

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors  
Monday, August 17, 2020

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

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

A Public Hearing was called to order by Chairperson Sorensen at 9:01 A.M. on a request from Russell E. Daufeldt, Record Owner, to rezone approximately 6 acres located in Seventy-Six Township, 1920 Hwy. 61, South of Hwy. 61, in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 34-T76N-R3W, from C-2 Commercial District to R-1 Residential District. Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas stated the Zoning Commission held a public hearing and approved the rezoning on July 10, 2020. Furnas stated the area is not an ideal location for commercial development. No one spoke against the rezoning. On a motion by Saucedo, second by Sauer, the public hearing was closed at 9:05 A.M. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Holliday, the Board approved an ordinance rezoning approximately 6 acres in Seventy-Six Township from C-2 Commercial District to R-1 Residential District on the first of three readings. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

The Board reviewed variances granted by the Muscatine County Board of Adjustment on Friday, August 7, 2020. Case #20-08-01 is an application filed by Richard Holmes, Record Owner. This property is located in Moscow Township, in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 28-T78N-R2W, 2454 140<sup>th</sup> Street, West of Moscow Road, containing approximately 4.73 acres, and is zoned A-1 Agricultural District. This request, if approved, would allow the Zoning Administrator to issue a Variance in order to allow a lean-to to remain on their property that was built in front of the existing dwelling and without a building permit. Case #20-08-03 is an application filed by Nathan J. or Jill J. Meineke, Record Owners. This property is located in Sweetland Township in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 15-T77N-R1W, 3171 New Era Road, North of New Era Road, containing approximately 6.15 acres and is zoned A-1 Agricultural District. This request, if approved, would allow the Zoning Administrator to issue a Variance in order for the Record Owners to construct a pole building 35 feet from the front lot line instead of the required 50 foot setback. Case #20-08-05 is an application filed by John P. and Debra Kaalberg, Record Owners. This property is located in Montpelier Township in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 21-T77N-R1E, Riverview Subdivision, Lot 2 & 20' Tract Adjacent, 3645 Riverview Circle, containing approximately 0.44 acres and is zoned R-1 Residential District. This request, if approved, would allow the Zoning Administrator to issue a Variance in order for the Record Owners to construct an addition onto an existing dwelling that would be approximately 18 feet from the front line instead of the required 50 foot setback. The Board of Adjustment approved all three variances. On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, the Board accepted the Variances. Ayes: All.

The Board reviewed Special Use Permits approved by the Muscatine County Board of Adjustment on Friday, August 7, 2020. Case #20-08-02 is an application filed by Janis L. Sauer, Record Owner and Daniel A. Baker, Proposed Buyer and Builder. This property is located in Sweetland Township, in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 14-T77N-R1W, South of 180<sup>th</sup> Street, containing

approximately 0.81 acres, and is zoned A-1 Agricultural District. This request, if approved, would allow the Zoning Administrator to issue a Special Use Permit in order for Mr. Baker to build a one family dwelling on this property. The Board of Adjustment approved this request. Case #20-08-04 is an application filed by Chad Eichelberger, Record Owner. This property is located in Lake Township, in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 31-T77N-R2W, West of Seven Springs Road, containing approximately 21.94 acres, and is zoned A-1 Agricultural District. This request, if approved, would allow the Zoning Administrator to issue a Special Use Permit in order for Mr Eichelberger to extract gravel, stone, clay or other raw materials from this property to sell for fill. The Board of Adjustment approved this request with the following summarized stipulations: 1) Applicant is responsible for the application of dust control materials on Seven Springs Road, north to the intersection with Highway 22; 2) Applicant is responsible for the hauling, application and grading of road rock as needed to maintain Seven Springs Road to the satisfaction of the Muscatine County Engineer; 3) Applicant is responsible for providing and erecting signage advising motorists of trucks pulling onto and off of Seven Springs Road and obtaining consent of the IDOT for signage on Highway 22; 4) Applicant shall obtain NPDES GP#4 Permitting and adequately maintaining all storm water and erosion structures required within; 5) Applicant shall notify the Muscatine County Zoning Office and the Muscatine County Secondary Roads Department a minimum of 48 hours (not including weekends or holidays) in advance of placing signage and commencing site prep or earth removal activities; 6) The stipulations above shall apply to all instances of excavation and hauling of materials from the site; and 7) All new entrances or change of use of existing entrances require an entrance permit.

