

Supervisors terminate Kurdelmeyer’s employment, open garbage and gravel bids

By DESTINY KAPLER
Outlook Newspaper
The Clayton County Supervisors held a regular meeting, along with two meetings that followed to choose a garbage bid and gravel bids, and a special meeting on Thursday, April 24, to consider termination of the County’s Information Technology Director.

At the special meeting on April 2, the Supervisors voted to terminate the employment of Information Technology Director Robert Kurdelmeyer, following criminal charges on his part. They also voted to post advertising to fill the Information Technology Director position.

At the garbage meeting, a large group of Clayton County residents were present to hear and discuss the bid chosen for County garbage services. The bids for the remote garbage sites were for three years and the bids for the Elkader garbage site were for five

years. Three bids for contracts were submitted.

- Waste Management: declined to bid on remote sites; \$14,000 per month or \$168,000 per year for Elkader garbage site
- Hawkeye Sanitation: \$32,500 per month or \$390,000 per year for remote sites; \$7,000 per month or \$84,000 per year for the Elkader site, for a total of \$474,000
- Klusener Sanitation: \$20,012 per month, or \$240,144 per year for remote sites; \$8,940 per month or \$107,280 per year for Elkader site, for a total of \$347,424

Some members of the public were concerned that the Supervisors were getting rid of the rural sites; however, the Supervisors had already decided against that previously. They did, however, say they reserve the right to modify the garbage contract if needed to close a garbage site, which would only be done

if the site was not being used enough and therefore wasn’t financially feasible to keep open. The provider that was awarded the bid would be providing garbage service to the County’s remote sites for three years and to the Elkader site for five years.

Some members of the public were opposed to the bid being awarded to Kluesner Sanitation, as they are very happy with the service they received currently from Hawkeye Sanitation. Others asked why the bid from Hawkeye Sanitation was so much higher than that of Kluesner Sanitation’s. Hawkeye Sanitation employees responded by saying the possibility of a garbage site closing made it necessary, in their eyes, for a higher bid amount.

The bid was ultimately awarded to Klusner Sanitation.

At the meeting to award bids for County gravel (resurfacing letting), the

Supervisors, along with County Engineer Casey Stickfort, opened sealed bids from five companies. Some companies bid on all three divisions (areas of the county), while others bid on only one or two divisions. The Supervisors awarded the bids to the lowest bidders, as follows:

Division One (southeast Clayton County) to C.J. Moyna & Sons of Elkader, at a total cost of \$289,581.80

Division Two (southwest Clayton County) to Bruening Rock of Decorah, for a total cost of \$305,684.78

Division Three (northern half of Clayton County) to River City Stone of Dubuque, for a total cost of \$238,572.

At the regular meeting of the Supervisors, County Attorney Zach Hermann was present to discuss hiring another attorney for the County.

“As I said in my email, Anne Cruz, the Assistant

County Attorney, is moving on. It’s good for her, it’s terrible for us,” he said.

Hermann discussed difficulties in finding someone to take her place, but did find two possibilities. One included the Fayette County Assistant attorney taking over juvenile court. Another interested attorney is currently a Delaware County assistant attorney, but her husband is the Clayton County magistrate, which could lead to some issues, he said, since she couldn’t appear in front of her husband, for example. Hermann said he was looking into if it’s at all possible, after shifting duties as needed.

Hermann also discussed salary possibilities with the Supervisors for potential candidates.

County Health nurse Brittany Hubanks was present to discuss County health updates. She said that their WIC program was in the middle of a state

audit, which is normal—the State does audits on a routine cycle. As part of the audit, a clinical visit occurs where a state consultant comes to observe the County Health clinic for a day.

“The feedback we got from the State Auditor was that the staff did great with participants in our services and working with families that had a lot of difficult situations going on. She doesn’t anticipate many findings, and she was very happy with how things went with our staff,” Hubanks said.

Hubanks also discussed placing signage on the County building doors with the Supervisors. The sign would provide a phone number to call for clients that might be scheduled for an appointment after 4 p.m., when the doors to the County building are locked, because the County Health staff is there until 4:30.

Monona City Council discusses tearing down back of building on Center Street

By DESTINY KAPLER
Outlook Newspaper
The Monona City Council discussed tearing down the back of a building, renting land around the wastewater plant, and raising the Community Center rental fee at their regular meeting on Monday, April 21.

The Council discussed plans for the building they had acquired, through the court system, at 115 West Center Street. The City had previously talked about what to do with the building at a previous meeting—the options being to tear it down or sell it, but knew whatever was done needed to be done quickly because of the building’s deterioration. City Administrator Barb Collins said that they had had an incident of a window falling out of the back portion of the building and hitting a car that was parked near the building, on the City’s property.

The City’s insurance company requires the City let them know what has been done for security concerning the building so the City closed and padlocked the doors they could, but

one of the doors on the back of the building is so deteriorated that it isn’t possible to lock or even close it.

“So they suggested we take our snow fence that we use and just put it around it and secure it until we can make a decision, whether it’s to—we have two people interested in purchasing it—or deconstruction,” Collins said.

