

Reynolds

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The bill, known as Senate File 627 and by its House version HF 1002, creates a Length Of Service Award Program (LOSAP) to retain volunteer firefighters, emergency medical service technicians, and law enforcement reserves. The legislation provides \$1.5 million per year in matching dollars from the state, which can grow to \$5 million.

In a statement released before the signing ceremony, Sen. Dickey remarked that 12,000 men and women in Iowa serve as firefighters with no pay.



Gov. Kim Reynolds poses with members of the Packwood Fire and Rescue Department Tuesday, June 3. (Melissa Robison/The Union)

“They receive no financial incentive to do a ‘job’ that calls for life risking actions and one that demands hundreds of hours away from their

jobs and families every year,” he wrote. Dickey added that one of the reasons he ran for his Iowa Senate seat was seeing that none of

the 100 members of the House or 50 members of the Senate were volunteer EMS or firefighters. Gov. Reynolds said in her prepared remarks

that Iowans have relied on volunteer first responders for more than a century, “dating all the way back to our pioneer past.”

“Today, countless communities still depend on their service and self-sacrifice in the case of unexpected emergencies,” Gov. Reynolds

said in a press release. “These everyday heroes are pillars of Iowa communities, and it is vital that we honor their service and reward their dedication. I’m thankful to our legislators and key stakeholders for getting this bill across the finish line.”

In one of his “Dickey Dispatch” columns from February, Sen. Dickey explained that the LOSAP bill would establish a small retirement plan for volunteer fire departments based on the number of years their volunteers serve. He wrote that, if these volunteers were paid for their service, it would cost Iowa taxpayers over \$1 billion annually.

Call Andy Hallman at 641-575-0135 or email him at andy.hallman@southeastiowaunion.com



The crowd cheers as Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds signs a bill into law to establish financial incentives for volunteer firefighters, EMS and law enforcement reserves on Tuesday, June 3 at the Packwood Fire Station. (Photo courtesy of the Office of Kim Reynolds)



Gov. Kim Reynolds (center) and Sen. Adrian Dickey (left) pose for a photo with Packwood First Responders. (Melissa Robison/The Union)

Rights

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In emails obtained by *The Union*, other supervisors did not seem to express agreement with Johnson. Supervisor Stan Stoops said he believed federal law addressed Johnson’s concerns, while Supervisor Marcus Fedler at one point told Johnson, “I understand your position,” but did not expand on his own.

In an interview Wednesday morning, Young said he didn’t have strong feelings about SF 418, and didn’t know why state lawmakers passed it, though he added the caveat that he doesn’t understand “why they do a lot of stuff in Des Moines.”

Still, the supervisor chair said he didn’t hear much outcry against the bill from constituents, though he said he received a total of six emails about the matter in recent days.

“Right now, there’s six people that are behind all this,” he said. “There’s 22,000 people in the county, so I don’t see that as a majority of the people in the county wanting this.”

Despite the partisan leanings of the board, advocates said they hoped to find common ground,

pitching the issue as one that went beyond party politics.

“You don’t need to abandon any sort of religious, moral, cultural, whatever understanding of gender that you have, in order to recognize that this bill is simply discrimination,” Johnson said. “This bill makes it effectively legal in the state of Iowa to discriminate in things like housing, employment and accommodations. And to me, that ought not to be a politically divisive issue, regardless of where you stand on the gender issue.”

As Washington For Justice gathers petition signatures, the group’s president, Dan Henderson, said he believed elected officials would either come to recognize the call to action, or be voted out when election season rolls around.

“We are (interested) in finding candidates who would be willing to run for county board in the future, who might be more responsive to these kinds of requests,” Henderson said. “This board has been there for a long time, pretty much unchallenged ... and I think they’re used to that. The

reality is, there are a lot of people in this town and in this county that are very upset about SF 418.”

SIDES DISAGREE OVER LOCAL LAW’S POTENTIAL IMPACT

Supervisor Young disputed the need for a civil rights ordinance like one passed in Johnson County, which does explicitly mention “gender identity.” He said he saw no evidence of anti-trans discrimination in the county to begin with.

“I do not see people in Washington County, businesses, discriminating against these people. I have never seen it or heard it,” Young said. “Why’s it going to start now? And I don’t even know how many of those people are in the community. Heck, who knows, I could be dealing with them ... but those kinds of things, in my personal life, I don’t look for.”

County officials like Stoops and Young have also argued that federal civil rights laws offer sufficient protections where state codes do not. Young cited *Bostock v. Clayton County*, a 2020 Supreme Court Case that effectively established gender

identity and sexuality as a protected class at the federal level.

Advocates disagree. Some argue that the current Republican-led administration is unlikely to enforce such protections. In one email, Johnson cited the Pentagon’s recent efforts to remove openly trans troops from service as evidence that federal officials were uninterested in protecting citizens whose gender doesn’t match their sex assigned at birth.

Others point out that Title VII — the federal law at the heart of the Bostock ruling — applies only to employers of 15 or more people, a threshold many local small businesses do not exceed.

“How many Washington businesses have 15 employees? Not very many,” Dan Henderson said. “There’s a gap here that, we’re hoping, the county board will recognize, just like they recognized four years ago they felt they had to make Washington County a safe gun sanctuary ... this is much more ambiguous than the Second Amendment is, I hope they’ll see that.”

Comments: Kalen.McCain@southeastiowaunion.com

LEGAL NOTICES

MINUTES OF THE FAIRFIELD CITY COUNCIL
MAY 27, 2025
The Fairfield City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. with Mayor Boyer presiding. Members present were: Ham, Twohill, Estey, Gandy, Flournoy, and Kness. Absent: Rowe.
TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 12, 2025 CITY COUNCIL MEETING.
TO APPROVE THE MAY 12, 2025 PAYROLL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$143,810.82.
TO ACCEPT THE VOLUNTEER CENTER COMMITTEE MINUTES.
TO ACCEPT THE LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES.
TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 4368 AUTHORIZING FUND TRANSFERS.
TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 4369 APPROVING EMPLOYMENT IN THE WASTE WATER DEPARTMENT.
TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 4370 APPROVING EMPLOYMENT CLASSIFICATION IN THE WATER DEPARTMENT.
TO APPROVE A LIQUOR LICENSE FOR LEO’S PIZZA & GRILL.
TO APPROVE ACH PAYMENT TO DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,393.20.
TO APPROVE OPERATING CLAIMS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$178,387.15.
TO AWARD THE ENGINEERING SERVICES OF THE WASTE WATER STEP 4 PROJECT TO FRENCH-RENEKER AND ASSOCIATES.
TO ALLOW THE CARNEGIE FOUNDATION TO BEGIN FUNDRAISING FOR ROOF AND NORTH ADDITION TO THE MUSEUM.
TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE FY25 BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2025 AT 7:00 P.M.
TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 4371 ACCEPTING SETTLEMENT AND COMPLETION AGREEMENT AND ADDENDUM AS FINAL.
TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 4372 APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT APPLICATION FOR 305 W WASHINGTON AVE.
TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 4373 APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT APPLICATION FOR 408 E BROADWAY AVE.
TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 4374 APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT APPLICATION FOR 707 W TAYLOR AVE.
TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 4375 PROVIDING SUPPORT OF TAX CREDIT APPLICATION FOR VASTU PARTNERS, LLC.
TO PASS THROUGH THE THIRD AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1261 AMENDING PENALTIES SECTION FOR THE BUILDING MAINTENANCE CODE.
TO MAKE A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 1262 BY CHANGING THE PAYMENT DROP OFF TO CITY HALL.
TO PASS THROUGH THE SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1262 ADOPTING ALTERNATIVE ENFORCEMENT AND PROCEDURES AND PENALTIES FOR NUISANCE AND HOUSING SAFETY ENFORCEMENT WITH FRIENDLY AMENDMENT.
TO PASS THROUGH THE SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1263 AMENDING CHAPTER 7.04 AND 11.08 GRASS VEGETATION.
TO PASS THROUGH THE SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1264 AMENDING CHAPTER 7.04 OF THE SOLID WASTE COLLECTION.
TO PASS THROUGH THE SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1265 TO AMEND CHAPTER 7.06 RECYCLING.
TO ADJOURN AT 8:47 P.M.
Submitted by:
Rebekah Loper
City Clerk

Check Register - Fairfield Claims Report		
Check Issue Dates: 5/27/2025 - 5/27/2025		
Name	Summary	Description Amount
10-15 TRANSIT TAXI	875.00	
ACCO UNLIMITED CORP.	CHLORINE	1,640.85
ALL AMERICAN PEST	PEST	410.00
ALLIANT ENERGY-IP & L	ELECTRIC	2,115.61
AMERICAN RED CROSS	CERTIFICATION	940.00
BAILEY OFFICE	OUTFITTERS COPIER MAINTENANCE	246.52
BOMGAARS	SUPPLIES	350.96
CENTRAL IOWA DIST.	PTN SUPPLIES	266.00
CINTAS FIRST AID & SAFETY	MEDICAL SUPPLIES	206.31
CONNELLY SANITATION	RECYCLING	2,017.08
CREDIT BUREAU	SERVICES OF COLLECTION FEES	36.60
CULLIGAN	WATER	92.88
DLT SOLUTIONS, LLC	RENEWAL	2,730.79
DOUDS STONE LLC	ROCK	3,283.34
EBBS HEALTH INSURANCE	PR	78,435.86
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE	ASS CHEMICALS	942.15
EUROFINS TEST AMERICA	LAB TESTING	1,600.72
FAIRFIELD ARTS & CONVENTIO	ROOM RENTAL	415.00
FAIRFIELD CO LAB	MEMBERSHIP	2,100.00
FAIRFIELD TIRE & SERVICE	TIRE REPAIR	31.98
FRENCH-RENEKER ASSOC.	ENGINEERING	7,628.10
GRAINGER	SUPPLIES	266.24
HAWKINS INC.	CHEMICALS	3,674.00
HICKENBOTTOM INC.	SUPPLIES	2,584.83
HYGIENIC LABORATORY / UNIVE	LAB TESTING	172.00
IOWA DEPT. OF AGRICUL.	LICENSE	9.00
IOWA TIRE SALES	TIRES	2,885.00
JEFFERSON CO. AUDITOR	REIMBURSEMENT	12,200.44
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	SUPPLIE	991.44
JOHNSON CONTROLS INC.	SERVICE	1,183.00
KLINGNER & ASSOC.	FIRE STATION	17,251.25
LIBERTY COMMUNICATIONS	TELEPHONE	144.00
LISCO	SERVICE	371.61
MC CLURE ENGINEERING CO.	STEP	3,930.84
MERCY MEDICAL CENTER	MEDICAL EXAM	903.00
MIDLAND SCIENTIFIC INC.	SERVICE	256.02
MIDWEST SAFETY COUNSELORS	GAS MONITORS	425.00
US POSTMASTER-LIBRARY	POSTAGE	146.00
PLUMBSCO LLC	SERVICE	350.00
QUILL CORPORATION	SUPPLIES	184.65
ROYAL PORTABLE	TOILETS SERVICE	128.52
RPM AUTOMOTIVE	SERVICE	197.27
SCHAUS/VORHIES MFG.	REPAIR	109.32
SCHUMACHER ELEVATOR CO.	MAINTENANCE	348.93
SELMONRY LANDFILL	SERVICE	2,684.70
SHERWIN-WILLIAMS CO.	PAINT	568.20
SHRED-IT USA	SERVICE	122.31
STANARD & ASSOC.	TESTS/SHIPPING	139.96
T L CLEANING	SERVICE	2,600.00
TEK TO TEK INC.	ANTENNAS	531.84
TIM'S HEATING & AIR CONDI	SERVICE	269.00
005 Police Specialty	0.00	35,018.86
UTILITY DEPOSIT REFUND	REFUND	932.72
UTILITY REFUND	REFUND	24.82
VAN METER INC.	SUPPLIES	55.04
VEOLIA WTS SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	12,590.00
VERIZON WIRELESS	TABLETS	240.06
VERTICAL COMMUNICATIONS	INC. TELEPHONE	191.67