Discussion was held regarding a proposed ordinance to support placement of a sign in Honor of Chuck Geertz on the Highway 22 Cedar River Bridge. Saucedo stated the approximate cost of a sign is \$750-\$1,500 and the individual requesting this designation would be willing to fundraise for the sign. Mather stated 17 veterans take their lives every day and someone who has done something to make a difference in veterans lives is worthy of recognition. Sauer stated this was something Chuck was passionate about and has done for a long time. On a motion by Mather, second by Holliday, the Board approved Resolution #08-17-20-01 Supporting the Naming of a Local Bridge in Honor of Chuck Geertz. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

**RESOLUTION #08-17-20-01**  
**SUPPORTING THE NAMING OF A LOCAL BRIDGE IN HONOR OF CHUCK**  
**GEERTZ**

WHEREAS, Chuck Geertz was an Army and Marine combat veteran and founder of the non-profit HERO (Healing at English River Outfitters), which provides hunting, fishing, and camping retreats for veterans returning home with PTSD, disabilities, etc.; and

WHEREAS, the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors has received a request to support naming the Highway 22 bridge over the Cedar River (NBIS #38001) in honor of Chuck Geertz.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors that they do support the naming of the Highway 22 bridge over the Cedar River in honor of Chuck Geertz.

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PASSED AND APPROVED this 17th day of August, 2020.

ATTEST:

/s/Leslie A. Soule  
Muscatine County Auditor

/s/Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson  
Muscatine County Board of Supervisors

Discussion was held with Emergency Manager Brian Wright regarding a disaster declaration for Muscatine County pertaining to the Derecho storm on August 10, 2020. On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, the Board authorized the Chair to sign a disaster declaration for Muscatine County. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Holliday, second by Sauer, minutes of the August 10, 2020 regular meeting were approved as written. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

- All Supervisors received correspondence regarding concerns over general conditions and COVID policies at the Jail.
- All Supervisors received correspondence regarding an individual volunteering to be a pollworker.
- All Supervisors received an email from Emergency Manager Brian Wright regarding FEMA COVID Assistance.
- Saucedo reported a call requesting rumble strips on 155<sup>th</sup> Street at Kelly Avenue.
- Sauer reported a call concerned with the speed of traffic through Moscow.
- Holliday reported talking to Emergency Manager Brian Wright regarding checking the Fairgrounds for storm damage.

Committee Reports:

Sorensen attended a Mississippi Valley Workforce Authority Finance Committee meeting

August 12<sup>th</sup>.

Mather attended a Seventh Judicial District meeting August 14<sup>th</sup>.

Saucedo attended a West Liberty Economic Area Development (WeLead) meeting August

13<sup>th</sup>.

On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, the Board approved an Ordinance Adopting the 2020 Muscatine County Code of Ordinances on the first of three readings. Roll call vote: Ayes: All.

On a motion by Sauer, second by Holliday, the Board accepted a proposal from GSA Turf Services to install an irrigation system at the lot on 4<sup>th</sup> and Walnut Streets in the amount of \$5,381.23. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Saucedo, second by Mather, the Board approved and adopted the Muscatine County HIPAA Policies and Procedures Master Manual. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Holliday, second by Mather, the Board appointed Santos Saucedo as an alternate Board of Supervisor representative to the Eastern Iowa Mental Health/Disability Services Region. Ayes: All.

Discussion was held regarding a proposed letter to the Muscatine County Recorder. Sorensen stated the Board has had numerous complaints regarding the responsiveness and accessibility to the Recorder's Office during the pandemic. On a motion by Mather, second by Sauer, the Chair was authorized to sign a letter to the Muscatine County Recorder. Ayes: All.

The Board reviewed proposed safety guidelines for reopening County buildings to the public. On a motion by Holliday, second by Saucedo, the Board approved safety guidelines for reopening County buildings to the public at 8:00 A.M. on August 24, 2020. Ayes: All.

Administrative Services Director Nancy Schreiber stated they now have the ability at the Discovery Center to allow for public comment via conference phone at a public meeting regarding the possible use of ATVs on secondary roads. Board consensus was to try to schedule an evening meeting in early September.

County Engineer Keith White updated the Board on secondary road projects.

County Attorney Jim Barry stated today is the first pilot jury trial. Barry stated jury selection is being conducted at Central Middle School. Barry stated after jury selection, the trial will be conducted at the Courthouse.

County Treasurer Amy Zybarth stated property tax statements should be arriving in mailboxes today. Zybarth stated she is publishing a notice encouraging residents to mail-in or utilize the drop box on the front of the Administration Building for their tax payments.

Don Briggs, Fruitland, asked if citizens are going to be allowed in the building for the ATV public meeting or do they have to participate through Zoom. Sorensen stated the intention would be to allow both in-person participation and via Zoom. Briggs suggested a Wednesday night meeting. Briggs also stated that the cabins at Deep Lakes Park look nice.

Saucedo asked for a status report on the occupancy of the new Muscatine County Maintenance Facility. Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas stated additional handrails were required to be added before the County receives the full occupancy permit.

Edward Askew, Muscatine, expressed concern about not being able to hear the Board during the Zoom meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 A.M.

ATTEST:

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Leslie A. Soule, County Auditor

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Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors