

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, February 26, 2018

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. with Howard, Mather, Sauer, Sorensen and Bonebrake present. Chairperson Sauer presiding.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Bonebrake, the agenda was approved as presented. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Howard, second by Sorensen, claims dated February 26, 2018 were approved in the amount of \$347,534.97. Ayes: All.

A Public Hearing was called to order by Chairperson Sauer at 9:02 A.M. on the proposed Fiscal Year 2018/19 Muscatine County Budget. No one spoke for or against the proposed budget. On a motion by Howard, second by Sorensen, the public hearing was closed at 9:02 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Bonebrake, the Board approved Resolution #02-26-18-01 Approving Fiscal Year 18/19 Elected Officials Salaries. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Bonebrake, second by Sorensen, the Board approved Resolution #02-26-18-02 Adopting the Fiscal Year 2018/19 County Budget. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

A Public Hearing was called to order by Chairperson Sauer at 9:03 A.M. on proposed amendments to the Fiscal Year 2017/18 Muscatine County Budget. No one spoke for or against the proposed budget amendments. Budget Administrator Sherry Seright reviewed the proposed amendments with the Board. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Bonebrake, the public hearing was closed at 9:06 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Mather, second by Bonebrake, the Board approved Resolution #02-26-18-03 Amending the Fiscal Year 2017/18 Budget. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Howard, the Board approved Resolution #02-26-18-04 Fiscal Year 2017/18 Budget Appropriations. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Bonebrake, second by Mather, minutes of the February 19, 2018 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

No correspondence was noted.

Committee Reports:

Bonebrake attended a Muscatine County Solid Waste Management meeting February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Sorensen attended a Wilton Development Corporation meeting February 21<sup>st</sup>.

Sorensen attended a West Liberty Economic Area Development meeting February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Sauer attended a Riverbend Transit Board meeting February 21<sup>st</sup>.

Howard attended a Muscatine County Conservation Board meeting February 19<sup>th</sup>.

Howard attended a Muscatine County Veterans Affairs meeting February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Howard attended a Milestones Area Agency on Aging meeting February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Michael Nolan, Horizon Architecture, reviewed the status of current projects at the Community Services Building and the Courthouse. Nolan proposed development of a Facilities Master Plan that would evaluate the existing condition of every county building to enable development of a 5 to 10 year plan for future projects. On a motion by Sorensen, second by Howard, the Board accepted a proposal from Horizon Architecture for development of a Facilities Master Plan for Muscatine County for a not-to-exceed fee of \$12,500. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held regarding proposed plans, specifications, bid documents and opinion of probable costs for the Muscatine County Historic Jail Stabilization Project – Phase I. Nolan presented a proposal to reinforce the roof and exterior walls, demolish and dispose of the abandoned boiler in the basement and install concrete flooring in areas of the basement that still have a dirt floor. Bonebrake stated he does not feel the County can ever get a return on their investment for the money they have put into this building. Bonebrake stated he would spend what is needed to stabilize the building, or demolish it and build a new structure for the geothermal equipment. Sorensen stated it would be an expensive endeavor to demolish the building and the County has already invested in tuck pointing and replacing the roof on the building. Sorensen stated he is not interested in spending taxpayer dollars on anything other than stabilizing the building to protect the geothermal equipment. Nolan stated it would save about \$20,000 if they do not remove the abandoned boiler. On a motion by Mather, second by Bonebrake, the Board approved plans, specifications, bid documents and opinion of probable costs for the Muscatine County Historic Jail Stabilization Project – Phase I for structural repairs only. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Howard, the Board approved the hiring of Marci Metzger as Administrative Secretary at \$32,547 (Grade 8, Step 4) for the Administration Office. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held regarding the possible termination of a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Muscatine regarding Site Plan Review Services for Commercial and Industrial Uses in the unincorporated areas of Muscatine County. Sorensen stated the City's permitting process is onerous, time consuming and the costs of permitting are excessive. Sorensen stated he is disappointed in communications between the City and County. Bonebrake stated it should be a friendly environment for those moving into the County and Zoning and Planning Administrator Eric Furnas does a good job of that, but the service businesses are getting from the City is not how the County feels things should be done. Sorensen stated it should not be about revenue, but about providing service. Sauer stated the timeline of the permitting process is not acceptable through the City as it takes weeks to get the proper approval. Mather stated the County wants to be a friend to those trying to live and work in the County. Howard apologized to the citizens of Muscatine County for originally agreeing to this arrangement. Howard stated he has always felt it would be a benefit to the County residents when the City and County work together, but that this arrangement with the City of Muscatine has resulted in not a service that they are performing, but a way for the City to generate revenue. On a motion by Sorensen, second by

Bonebrake, the Chairperson was authorized to execute a notice to terminate the Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Muscatine for Site Plan Review Services for Commercial and Industrial Uses in the unincorporated areas of Muscatine County. Ayes: All.

The Board recessed at 10:09 A.M. and reconvened at 10:19 A.M.

On a motion by Sorensen, second by Bonebrake, the Board went into non-public session at 10:19 A.M. pursuant to Chapter 20.17(3), Code of Iowa to discuss strategy in union negotiations. Roll call vote: Ayes: All. On a motion by Howard, second by Sorensen, the Board returned to open session at 11:10 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:11 A.M.

ATTEST:

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Betty L. Wamback  
First Deputy Auditor

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Scott Sauer, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors