

OCTOBER 14, 2019

The Board of Supervisors of Clinton County, Iowa, met. Present were Supervisors Srp, Determann and Irwin. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

REPORTS

The September 2019 monthly and 1st Quarter FY20 reports of the Commission of Veterans Affairs, submitted by Ed Staszewski, Director, were presented, approved and filed.

The 1st Quarter FY20 report of the County Recorder's Report of Fees Collected, submitted by Scott Judd, Clinton County Recorder, was presented, approved and filed.

The 1st Quarter FY20 report of the Sheriff's Fees and Expenses, submitted by Rick Lincoln, Clinton County Sheriff, was presented, approved and filed.

9:00 A.M. Review Correspondence and Claims
Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance

9:15 A.M. Formal Action & Motions

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolutions #2019-270 through #2019-273 were approved on the Consent Agenda. Resolution #2019-269 was removed from the consent agenda for discussion:

RESOLUTION #2019-270

WHEREAS, Juliana Whitener has petitioned for a Tax Sale Certificate Redemption under provisions of Code of Iowa, Section 447.9, on the following described property: 115 N 5th St, Clinton, IA Parcel # 80-03130000

WHEREAS, eligibility for said 447.9 tax sale certificate redemption has been verified by Kim Ralston, CAP Director.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Clinton County Board of Supervisors that the redemption of the tax sale certificate 17-00142 will be approved as the applicant has paid the interest and costs due to the holder of the Tax Sale Certificate to the Clinton County Treasurer. Additionally the Clinton County Board of Supervisors approves the payment of the interest due to the holder of Tax Sale Certificate, ADAIR 0078LLP. The County Treasurer is authorized to make entry on this record accordingly.

Roll Call: Irwin: Yes; Determann: Yes; Srp: Yes.

Daniel A. Srp, Chairperson

RESOLUTION #2019-271

WHEREAS, Mary Jo Ann Horn has petitioned for a property tax suspension under provision of Code of Iowa, Section 427.8, on the following described property: 2606 Roosevelt Street, Clinton, IA Parcel #86-28560000

WHEREAS, the eligibility for said suspension has been verified by Kim Ralston, CAP Director.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Clinton County Board of Supervisors that tax suspension [for the collection of taxes, special assessments, and rates or charges, including interest, fees and costs be and is hereby approved and the County Treasurer is authorized to make entry on her records accordingly, all under provision of Section 427.8, Code of Iowa.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that tax suspension under provision of Section 427.8, Code of Iowa, is for the 2018 Assessment Year and all prior years and it is the responsibility of the petitioning taxpayer to reapply for further tax suspension.

Roll Call: Irwin: Yes; Determann: Yes; Srp: Yes.

Daniel A. Srp, Chairperson

RESOLUTION #2019-272

WHEREAS, Kenneth and Diane Roling have petitioned for a property tax suspension under provision of Code of Iowa, Section 427.8, on the following described property: 1145 1st St, DeWitt, IA Parcel #20-12770000

WHEREAS, the eligibility for said suspension has been verified by Kim Ralston, CAP Director.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Clinton County Board of Supervisors that tax suspension [for the collection of taxes, special assessments, and rates or charges, including interest, fees and costs] be and is hereby approved and the County Treasurer is authorized to make entry on her records accordingly, all under provision of Section 427.8, Code of Iowa.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that tax suspension under provision of Section 427.8, Code of Iowa, is for the 2018 Assessment Year and all prior years and it is the responsibility of the petitioning taxpayer to reapply for further tax suspension.

Roll Call: Irwin: Yes; Determann: Yes; Srp: Yes.

Daniel A. Srp, Chairperson

RESOLUTION #2019-273

WHEREAS, Sheriff Rick Lincoln desires the Clinton County Sheriff's Office to enter into an amendment to an existing agreement with Advanced Correctional Healthcare (ACH) to provide medical services for inmate use; and

WHEREAS, said amendment will cover the cost of medical care and prescription medication to Clinton County inmates while housed at the new Clinton County Jail;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Clinton County Board of Supervisors authorizes the signing of the agreement between the Clinton County Sheriff and Advanced Correctional Healthcare to be in effect after both parties sign said contract.

Roll Call: Irwin: Yes; Determann: Yes; Srp: Yes.

Daniel A. Srp, Chairperson

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #2019-269 was removed from the consent agenda for discussion. Supervisor Irwin asked County Treasurer Rhonda McIntyre about what position this was filling. Chairman Srp said this would be an increase in staff compared to what McIntyre talked to the Board about earlier in the year. McIntyre said she spoke about total number of staff, but specifically by position. Srp said they had talked about staffing levels and that is being increased with this action. He said this will be increased by a half time position. McIntyre said that it is not the case. McIntyre said one part-time employee will be quitting soon so that position will go away. Irwin said he was looking at overall staffing when considering the discussion they had in February. Irwin said he had reviewed other counties staffing and spoke with her about those differences. Irwin said he believes the budget will be tight again for the upcoming year. Irwin said he didn't approve the part-time position a few weeks ago. He believes that was an opportunity to not fill a position. Srp said the office is currently at the level McIntyre previously requested and approving this position would be above that. Srp said he is not comfortable increasing staff. Irwin added he's not comfortable taking someone's word that they are leaving at a specific time. Srp said he doesn't want to take action on something that might happen. Srp said McIntyre said the person being appointed today would not even stay a whole year in the job. Srp asked about the editorializing of the resolution. He said it's a substantial departure from what has been submitted previously. Srp said his first concern is staffing level. McIntyre said there is a substantial difference in Clerk I and Clerk II and looking at it as an overall number doesn't take that into consideration. Irwin said there are also concerns about how this person was hired as she was first hired part-time and then the position was made full-time. McIntyre questioned why Human Resources made her go through so many hoops to hire the full-time position. Irwin said a lot of hoops were needed because of the way it was posted. Irwin said this person got the full-time position by default. He knows others interviewed, but knows she's doing a good job. Irwin said he wasn't comfortable hiring the position in the first place. Irwin said he was also frustrated by the wording of the resolution. Irwin pointed out McIntyre had to go through protocols because she didn't follow the appropriate protocols to start. Srp said his action will be based today on staffing levels. He said he has other concerns, but he believes the staffing issue is the main discussion. McIntyre said she sees it differently and has a different interpretation of Code. Srp said the Board did not set the number of job titles for each department. Srp said McIntyre would not reduce staff unless the Board forced her. McIntyre confirmed that. Srp said McIntyre is putting the Board in the position to cut a position. Srp said he didn't like that. Irwin said from the budget the Board approves an overall budget and the positions are allowed to be built that way by the elected officials. Srp said the County has not historically assigned the number of deputies and clerks in the past, but there is legal authority for that to be done. Supervisor Determann said if the part-time person leaves there could be an opportunity to hire a person into that position. Irwin said if the part-time person leaves, he'll view that as an opportunity to reduce staff through attrition. Determann talked about reducing staff through attrition.

The following resolution was presented and on motion failed:

RESOLUTION #2019-269

WHEREAS, the Clinton County Treasurer has complied with hiring protocols managed through the Clinton County Human Resources; and

WHEREAS, the Clinton County Board of Supervisors approved the Clerk I position and budget for the salary of the Clerk I position in the Tax Department of the County Treasurer for the fiscal year 2019-2020 by resolution in June 2019 pursuant to Iowa code 331.903 and 331.904; and

WHEREAS, Alice Lind, currently working in the position on a part-time basis, has completed the new hire process for the position of Clerk I in the office of the Clinton County Treasurer and accepted appointment; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Clinton County Board of Supervisors that the County Auditor be and is hereby authorized to issue biweekly paychecks on the General Basic Fund, Office of County Treasurer, to Alice Lind in the position of full-time Clerk I with the initial hourly pay of \$16.38, then \$16.96 in six months. Her starting date of full-time employment shall be October 15, 2019.

Roll Call: Irwin: No; Determann: No; Srp: No.

Daniel A. Srp, Chairperson

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

GENERAL PUBLIC

DEPARTMENT HEADS, ELECTED OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES

County Facilities Director Corey Johnson reported the side panels on the old jail exterior have been removed. He said next week he will have three bids to present on the demolition of the gas station and houses across the street from the Courthouse. He said bids on a fire panel for the DeWitt building will be submitted in two weeks.

County Attorney Mike Wolf is on the Gateway Impact Coalition and they are looking for office space for the coalition. Srp recommended having her meet with Johnson, County Auditor Eric Van Lancker and a Board member.

County Engineer Todd Kinney reported work started in Drainage District #21. He said Y68 shoulder paving is nearly complete and painting and rumble strips need to be completed. He added FEMA work continues. Kinney said the projects are more than \$1 million. He said FEMA and the state should pay for up to 85% of those projects.

Determann said the Solid Waste Agency is doing a long-term study on the cells and is also looking at tipping fees.

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION

County Mental Health budget: Irwin said he was told that all the money from the counties should run through the region and money to cover local services should be requested from the region. He said he was told the programs should be run as a region. Irwin said the levy cap is not enough to cover the region budget and with new requirements, the operation budget will be about \$3 million short. Van Lancker asked how the region can stay solvent after this year without cutting services. He said if providers go away they won't come back and cutting services puts a strain on other entities such as the jail. Van Lancker said it is doubtful the legislature will increase the region's property tax cap in the first month of its legislative session so counties in the region can set their mental health tax levy appropriately. Van Lancker suggested the region create a budget that keeps the level of services the same and include the mandated services then ask the state for assistance in the amount of \$3 to \$4 million to help fill the shortfall while it works on addressing the property tax levy cap. County Budget Director Lynn Kirchhoff said population decreases in the region, especially in Clinton County, are not being factored into the property tax levy. Srp said he would like to be able to take action on the mental health region payment after the discussion with the mental health region next week.

Clinton County Farm land lease: Srp said Van Lancker informed the Board the contract is technically due to expire at the end of February, 2020. Wolf said the farm should be discussed in the middle of the year every year. He said the lease does automatically renew. He said he could reach out to the person leasing the land to inform them the lease has automatically renewed.

National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week: Srp said he received a request to have a proclamation recognizing National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week considered by the Board in November. Srp said that is the second week of November. He wanted to know if the Board was interested in considering the proclamation. It was generally agreed the proclamation would be scheduled appropriately.

The Board of Supervisors adjourned to meet on Monday, October 21, 2019.

Eric Van Lancker, County Auditor

Daniel A. Srp, Chairperson

-APPROVED-

County Auditor

Chairperson