



PUBLIC RECORD

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

OFFICIAL POWESHIEK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDINGS

January 13, 2025
The board met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. Members present Jason Roudabush, Jacki Bolen, and Jeff Tindle.

Moved by Roudabush, second by Bolen, to approve agenda. Three ayes. Motion carried.
Moved by Bolen, second by Roudabush, to approve Jan. 9, 2025, board minutes. Three ayes. Motion carried.

8:35 a.m. Brenda Daily, Central Iowa Community Services, met with board to provide update to behavioral health service system.

9:00 a.m. Skip Lowe and Josie Beck with North Risk Partners met with board to provide semi-annual update on the county health insurance plan. Lowe indicated that he should have a renewal proposal within the next five-to-six weeks and to anticipate a 5% to 8% increase in premiums.

9:43 a.m. Simone Bates, The Record, joined the meeting.

9:45 a.m. Tylor Nelson, Conservation Director, met with board for monthly update. Nelson stated the conservation board meeting was held Jan. 7, 2025 and provided the board with the minutes from that meeting. Nelson also discussed the conservation's proposed FY26 budget.

10:30 a.m. Drake Library, Brooklyn Library, and Montezuma Library representatives met with the board to provide an update on their services and programs and to discuss funding for FY26. Present: Karen Neal and Lee McFee, Drake Library; Josh Gerard and Katie Fuller, Brooklyn Library; and Christine Grimm, Montezuma Library.

11:00 a.m. Grinnell Veterans Memorial Commission representatives met with the board to provide an update on the monument. Back in 2021, the board committed \$20,000 in support of the City of Grinnell's Enhance Iowa-CAT Grant and the Grinnell Veterans Memorial Building Campaign. Present: Dr. Teresa Coon and Randy Hotchkin, Grinnell Veterans Memorial Commission; Nicole Brua-Behrens, Greater Poweshiek Community Foundation; and Adrienne Hardin, City of Grinnell. Since the memorial building plans fell through and plans are now for a monument, the CAT Grant process must be completed again for the new purpose. It is being asked of the Board to revise the commitment letter and resolution to indicate the \$20,000 commitment for the monument instead of the building. Board will consider this request at the next board meeting.

Bolen stated she has a Board of Health meeting on Tuesday.

11:50 a.m. Moved by Roudabush, second by Bolen, to adjourn. Three ayes. Motion carried.

Melissa Ellander, Poweshiek County Auditor
Jeff Tindle, Chairman
PUBLISHED IN THE RECORD, 1-23-25

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR POWESHIEK COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KRISTI A. MCGRANE, Deceased PROBATE NO. ESPR019914

NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF CO-EXECUTORS, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To all persons interested in the estate of Kristi A. McGrane, Deceased, who died on or about October 21, 2024:

You are hereby notified that on November 8, 2024, that Terry L. McGrane was appointed Administrator of the estate of Kristi A. McGrane.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named District Court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated: January 8, 2025.
Administrator of Estate: Terry L. McGrane, 326 Terrace Lane Dr., Montezuma, IA 50171
Attorneys for Estate: Patrick J. Mahaffey and Michael W. Mahaffey Mahaffey Law Office, P.C.
107 S. 4th Street 833 Broad Street
PO Box 850 PO Box 268
Montezuma, IA 50171 Grinnell, IA 50112
Phone: 641-623-5425 Phone: 641-236-6505
Date of second publication 1-23-25
PUBLISHED IN THE RECORD 1/16/25, 1/23/25

CITY OF DEEP RIVER MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

January 13, 2025
The Deep River City Council met in regular session at the Deep River American Legion on Monday Jan. 13, at 7:00 p.m., with mayor Derec Koch presiding. The following councilmembers answered roll call: Robin Cranston, Bob Wilhelm, Chad Hanchett, Ed Evans, and Richard Geiger. Others present: City clerk Jacki McDermott, Lisa Cheney, and Derek Bates from The Record.

Geiger made a motion, seconded by Hanchett, to approve the agenda as posted. All voted Aye; the motion was approved.

Cranston made a motion, seconded by Cranston, to approve the minutes of the December council meeting as corrected for Geiger's last name and for Phase II on the Shelter House Project. All voted Aye; the motion was approved.

Brooke Holder the Poweshiek County Public Health Manager was present to explain the programs of her department.

