-0. Motion carried.
Councilmember White moved and Councilmember Crull seconded that the Council approve the Site Plan for Son-ic Restaurant at 1206 North Grand Avenue. The Planning and Zoning Committee recommended approval. Motion approved, 6-0.
It was moved by Councilmember McWilliams and seconded by Councilmember Griffith that the Council approve the mayoral appointment of Mike Tometich to fill the unexpired term of Lori White on the Mt. Pleasant Utility Board of Trustees. Motion approved, 6-0.
Councilmember McWilliams moved and Councilmember White seconded that the Council adopt the following entitled Resolution No. 2025-24: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF JORDAN POHREN TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT RE-SERVES

Roll call vote 6-0. Resolution adopted, signed by the Mayor and hereby made a portion of these minutes.
It was moved by Councilmember McWilliams and seconded by Councilmember Griffith that the Council approve a new tobacco permit for Hometown Liquor & Wine at 719 North Grand Avenue. Motion approved, 6-0.
Kayleigh Septer, Director and Theresa Rose, Board President of the Mt. Pleasant Public Library gave the Council a brief update on the library. The library hosted two well attended author visits to Rosie the Riveters and A Monster in Mount Pleasant. The library will again have their summer reading program and is partnering with Henry County Conservation at Oakland Mills for a trail reading program.
David Bainbridge spoke to the council regarding his concern with plastic waste and littering.
Councilmember Crull moved and Councilmember McWilliams seconded that the Council adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m. to meet in regular session Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.
Stephen Engberg, Mayor Pro Tem
ATTEST: Lori Davis, City Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE
MINUTES
KEOKUK CITY
COUNCIL MEETING
April 17, 2025
501 Main Street
5:30 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in regular session on April 17, 2025, at 501 Main Street. Mayor Mahoney called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. There were six council members present, three absent. Carissa Crenshaw, Tyler Walker,

Dorothy Cackley, Devon Dade, Steve Andrews, and Roger Bryant were present. Jeff Mullin, Dan Tillman and Michael Grewald were absent. Staff in attendance: Interim City Administrator Dave Hinton, City Clerk Celeste El Anfaoui, Public Works Director Brian Carroll, Community Development Director Pam Broomhall and Waste Water Treatment Facility Manager Tom Wills.
MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE: Informed of upcoming area events.
Motion made by Dade, second by Cackley to approve the agenda, including the consent agenda. (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.
Minutes of the Special City Council meeting for the Public Hearing on the Proposed Property Tax Levy of April 3, 2025;
Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting & Council Workshop of April 3, 2025;
Minutes of the Council Budget Workshop of April 10, 2025;
Cash Receipts & Treasurer's Report for March 2025;
RESOLUTION NO. 197-2025: Approving a

Liquor License for Columbian Room of Keokuk, Showboat Saturday Night, 2981 Plank Road, Class C Retail Alcohol License temporary premise transfer – effective April 26-27, 2025;
Sidewalk Display Permits 2025-2026 for Keokuk Convention & Tourism Bureau, Cahill Pribyl Jewelry & Gifts, Eckland Motors, Gate City Seed Co., Dan's Pawn & Gun, LLC, TSS Inc., and Family Discount Furniture;
Special Event Permit for Little Chiefs PTO, Suds & Smiles, Saturday, May 3, 2025, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. @ George Washington School;
Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5466-5468;
Motion made by Walker, second by Dade to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 198-2025: "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADJUSTMENT IN SEWER CHARGES RELATED TO THE FILLING OF SWIMMING POOLS." (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.
Motion made by Walker, second by Dade to approve the following pro-

posed RESOLUTION NO. 199-2025: "A RESOLUTION FIXING DATE FOR A MEETING ON THE AUTHORIZATION OF A LOAN AGREEMENT AND THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$1,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL LOAN NOTES OF THE CITY OF KEOKUK, STATE OF IOWA (FOR ESSENTIAL CORPORATE PURPOSES), AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION NOTICE THEREOF." (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.
Motion made by Bryant, second by Walker to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 200-2025: "A RESOLUTION SETTING PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 ANNUAL BUDGET." (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.
Motion made by Dade, second by Bryant to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

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Lee County News/From the Front

Residents have questions for ITC on transmission project

HEARING- Continued from Page 1

cant opposition to the project. However, at this time, the company does not have the right of eminent domain. Easements for the work could be as large as 200 feet.

Fort Madison City Councilman and Lee County property owner Rick Thiele asked the panel from ITC whether easements acquired for the project could be transferred.

“We’ve been hearing that some easements can be transferrable. For example, we sign an easement agreement with you and then it gets transferred to a carbon pipeline company,” Thiele said.