Regardless of the final decision for the rest of the building, Collins said the back block-addition portion of the building needs to be torn down. She said that removal estimates for just the back portion are \$3,500 to \$4,500.

The Council also discussed options to sell the building and how much they should sell it for.

“Part of the agreement would be that no matter what the base price, what they bid has to cover what our expense was to tear the back down—we should tear that down immediately,” Collins said.

The Council approved three motions at the end of the discussion—first, for the City to remove the block ad-

dition from the back of the building at 115 West Center Street; second, for the City to put up a temporary fence around the building to keep people from going in or near the building; and third, to have the City attorney draw up a sale contract (with certain sale stipulations) and put the building up for sale.

The City owns five acres of crop land around the wastewater treatment plant that it leased to a local individual for farming in the past, with the stipulation that the City must be able to spread City sludge on the land in May before the crops are planted. That individual was no longer interested in renting the land, so he suggested his employee, who was also not interested in renting the land when Collins contacted him after the last meeting. She then contacted three other surrounding land owners and asked them if they would be interested in a one-year land lease for \$750. Two out of the three surrounding land owners were interested in renting the land, along with a City employee, for a total of three interested individu-

als. Out of fairness, all three names were placed in a hat at the City Council meeting and drawn. The order they were drawn was written down, so that Collins could contact them to see if they were interested. The first person drawn has since said he would farm it for this year. The City will be giving notice of a lease option to the public later this year for the land, most likely for five years at a time.

The Council discussed potentially raising the fee for using the Community Center and or/changing some of the policies around renting the Center, including the security deposit. The Council decided to table the idea until the next meeting, to give the community a chance to give their input.

The Council received a quote to fix the generator at the City’s wastewater treatment plant. The Council discussed the cost, which could be as high as \$50,000. They decided to table the matter until obtaining another quote.

Jim Langhus asked the Council if the City would function as fiscal agent (de-



A photo of the back of the building at 115 West Center Street, Monona, shows significant cracks in the wall, missing windows, and a broken door. (Destiny Kapler/The Outlook photo)

positing donations given and using the funds to pay bills) for a fundraiser for maintenance of the Scout House. The Council agreed.

The Council discussed the ideas they have currently for the new billboard covers for the City’s town name billboards. They are going to submit the current ideas they’ve gathered to the Lamar sign company and see what billboard designs the company produces from

them.

The Council discussed the City’s five-year goals briefly before tabling discussion until they can obtain more community feedback.

Collins said that the fence for the new dog park was scheduled to be installed the week of April 28.

The Council approved a resolution setting wages for swimming pool staff in Monona.

BUSINESS LISTING DIRECTORY

YOUR GUIDE TO AREA BUSINESS SERVICES

MIELKE’S QUARRY

Crushed Rock & Ag Lime

*Direct Sales or
Delivered and Spread*

Call anytime...
(563) 539-4227
or **(563) 873-2449**





Bruns & James

INSURANCE AGENCY

Home | Farm | Auto | Business

Quality service since 1960

563-539-2185

117 W Center St
Monona

Monday-Friday 8am-4pm



Reach new heights today!

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

CONTACT NICOLE TODAY
at (563) 864-3333 or
sales@outlooknewspaper.com



Smitty’s Oil & Tire, Inc.

Dave Smith, Owner

If you’re looking for quality and value, look no further

208 Franklin Street • Monona, IA • (563) 539-4930 • Toll Free at 1-800-759-4476

- Farm Tire Service
- OTR Tire Service
- Passenger, Light Truck Tires
- Truck Tires
- Bulk Fuel Delivery
- General Vehicle Maintenance
- Bulk Motor Oils
- OTR Tire Vulcanizing

Insurance can be complicated. As your local independent agent, I’ll find you the right coverage at the right price.



GARMS & GIFFORD

INSURANCE AGENCY

(563) 245-3009 • (563) 245-1360
900 High St, NE • Elkader, IA

HOME
AUTO
LIFE
FARM

CROP
HEALTH
BUSINESS



Community Insurance of Iowa Hometown Agency

Helping You Protect What Matters Most

**WEST BEND®**

105 S. Main St., Monona, IA
(563) 539-2220 or (800) 424-4929
www.cioia.com

AUTO • HOME • BUSINESS • BONDS

Paramount

INSURANCE GROUP

Artie Day
Agent
artie@paramountinsgrp.com

236 E Military Rd.
Postville, IA 52162
PH: 563-562-2050
CELL: 319-321-8113
FAX: 563-562-1002

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE • MEDICARE
LIFE • COMMERCIAL • FARM • CROP • HOME • AUTO



BIRD NOW

Chevrolet of Monona

(563) 539-2061 • birdnowmonona.com
Monona, Iowa

You have to get to our place,
you’ll love the way we treat you!

SALES
Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 5:30 pm
Saturday
8:00 am - 3:00 pm
SERVICE
Monday - Friday
7:00 am - 5:00 pm