Resident comments: Lisa Cheney reported the Sheriff's department was at the neighbor's residence for four hours and wanted to know what can be done. Residents are advised to complain to the landlord, who rents out the place. The city code will be checked to see if the landlord is breaking city code.

The clerk informed the council Poweshiek Alliance Grants are due Jan. 24, so estimates need to be turned in to the clerk as soon as possible so that grant writing can be done. Six picnic tables have just been purchased with the funds already raised for \$6,784.94, so the grant will be for electrical service for the shelter house and a sidewalk up to the shelter in this year's Phase II Shelter House grant.

Cranston made a motion, seconded by Hanchett, to approve the third reading of Ordinance #25, establishing a Community Center Board. Cranston, Evans, Hanchett, Geiger, and Wilhelm each voted Aye. The motion was approved. The ordinance will become law upon publication.

The Clerk is to work on a burning ordinance as was discussed last month.

Cranston made a motion, seconded by Evans, to approve the January claims. All voted Aye; the motion was approved.

The Clerk gave the Treasurer's Report and the Utilities Report. Water bought from Poweshiek Water was 519,000 gallons and 318,952 gallons were sold.

New Business: None.

Nuisance properties: Wade Heineman has been sent a letter from the lawyer regarding a time line to fix up his property. The Keokuk County Sheriff is to serve Brenda Hudson before the papers can be signed by the judge giving the city ownership of her property. Tony and Kara Westphal have been sent a letter from the lawyer with a timeline to clean up their property and remove the old house.

Correspondence: None.

Old Business: The clerk was advised to count the number of tags needed for picnic tables and for names for the plaque inside.

Geiger made a motion to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. Second was by Cranston.

Derec Koch, mayor
Jacki McDermott, clerk
Claims Approved by the City Council on January 13, 2025
Alliant Energy (street lights, community center, city bldgs, park, fire station) 1,348.87
Postmaster (stamps) 146.00
Ziegler Cat (parts) 119.25

Cyclone Pest Management (pest service) 50.00
Sinclair NAPA (parts) 711.90
Mike Roberts (parts) 351.06
County Bank (water loan) 1,970.05
Winegarden Hardware (parts and supplies and trenching)) 1,306.38
Windstream (telephones and internet city buildings) 210.35
IPERS 653.16
United States Treasury (FICA and Withholding) 1,166.64
Rosendale Picnic Tables (six tables) 6,784.94
The Montezuma Record (minutes) 109.67
Hygienic Lab (water testing) b 9 6 . 5 0
Iowa Dept of Revenue (water excise tax) 341.26
Iowa Dept of Revenue (sewer sales tax) 186.05
Wellmark (employee insurance) 2,280.79
County Bank (sewer loan) 1,257.57
Iowa Department of Revenue (Iowa withholding) 780.00
Poweshiek Water Assn (water purchased) 2,236.89

Water Reserve Acct 50.00
Audas Sanitation (garbage and recycling) 734.40
Community Center:

Cyclone Pest Management (pest service) 65.00
Hawkeye Lock and Security (keys) 294.44
Audas Sanitation (dumpster) 21.40
December 2024 Summary of Receipts and Disbursements

RECEIPTS 0.00
General Fund 3,759.49
Employee Benefits Fund 954.50
Housing Fund 0.00
Road Use Fund 2,607.30
Local Option Sales Tax Fund 2,794.67
Cemetery Fund 0.00
Community Center Fund 684.94
Capital Improvement (shelter house) 1,250.00
Water Fund 5,536.81
Sewer Fund 3,373.25
20,960.96

DISBURSEMENTS
General Fund 4,902.58
Housing Fund 0.00
Employee Benefit Fund 1,412.38
Road Use Fund 2,718.04
Cemetery Fund 0.00
Community Center Fund 187.33
Playground Fund 0.00
Water Fund 4,822.62
Sewer Fund 5,272.43
19,315.38
PUBLISHED IN THE RECORD, 1-23-25

MONTEZUMA WATER BOARD MEETING

January 15, 2025
The Montezuma Water Board met in regular session at City Hall on January 15, 2025.

PRESENT: Sheets, Cranston, and Kivi.
ABSENT: Lowry and Holland.

ALSO, PRESENT: Chris Widmer.

The board meeting was called to order at 8:38 a.m.

Board member Sheets made a motion to approve the consent agenda which consisted of the following:

- Minutes from meetings: Dec. 18 and 31, 2024
- Claims

A second was made by Board member Cranston. Ayes: All; nays: None.

The pre-construction meeting for the well project will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2025. The DNR did not get the necessary information regarding the Notice of Funding Eligibility to Iowa Finance Authority in time for the water board's January meeting. A February special meeting is being considered in order to receive the 2024 – 4th-quarter interest rate for the project financing.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 a.m. was made by board member Sheets and seconded by board member Cranston. Ayes: All; nays: None.

Board Secretary/City Clerk
APPLIED SPECIALTIES INC. CHEMICALS

2,493.15
AUDAS SANITATION & RECYCL RECY-CLING 64.84
BAILEY OFFICE OUTFITTERS OFFICE SUPPLIES 123.86
CALDWELL & BRIERLY PLLC PROFESSIONAL FEES 374.00
CITY OF MONTEZUMA AUDIT FEES 2,750.00
GWOKS ANNUAL FEES 5,250.00
HOWKINS INC. CHEMICALS 5,868.66
HOMETOWN HARDWARE SUPPLIES 26.32
IA DEPT OF REV-TREAS EXCISE TAX 2,680.60
MICROBAC COMPANY WATER TESTING 237.50

MONTEZUMA LIGHT PLANT UTILITY BILL

2,413.99
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY CO. WATERLINE MATERIALS 1,118.86
NEW CENTURY FARM SERVICE FUEL 214.65
STRAND ENGINEERING PROFESSIONAL FEES 15,727.40
THE RECORD LEGAL PUBLICATIONS 171.54
U.S. CELLULAR CELL FEES 214.41
USA BLUE BOOK HS AIR RELIEF VALVE 847.79
WELLMARK B.C./B.S. INSURANCE 2,635.26
WINDSTREAM PHONE BILL 279.79
CLAIMS TOTAL 43,492.62
WATER FUND 43,492.62
PUBLISHED IN THE RECORD, 1-23-25

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR POWESHIEK COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOYCE ANN HESTER, Deceased PROBATE NO. ESPR019936

NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To all persons interested in the estate of Joyce Ann Hester, Deceased, who died on or about January 7, 2025:

You are hereby notified that on January 16, 2025, the Last Will and Testament of Joyce Ann Hester, deceased, bearing date of May 17, 2019, was admitted to probate in the above named court and that Jennifer A. Norris was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated: January 16, 2025.

Jennifer Norris, Executor of Estate
P.O. Box 633
903 E. Washington St.
Montezuma, IA 50171

Angela L.W. Cook, ICIS#: AT0001612

Attorney for Executor
Watson Cook P.C.
204 E. Liberty Street, P.O. Box 69
Montezuma, IA 50171

Date of second publication 1-30-25
PUBLISHED IN THE RECORD 1/23/25, 1/30/25

CITY OF MONTEZUMA REVENUES DECEMBER 2024

GENERAL 51,700.96
ROAD USE TAX 16,546.18
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS 4,032.97
LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX 3,212.12
DEBT SERVICE 4,878.65
FIRE RESERVE EQUIP FUND 121.83
AMBULANCE RESERVE EQUIP 222.57
LIBRARY RESERVE EQUIPMENT 29.54
PARK RESERVE EQUIPMENT 29.67
MEM. HALL RESERVE EQUIP 113.5
STREET RESERVE EQUIPMENT 989.24
ADMIN RESERVE EQUIPMENT 61.43
WATER 66,468.88
WATER RESERVE FUND 1,757.33
SEWER 51,764.12
SEWER RESERVE FUND 633.44
GAS 52,463.77
LANDFILL/GARBAGE 15,490.47
STORM WATER 2,236.92
REPORT TOTAL 272,753.59
PUBLISHED IN THE RECORD, 1-23-25

School board signals success of cell-phone policy, receives progress report on facilities review

Montezuma Community School Board met for their January meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 5:30 p.m., in the school auditorium.

Board president Jason Meyer and board members Joel Kercheval, Cori Henkle, Sara Kivi, were present, with Nichole Bushong participating over zoom. Superintendent Rich Schulte, principal Kelly O'Rourke, and board secretary Mary Jo DeBruin were also present.

Schulte opened the meeting with his good news of the month, reporting of the "... really good start, and really good change to get cell phones out of kids hands during instruction." O'Rourke echoed the success of implementing the new sixth-12th grade cell-phone policy, whereby all phones are placed in pockets as students enter the classroom and can be retrieved as they leave. "It's amazing the conversation you see now," commented O'Rourke. He also noted how the timing has complimented the move to eight, 45-minute class periods every day. O'Rourke highlighted some of the coming events, including Ms. Horras' "Lunch Bunch," the FAST Elementary winter screener the week of Jan. 27, and State DECA competitions coming in February.

Kercheval asked O'Rourke if there was any parent pushback on the cell phone policy. Two parents have approached Kercheval about concerns if an "issue" were to arise. O'Rourke reiterated cell phones are remaining in the classroom, and could be accessed in an emergency.

Surveys to parents concerning the proposed four-day school week were sent out, and O'Rourke included the initial results of what had been returned so far in his documents to the board, but did not distribute them, show them, or discuss them further.

Liquor license approved, website maintenance discussed in 15-minute Montezuma City Council meeting

Mayor pro-tem Ron Willrich presided over the meeting of the Montezuma City Council in the absence of mayor Colin Watts on Monday, Jan. 20. Councilmembers Curtis Bolen, Ron Hensel, and Wes Pargeon were also in attendance. Councilmember KyLee Stone was absent.

The council made quick work of the meeting that had two agenda items on it and lasted only 15 minutes.

A liquor license for Montezuma Star Lanes was approved.

Peggy Watts said the city's webhosting service has provided a quote of \$2,200 to update current design, and the amount could be paid in full or interest-free over

The appointment of Hannah Wilson to co-head golf coach with Liesl Roorda was approved, pending the completion of her coaching certification.

Schulte reported to the board a needs assessment will be sent out to students, staff, and parents. Districts are required to complete an assessment every five years. They will look for common themes among responses and create a plan accordingly. The questionnaire is 12 pages long, but takes an average of six minutes to complete, said Schulte.

Representatives from Denovo Construction Solutions updated the board on their facility review progress. Denovo reviewed both internal and external structures, and has presented options for updated athletic grounds and school buildings. Options for athletic grounds were rated based on program functionality, cost effectiveness, future-forward flexibility, and operational efficiency. Based on the raw scores of these proposals "Option B2: Single East complex" rose to the top, and "Option A2: Softball moves" came in second. Interior plans have been discussed with teachers, and a draft plan has been established. The proposed changes aim to use the current space with better effectiveness, as well as make the changes necessary to bring structures up to code. Board members were given blueprints of the discussed plans and asked to review them and reach out to Schulte with questions or concerns. The board will determine the scope of the project, which will inform the next steps. After the presentation, the board moved into a closed session, before adjourning.

The next school board meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 19.

American Legion Fifth District Flag Essay Contest winners announced

Poweshiek County children fared well in the American Legion Fifth District Flag Essay Contest.

Ezekiel McClenathan of Brooklyn, representing Post 294, received first place.

Haven Kinzebach of Deep River,

representing Post 296, received second place.

Chase Reiner of Richland Post 504 received third place.

Congratulations to all those involved!

American Legion Auxiliary Post 169 meeting minutes

The regular meeting of the Blakely-Stevens Unit 169 American Legion Auxiliary of Montezuma met Wednesday, Jan. 8, at 5:30 p.m. Roll call was answered by 11 members.

The Auxiliary will be working on several projects throughout the 2025 year. These projects will include donations to: Marshalltown Veterans Home; National

Cemetery in Keokuk; Welcome Home Soldier in Albia scholarships to attendees of Girls State; District Auxiliary President's Project; and the Nov. 11, 2025 meal for our veterans.

Bea Hensel, Diane Meyer, and Brigitte Van Roekel have been placed on the new kitchen committee for the new Legion building.

All notices posted online at iowanotices.org

As a service to the public, Iowa News-paper Association members have posted all public legal notices online. The Record has provided an easy, convenient way to locate the public notice website.

Go to: montezumarecord.com/public-notices.

We are proud to be an official newspaper for Poweshiek County, City of Deep River, City of Montezuma, City of Brooklyn, and Montezuma Community School District.



How to submit a Letter to the Editor:

We accept letters by email, postal mail, and delivered in person. Deadline for Letters to the Editor to be considered for the week's issue is 5 p.m., on Monday afternoons. We have the right to refuse any submission, especially letters containing profanity, vulgarity, or personal slander. In your submission, please include your first and last name and provide contact information so we can get in touch with you with any questions or if clarification is needed. Send letters to: The Record, PO Box 263, Montezuma, IA 50171; montezumarecord@gmail.com; or in person at 105 N. 4th St., Montezuma.