The panel told him he would be signing an easement for an electrical transmission line and it wouldn’t be able to be transferred to anyone else.

Other questions focused around environmental issues and who would be generating the power. ITC does not generate power but provides infrastructure for other power companies to move power from point A to point B.

Lee County resident Mitch Doherty asked how the company was planning to go across the Mississippi when the poles are typically 1,200 feet apart. A panelist said they could build taller poles to extend the distance between them. Doherty said that could impact migratory bird patterns on the river, but was told the company is part of environmental groups and works hand-in-hand to make sure those issues are taken into consideration.

Landowners with concerns about the project can file a statement or objection with the IUC but not later than 20 days after the date of the last publication of the petition notice, which needs to be done in papers of record in Lee County. That notice needs to be published for two consecutive weeks and, if no objection is filed within the 20 days following the second publication, a franchise may be granted without a hearing.

If an objection is filed, or if eminent domain is requested by the company, a hearing must be held and notice of that hearing would need to be published. Landowners of eminent domain parcels and objectors would be notified of the hearing by certified mail.

To file a written comment, landowners can go to iuc.iowa.gov and select “File a Comment or Objection in an Open Docket” from the quick links menu on the home page. Or you can send written comments to IUC, 1375 E Court Ave, Des Moines, IA 50319. The docket number for the petition is E-22564.

State property tax credit claim apps are out

LEE COUNTY - 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 documentation 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.

Thomson asking for data protected by 2021 state law

EVANS- Continued from Page 1

called “Protection of Personal Information, Tax-Exempt Entities.” The statute, signed by Gov. Kim Reynolds, forbids state or local government officials from requiring a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization to hand over information that directly or indirectly identifies its members, its supporters, its volunteers or its donors.

The statute grew out of concerns expressed by lawmakers across the United States that officials in some states might demand information about the members and sources of financial support of conservative organizations like Americans for Prosperity and then misuse that information to target or harass members or donors.

Further, in 2021, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that privacy rights of individuals associated with tax-exempt organizations prevented the California attorney general from requiring disclosure of donor identities.

The new Iowa law makes it a crime for government officials to violate Chapter 22A. That is a serious misdemeanor, punishable by up to 90 days in jail and a fine of up to \$1,000.

Thomson’s directive that Iowa Migrant Movement for Justice not disclose his letter to the group is troubling for another important reason. Prior restraint of speech — such as the gag order he tries to impose — is a central principle in the First Amendment’s prohibitions and in the Iowa Constitution’s own Bill of Rights.

Even if Thomson does not see the irony, many Iowans see the lousy optics of his demand letter, if not its blatant disregard for fundamental liberties, including our right to associate with people and groups we choose.

Our laws prevent most everyone else in government — short of a prosecutor with a court-approved search warrant or subpoena — from getting member, donor, and volunteer information from nonprofit groups such as Bob Vander Plaats’ The Family Leader, from Moms for Liberty, the NAACP, or the Iowa Migrant Movement for Justice.

What makes Charley Thomson so special and the migrant justice group so different? Perhaps it is this: A legislator who took an oath to uphold the Constitution is using his office and letterhead to bully an immigrant rights group to hand over private information — including a list of legal services it has provided and to whom — because of the nature of the non-profit organization’s work and the surnames of those it serves.

Turn the tables on Thomson and he will hide behind claims of legislative privilege to keep secret the names of those who communicate with him about immigration concerns, the names of people he writes or emails about immigrant matters, or his plans to investigate an immigrant organization.

The Associated Press reported that Erica Johnson, executive director of the Iowa Migrant Movement for Justice, decided to speak out despite Thomson’s not-so-subtle threats. “We all have rights ... and we will not remain silent or intimidated by threats,” she wrote to the legislative committee members.

Iowa’s nonprofit privacy law grew out of concerns that government-compelled disclosure of donor information could discourage charitable giving, lead to backlash directed at people who support a nonprofit’s mission, and infringe on the First Amendment rights of donors, volunteers and members.

Johnson told the Associated Press that Thomson’s letter arrived as attacks on nonprofit organizations working on immigrant issues and legal services have been “off the charts.”

“It seems like every day we say to ourselves, ‘Oh my God. How could it get worse?’ And then it does,” she said.

It almost seems as if Iowa needs a law to keep government and people in it like Charley Thomson from demanding sensitive information from tax-exempt nonprofit organizations, no matter their cause or mission.

Oh, wait . . .

Randy Evans is Executive Director of the Iowa Freedom of Information Council and his column appears regularly in Pen City Current

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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
BY JEFFERSON CONNECTION

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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