

# Seven Iowa communities receive 2025 AARP Community Challenge Grants

**DES MOINES**—Seven organizations throughout Iowa -including the city of Manning- will receive a combined \$75,506 in 2025 AARP Community Challenge grants. The grants are part of AARP’s \$4.2 million commitment to fund 383 quick-action projects nationwide aimed at making communities more livable for people of all ages, with a focus on the needs of older adults. The funds will support efforts to improve public places, transportation, housing, and more.

“AARP Iowa is proud to work with communities across the state to help make them more livable for people of all ages,” said AARP Iowa State Director Michael Wagler. “These projects are about turning great local ideas into real improvements that make life better, especially for older Iowans.”

The City of Manning will receive \$2,500 for a project to advance disaster preparedness by creating a disaster response kit for the community, enabling volunteers to assist safely and effectively. Community-wide trainings will help individuals prepare with checklists and personal kits.

Other projects are as follows: Bloomfield Main Street- \$15,000 – This project will enhance pedestrian safety and accessibility in Bloomfield’s Main Street District by adding high-contrast crosswalks and installing benches; Quad City Area REALTORS - \$15,000 – The Quad City Area REALTORS will host an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) design competition. Local students and architects will submit designs, with top entries displayed publicly and eligible for cash prizes; Holy Cross Hometown Pride Committee- \$12,000 – The project will renovate the tennis court and add two pickleball courts with ADA access and portable benches.

Cycling Without Age @ Bike Library - \$12,560 – This project will expand Cycling Without Age @ Bike Library’s programming to include people in wheelchairs through a new Nihola trishaw; Main Street Nevada - \$10,000 – This project will transform two underutilized downtown areas into accessible gathering spots with handicap seating and sunshades; and Villisca Community Betterment Association - \$8,446 – This project will add 20 weatherproof display stands to the local walking trail, creating a StoryWalk with children’s book pages, discussion prompts, and activity challenges.

The grant program is part of AARP’s nationwide Livable Communities initiative, which supports the efforts of cities, towns, neighborhoods and rural areas to become great places to live for people of all ages, with an emphasis on people ages 50 and older. Since 2017, AARP Iowa has awarded 42 grants and over \$457,000 through the program to nonprofit organizations and government entities across the state.

View the full list of grantees and their project descriptions at [aarp.org/communitychallenge](http://aarp.org/communitychallenge) and learn more about AARP’s livable communities work at [aarp.org/livable](http://aarp.org/livable).

About AARP

AARP is the nation’s largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering people 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. With a nationwide presence and nearly 38 million members, AARP strengthens communities and advocates for what matters most to families: health security, financial stability, and personal fulfillment. To learn more, visit [www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org) or follow @AARPIowa on social media.

# Community Pride makes a come-back

**AUDUBON** - After nearly a decade, the Audubon Community Pride Award is making a comeback — thanks to local real estate broker Molly Christensen and her team at Audubon Real Estate.

Christensen, who moved back to Audubon in 2018, said the idea came to her recently when she realized the community hadn’t recognized property owners for their efforts in keeping Audubon beautiful in quite some time.

“With the Chamber no longer active, I thought — who better to bring it back than a real estate company that truly cares about this town?” said Christensen. “We believe in recognizing the people who take pride in where they live.”

The Community Pride Award was once a regular tradition, last documented in 2015. While it may have been awarded more recently, no records have surfaced proving otherwise. Christensen’s family (the Armentrout’s) has been involved in community revitalization for over a decade — operating quality rentals, completing two house flips, and consistently supporting beautification efforts in Audubon.

Nominations for the revived award will soon open to spotlight residents who go above and beyond in maintaining attractive, well-cared-for properties.

“It’s a small way to say thank you,” said Christensen. “And to encourage others to take pride in their homes and neighborhoods, too.”

More details on how to nominate someone for the award will be shared in the Audubon Newspaper and through Audubon Real Estate’s Facebook page.

