

## September 5, 2023

The Mahaska County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on the above date at 9:00 a.m. in the third-floor conference room of the Mahaska County courthouse. Present were the following board members: Chairman – Mark Groenendyk; Vice chairman – Steve Wanders; and Member – Chuck Webb. Also present were Darin Hite, IT; Tom Flaherty, Economic Director; Andrew Ritland, County Attorney; Chris Clingan, Conservation Director; Andrew McGuire, Secondary Roads; Jody Van Patten, County Recorder; Russ Van Renterghem, Sheriff; Bert Bandstra, John Bandstra, Jeff DeRooi, Micah Van Mersbergen, Jack Rempe, Sandra Rempe, Nick Ryan, Howard Westercamp, Joyce Wilson and Teri Rogers, County Auditor. This meeting was live streamed by Communications Research Institute of William Penn University.

Chairman Groenendyk opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the agenda for today's meeting. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

### Public comments:

- ✚ Sandra Rempe approached the Board and referred to the article in the Oskaloosa Herald. She spoke in opposition of the use of eminent domain for the airport.
- ✚ Bert Bandstra also spoke in opposition to the use of eminent domain.
- ✚ John Bandstra reminded the Board that they won a Supreme Court case and spoke regarding the closure of 220th St.
- ✚ Nick Ryan spoke in support of a housing development, but is concerned that the push for annexation by the City is a way to subvert what the rural residents are concerned about.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve minutes of Aug 7th, Aug 18th, Aug 29th, and Aug 31st. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to open public hearing #3 regarding Ordinance #54. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

There were no written or in person comments received by the Auditor's office.

Micah Van Mersbergen thanked the Board for getting this ordinance in place. The Board feels this ordinance is crucial for public health and safety of county residents. With powerful and wealthy people like Jamie Dimon, CEO of JP Morgan Chase, it is likely that we are not guaranteed a peaceable life. Mr. Dimon and others like him, are advocates for use of eminent domain for wind, solar and pipeline construction projects.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to close the final public hearing and move back into open session. It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve Ordinance #54 in its entirety for Mahaska County. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the 12-month Class B Retail Alcohol License for Dollar General along with the Tobacco License for FY23/24. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the 12-month Special Class B Retail Native Wine License for Frisian Farms Cheese, LLC. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve future support letters for funding for Conservation's Nature Playscape. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the payroll changes for the Sheriff's office. Kendel Woods has been hired as a part-time Jailer. Her hourly pay rate will be \$14 with no benefits and her start date was August 25, 2023. Michele Floen has resigned from her position as full-time Jailer. Her last day was August 29, 2023. Tannim Covert was removed from payroll effective September 1, 2023. Kristina Sellers has been hired as a full-time jailer. Her employment will begin on September 11, 2023, and her annual salary will be \$41,016. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the engagement letter from Northland Securities for potential financing for the SE Connector project. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the preliminary and final subdivision surveys for Mahaska Pork and Top Pork. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the MOU among Welders Shield, Mahaska County and Jasper County. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the Highway Safety Improvement Program grant agreement for the SS4A project. County engineer, Andrew McGuire approached the board. Mahaska County is taking the lead representing 97 counties. The grant is a standard agreement, and the language is consistent. RFPs have been accepted and are in the process of being reviewed. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to table the discussion for the road proposals for 220th St. Option 1 presented included a realignment of 220<sup>th</sup> Street between Highway 163 and Independence Avenue. Option 2 presented was to close a portion of 220<sup>th</sup> Street between Highway 163 and Independence Avenue and to upgrade a portion of 235<sup>th</sup> Street between Highway 163 and Dean Avenue. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

- ✚ Nick Ryan spoke again and requested that the Board write a strongly worded letter to the city and the city development board voicing strong opposition to any annexation plan and to the airport.

- ✚ John Bandstra thanked the Board and spoke in support of a countywide vote regarding the construction of the airport.
- ✚ Chairman Groenendyk informed everyone that there will be a meeting tomorrow, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm with Attorney Ritland, the trustees from Black Oak township and the City of Leighton regarding ambulance service from Pella.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to adjourn. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Teri Rogers  
Mahaska County Auditor

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Mark Groenendyk  
Mahaska Co. Board of Supervisors