

September 2, 2021

Board met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. Members present Merle Doty, Diana Dawley and Jason Roudabush.

Chairman Doty led the pledge of allegiance.

Moved by Dawley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roudabush to approve agenda. 3 ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Roudabush, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dawley to approve August 30, 2021 board minutes. Motion carried.

Moved by Dawley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roudabush to approve the following utility permits:

- #22-04U to Unite Private Networks, LLC for work in Section 22, Malcom Township
- #22-05U to Glenwood Equities, LLC for work in Section 23, Bear Creek Township

3 ayes. Motion carried.

8:35 a.m. Sandy Ross, Treasurer met with board to discuss tax abatement request from Grinnell-Newburg School. Also present: Lisa Briggs, Grinnell-Newburg School. Ross stated the request is for 6 parcels with a total tax due \$10,198 for the 2020 taxes payable 2021/2022. Ross further stated if the board does approve this abatement, it would be the 8<sup>th</sup> year of abatement. Lisa Briggs stated they are actively in the process of selling the parcels. Briggs stated they have a realtor and have 2 offers from reliable buyers. Briggs further stated that up until the Derecho the property was used for school purposes with extracurricular and co-curricular activities, FFA soil judging activities, etc. After the Derecho, there was a lot of clean up to do and they allowed the city to use the area for tree brush dump from storm damage. Briggs states this was later all cleaned up in the spring this year and then was actively listed for sale.

Dawley stated she is not in favor of another abatement and that last year when the school requested the abatement, the board indicated there would be no further abatements. She feels this property is not being used for school purposes. Dawley further states that if taxes were not abated, the school would still receive over 40% of the taxes and other taxing entities would receive their portion.

Doty stated if the abatement is granted this year, he would like stated in the resolution that there will not be any further abatements granted regarding these parcels for Grinnell-Newburg School.

Briggs stated that payment of the taxes owed would come from their general fund and their general fund is where their education expenses are paid and that is a part of the abatement request. Roudabush stated he understood and realizes the importance of being able to pay for education expenses.

Roudabush made a motion to abate the 2020 taxes payable 2021/2022 on parcels 3111100, 3111200, 3136900, 3137200, 3231800, and 3231900 owned by Grinnell-Newburg Community School District for \$10,198, Doty seconded the motion. Roll call vote – Doty aye; Dawley nay; Roudabush aye. Motion passed 2-1. Resolution to abate the taxes will be presented for approval at the next board meeting.

Moved by Dawley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roudabush to approve September 3, 2021 payroll for \$265,349.60. 3 ayes. Motion carried.

Auditor advised board that the Farm Bureau is holding their annual meeting in Montezuma on September 15, 2021. The City of Montezuma will close the streets south and east of the courthouse. The food trucks and band will be located on the streets. Farm Bureau representative stated the courthouse lawn would be utilized for lawn chair seating.

Auditor provided the board with ICAP recommendations from recent annual review. ICAP recommends to ensure background checks and motor vehicle checks are implemented as part of the hiring process for all employees and to ensure a guideline is in place for results found from these checks.

Auditor updated the board on IT. Auditor stated the IT Director is doing a great job and is acquiring quotes to replace servers, computers, wiring, switches, and also looking into a grant for matters related to security.

Roudabush stated he has a Haz-Mat meeting this week.

Board reviewed the 28E agreement between Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging and Poweshiek County. The purpose of this 28E agreement stems from an opinion from State Auditor's office dealing with private non-profit organizations and the concerns how counties are ensuring the public use of funds distributed to those organizations, along with a recommendation of a contract such as 28E agreement. Moved by Dawley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roudabush to authorize chairman to sign 28E agreement. 3 ayes. Motion carried.

10:13 a.m. Moved by Roudabush, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dawley to adjourn. 3 ayes. Motion carried.

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Melissa Eilander, Poweshiek County Auditor

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Merle Doty, Chairman