# Send us your news and photos!

Email to  
[atlanticnewstelegraph@gmail.com](mailto:atlanticnewstelegraph@gmail.com)

# Legal Notice

## AUDUBON SCHOOL BOARD FORM OF RESOLUTION

June 16, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Audubon Community School District in the County of Audubon and Guthrie, State of Iowa, met in open session, in the Audubon Community School District Board Room, at 7 o’clock P.M. on the above date. There were present the following Board Members:

Mark Nissen, Anne Bomstad-Miller, Justin Sprague, Sarah Asmus, Heath Hansen

Absent: \_\_\_\_\_ None \_\_\_\_\_

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Director Bomstad-Miller introduced the following Resolution and moved its adoption. Director Hansen seconded the motion to adopt. The roll was called and the vote was:

AYES: Asmus, Sprague, Hansen, Bomstad-Miller, Nissen

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_

The President declared the Resolution adopted as follows:

**RESOLUTION**

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STORM PROTECTION FUND, AN IOWA CODE CHAPTER 28E ENTITY AND CHAPTER 670 RISK POOL

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has received the renewal information for wind and hail property insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, the deductible under the wind and hail coverage under the policy is a percentage of the value insured; and

WHEREAS, the Storm Protection Fund provides a means to manage and contain deductible costs associated with wind and hail insurance coverage.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is resolved:

The Board of Directors authorizes the District to Join the Storm Protection Fund, and to pay all Contributions

as required by the Storm Protection Fund.

Passed and approved this 16th day of June, 2025.

Mark Nissen, President  
A  
CERTIFICATE

TTEST: Carla Christensen, Secretary

STATE OF IOWA )  
 ) SS:  
COUNTY OF Audubon & Guthrie )

I, the Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Audubon Community School District in the County of Audubon and Guthrie State of Iowa, certify that attached is a complete copy of the portion of the corporate records showing proceedings of the Board meeting held on the date indicated in the attachment and remain in full force and effect; that the meeting and all action was publicly held in accordance with a notice of meeting and a tentative agenda which was timely served on each member of the Board and posted on a bulletin board or other prominent place easily accessible to the public and clearly designated for that purpose at the principal office of the Board (a copy of the agenda is attached) pursuant to the local rules of the Board and the provisions of Iowa Code Chapter 21 and upon reasonable advance notice the public and media at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the commencement of the meeting as required by law and with members of the public present in attendance; I further certify that the individuals named lawfully possessed their respective offices as indicated, that no Board vacancy existed except as stated and that no controversy or litigation is pending or threatened involving the incorporation, organization, existence or boundaries of the School or the right of the individuals named as officers.

DATED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

Carla Christensen, Secretary of the Board of Directors Audubon Community School District  
(Published in the *Audubon County Advocate Journal*, Friday, June 20, 2025)

# Legal Notice

## KIMBALLTON CITY COUNCIL June 12, 2025

The Kimballton City Council met in special session on Thursday June 12th, 2025 at 6:45 p.m. at the Kimballton Library.

Present: Mayor Millette Shores. Council members: Sheila Partridge, Adam Larsen, Thomas Lake, and Dirk Wasson. Tony Petersen. Clerk April Baldwin.

In addition to council members in attendance were: Chad Nickolisen, Jeff Soe and Ryan Billheimer.

Mayor Millette Shores called the public meeting to order at 6:45 pm for Proposed Action to Institute Proceedings for Electric Loan Agreement Principal Amount \$500,000

**Reading of Resolution 06-2025-12**

Mayor Shores presented motion to close Public Hearing Resolution 06-2025-12

Roll Call: 5 Yeas

Mayor Shores presented motion to waive 2nd & 3rd readings. Motion by Tony Petersen 2nd by Adam Larsen 5 Ayes

Mayor Shores presented motion to adjourn, motion by Sheila Partridge 2nd by Adam Larsen 5 Ayes

**Mayor Shores started regular council meeting at 7:00 pm**

Mayor Shores presented motion to table the proposed Sale of Property 16 E 44 & to table the Substation Transformer Addition Equipment Installation Contract & Bid Proposal to move to public meeting July 10th, 2025 6:45pm. Motion by Sheila Partridge 2nd by Adam Larsen 5 Ayes

Mayor Shores presented motion to approve the amended agenda to include Chad Nickolisen, Jeff Soe, & Ryan Billheimer. Motion by Dirk Wasson – 2nd by Tony Petersen. 5 Ayes

Mayor Shores presented motion to approve May 8th, & May 28th, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion by Sheila Partridge - 2nd by Dirk Wasson. 5 Ayes

Mayor Shores presented a motion to approve monthly POs Motion by Tony Petersen - 2nd by Larsen. 5 Ayes

Mayor Shores presented financial reports and Claims Report to pay May bills. Motion by Tom Lake - 2nd by Larsen. and Claims report. 5 Ayes

The following bills were presented for payment:

ACCO, water treatment chemicals .....\$3669.84

Atlantic Municipal Utilities, pole on Alfred St.....\$512.00

Audubon Cty Advocate, City Publications .....\$244.16

Audubon Cty Solid Waste, 1st quarter, transfer station .....\$2093.00

Cappell’s Ace Hardware, mermaid maintenance supplies ..... \$49.15

Chelsee Jacobsen, clerk duties .....\$184.00

City of Atlantic, water testing .....\$650.00

Council Bluffs Water Works, water testing ..... \$200.00

EFTPS (FED/FICA).....\$964.39

Emergency Apparatus Maintenance, Pumper Tank Valve ..... \$1519.82

Haulk computer, back up Maintenance.....\$140.00

HM Cragg, water generator maintenance ..... \$1671.00

IAMU, spring flyers .....\$95.50

IMWCA, Work Comp premium 25-26 .....\$4201.00

Larsen Sanitation – May Garbage & Landfill ..... \$2774.65

Marne Elk Horn Telephone, clerk phone & internet.....\$360.33

MidAmerican Energy ..... \$156.08

Myrtue, Physical .....\$73.00

P & E Engineering, electrical Issues 2025 ..... \$24686.60

State Hygienic Lab.....\$258.00

Unplugged Wireless Communications, Emergency siren & installation . \$2000.00

Verizon, utility phone .....\$63.74

Vessco, Pump heads for chemicals .....\$1308.01

Visual edge it, copier repair .....\$539.45

Wellmark - Insurance .....\$1855.00

.....**Accounts Payable Total: \$50268.72**

Payroll .....\$3753.25

.....**Grand Total \$54021.97**

Action Items: Snyder & Associates unable to attend email sent which included the following information:

- A steel tank has been ordered and fabrication has been started. No delivery date confirmed.
- I am working with USDA on trying to get some additional funding to replace the other fiberglass tank with a steel one.
- I am working on an event tracker for the project. I have reached out to BCI and IDNR to record all the complaints that they have received about the water during the project. this will be intended to be able to address the issues when we decide to hold the public meeting. After I have collected the information from BCI and IDNR.

Building Crafts updated council on status of city water filter progress: BCI has ordered a two Vertical Pressure Filters 150 PSI Steel tanks. No participation from Snyder & Vessco concerning costs. City has accepted paying for one tank. Designs needed by Snyder to remove tanks and panel to be placed.

05/19/2025 — Steel Tanks order placed

05/23/2025 — First round of shop drawings, modifications to shop drawings to better match the existing tanks

05/28/2025 — Second round of shop drawings

05/29/2025 Snyder Approval of shop drawings

06/02/2025 — BCI release tanks for final production with manufacturer Week of August 18th — Expected delivery of tanks

Expected 3-4 weeks following delivery until ready for use. This includes tank installation, media loading, bacteria testing, and startup.

P & E Engineering report to council via email. Three bids discussed for substation transformer repair. Purchase of Switch gear.

3 Phase repair for area near Main Street. Need Civil Engineering, easements, proper electrical needs for customers. Need two bids for service.

IADot has reached out concerning upcoming work on Highway 71 thru the city. Council discussed spraying asphalt emulsion and repainting parking spots area on main street. Cost to be paid by city. Motion presented by Mayor Shores to approve IA DOT. Motion by Sheila Partridge – 2nd by Dirk Wasson. 5 Ayes

Elk Horn Library to use Mermaid Park June 22nd 2 to 4pm. Quarterly requirement

**Water by Affidavit**

Discussion concerning Brad Madsen leaving position as of June 30th, 2015.

Also, vacancy part time position for water duties needs to be filled.

Motion presented by Mayor Shores to authorize hiring Ryan Billheimer as Water by Affidavit effective July 1st, 2025. Motion to authorize by Dirk Wasson 2nd by Tom Lake. 5 Ayes.

Mayor Shores presented advertise for part time position for water duties. Add to be placed.

Property at 213 Main Street discussed concerning past due utility bill and electric be supplied to the house.

Donation of security camera for Mermaid Park made by Darla and Tom Lake.

Next council meeting July 10, 2025 6:45 for public meeting with regular meeting at 7 pm. Motion by Adam Larsen, 2nd by Sheila Partridge. 5 Ayes.

Motion presented by Mayor Shores to adjourn at 8:06pm. Motion by Wasson, 2nd by Partridge. 5 Ayes

Approved: Millette Shores, Mayor

Attest: April Baldwin, City Clerk

(Published in the *Audubon County Advocate Journal*, Friday, June 20, 2025)