WAPELL OR RURAL WATER	ASSO WATER	48.56
WILSON PAPER CO.	SUPPLIES	678.53
WINDSTREAM	TELEPHONE	156.63
Grand Totals:		178,387.15
Date:		
Approved By:		
CITY OF FAIRFIELD, IOWA		
MONTHLY EXPENDITURES & REVENUES		
As of 2025-05-31		
Fund M-T-D Revenues M-T-D Expenses		
001 General Fund	100,410.24	281,119.40
002 Hotel/ Motel Tax	Fund 0.00	0.00
003 General Other	0.00	17,546.44
004 Police Reserve	Fund 0.00	0.00
005 Police Specialty	0.00	35,018.86
010 Unobligated Fund	0.00	0.00
011 Obligated Reserve	0.00	0.00
014 Fireworks	0.00	0.00
022 Employee Benefits	Fund 320.00	63,305.23
110 Road Use Tax	Fund 0.00	70,896.12
119 Emergency	Fund 0.00	0.00
141 HWY 34 Business TIF	0.00	0.00
142 NCV Phase VI TIF	0.00	0.00
145 HWY 1 / HWY 34 Bypass TIF	0.00	0.00
146 LMI	0.00	0.00
147 NCV Phase VTIF	0.00	0.00
148 West Industrial Park	TIF 0.00	0.00
149 Lincoln Ave TIF	0.00	0.00
150 UDAG	0.00	0.00
200 Debt Service	Fund 0.00	0.00
301 Capital Improvement Reserve (CIRF)	0.00	31.65
310 Capital Projects	Fund 0.00	922.00
321 HWY 34 Business TIF Cap. Projects	0.00	0.00
322 W Industrial Park TIF Cap. Projects	0.00	0.00
323 Lincoln Ave TIF Cap. Projects	0.00	0.00
400 Local Option Sales Tax	0.00	0.00
402 Streets Local Option Sales Tax	0.00	0.00
500 Outdoor Pool / Gym	Fund 0.00	0.00
599 Water Sinking	Fund 0.00	0.00
600 Water	Fund 12,109.94	155,904.43
601 Sidewalk	Fund 0.00	0.00
609 WW Debt Service Reserve	0.00	0.00
610 Wastewater	Fund 3,105.00	151,947.36
611 Unobligated Fund - Enterprise	0.00	0.00
612 Obligated Reserve - Enterprise	0.00	0.00
615 WW Debt Sinking	Fund 0.00	0.00
616 WW Debt Service Short Lived Assets	0.00	0.00
660 Airport	Fund 490.00	9,495.36
670 Solid Waste / Recycling	2,424.00	70,656.54
Grand Total		118,859.18 856,843.39

Ladybugs

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Ladybugs resemble Asian lady beetles, but behave very differently, with Asian lady beetles being aggressive and known to bite humans.

“Both ladybugs and Asian lady beetles can bite, but it’s rare for ladybugs to bite,” Williamson said. “While Asian lady beetles are an invasive species in North America, ladybugs are native.”

When asked if the large number of ladybugs might bother art walk go-ers Friday night, Williamson responded, “absolutely not.”

Call Andy Hallman at 641-575-0135 or email him at andy.hallman@southeastiowaunion.com