



Submitted photo

Erica Bill (right), customer support specialist, presents Farmers New Ag's contribution to decrease the cost of 4-H dues to Michelle Schubert (left), Floyd County Extension and Outreach Youth Coordinator.

Farmers New Ag donates to reduce membership dues to area 4-H Clubs

To The Press
Farmers New Ag LLC demonstrated its continued support for local 4-H youth by distributing donations totaling \$13,660 to four county Extension and Outreach offices. These donation will cover half of the annual 4-H membership dues for 683 4-H members. In Floyd County, Farmers New Ag donated \$3,000. Other county 4-H program receiving the donations were Howard, Mitchell and Worth

counties. "Farmers New Ag takes great pride in supporting youth through local 4-H programs," said Erica Bill, customer support specialist. "We strongly believe 4-H plays a vital role in building the foundation for future leaders in our communities." Farmers New Ag is a north central Iowa agricultural retailer and service provider with locations in Charles City, Rockford, St. Ansgar, Northwood and Riceville.

Charles City business honored in NIACC Venture School competition

To The Press
A Charles City woman's floral business earned an honorable mention in a regional entrepreneurship competition held last week in Mason City. Lauren Lundberg of Charles City received the recognition for The Fiddle Leaf, a business centered on a flower stand, subscription model and pop-up boutiques, at the NIACC John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center's Spring 2026 Venture School Launch Day competition on Thursday, March 26. Seven teams competed in the event, which came after participants spent seven weeks in virtual training focused on customer discovery and business model development alongside local entrepreneur coaches. Winners were:
• First place, \$1,500, Lift Logistics of Clear Lake,

coordinates small-scale moves and senior living transitions.
• Second place, \$1,250, SnapCache LLC of Mason City, converts VHS tapes, photos, slides, negatives and film reels into digital formats.
• Third place, \$750, Let Them Smile of Mason City, home care services.
• Best non-profit, \$500, Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce Marketing Studio.
The Venture School program is based on curriculum developed through the National Science Foundation I-Corps program at Stanford University and the University of California, Berkeley. Eligible teams may compete for additional cash awards at the state-level University of Iowa Venture School Launch Day at EntrefEST in Cedar Rapids on June 11-12.

Iowa launching 'Claim Your Future' letters for high school seniors

To The Press
More than 37,000 Iowa high school seniors are receiving letters outlining college options and next steps through a new statewide "Claim Your Future" initiative. Gov. Kim Reynolds and the Iowa Department of Education announced the program, which is intended to ensure all seniors are aware of in-state postsecondary opportunities and how to pursue them. The letters include information about Iowa's colleges and universities, including

institutions that offer automatic admission based on academic benchmarks. QR codes in the letters will direct students to application portals as well as federal and state financial aid applications. Each letter also explains how to calculate a Regent Admission Index score, which is used to determine automatic admission eligibility for Iowa State University, the University of Northern Iowa and the University of Iowa, depending on application deadlines. The initiative is being carried

CLUB NOTES ...

Lost Llamas 4-H Club

The Lost Llamas 4-H club met on Sunday, March 8, at 1:22 p.m. The opening activity was Throw Throw Avacado, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was 'what is your hobby?' Minutes of previous meeting were read, Clarissa moved to approve and Evelyn seconded it. Treasurer's report was given and approved. New business was Floyd County 4-H teen council, 4-H Junior Fun Night, Ricochet Leadership training, 4-H cooking club, Beyond the Clover, statewide 4-H poultry SPIN club meetings, sign up for educational presentations and annual Spring Fling donation basket. New business is Chickfest, Party in the Park, spring break workshop, fair entries/contests, YQCA training, 2026 Floyd County Cattlemen's fundraiser and new club names/shirts. The meeting was adjourned at 1:34 p.m., followed by the 4-H Pledge. The closing activity was making cake pops.
— Sydney Kehret, Reporter

EDUCATION NEWS BRIEFS ...

Area students graduate from South Dakota State University

South Dakota State University has announced its summer and fall 2025 graduates, including students from the Charles City area. Area graduates are:
• Charles City – Justin Heyer, Cum Laude, Bachelor of Science and undergraduate certificate, College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences and College of Natural Sciences.
• Rockford – Jacob Stokes, Magna Cum Laude, Bachelor of Science, College of Education and Human Sciences. South Dakota State University, founded in 1881, is the state's land-grant institution and largest public university. More than 1,000 students completed requirements for degrees or certificate programs following the summer and fall semesters. Graduates represented 35 states and 26 nations, and nearly 40 students earned two or more degrees or certificates.

out in partnership with the Iowa Board of Regents, the state's 15 community colleges and 31 private nonprofit colleges and universities. State officials said the letters encourage students to complete college applications, contact school counselors or admissions

offices for assistance, and submit both the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and the Iowa Financial Aid Application. Beginning with the 2026-27 school year, the letters will be sent in the fall to help students start the college planning process earlier.

Legal Notice

City of Floyd City Council Meeting March 24th, 2026
The regular Floyd City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Charlie Newman at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday March 24th, 2026. Mayor Charlie Newman was present. The City Clerk Lauri Reetz was present. The clerk took roll calls for the following Council members that were present, Miller, King, Stewart, Davis and Krueger were present. Motion by King/Krueger to approve the agenda. All in favor. Mayor Newman opened the public hearing on Proposed Property Tax Levy at 7:01 p.m. No written comments were made. One oral comment was made by a resident just asking why taxes go up. Closed the public hearing at 7:11 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.
Attest: Lauri Reetz City Clerk
Mayor Charlie Newman

Legal Notice

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR FLOYD COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF HELEN I. EINCK, Deceased
CASE NO. ESPRO19224
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS
To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Helen I. Einck, Deceased, who died on or about February 19, 2026:
You are hereby notified that on March 27, 2026, the Last Will and Testament of Helen I. Einck, deceased, bearing date of August 19, 2020, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Catherine Carr-Davis 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 notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.
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 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 March 27, 2026.
Catherine Carr-Davis, Executor of Estate
3444 Kinsey Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50317

Danielle Ellingson, ICIS#: AT0012534
Attorney for Executor
Noah, Smith, Sloter & Ellingson, PLC
200 N. Johnson Street
Charles City, IA 50616
Date of second publication: 04-07-2026
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CITY OF CHARLES CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR SESSION March 16, 2026

Charles City City Council met in regular session on March 16, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Zastrow room of the Public Library. Mayor Dean Andrews presided and the following Council Members were present: Phillip Knighten (via zoom), Patrick Lumley, Krista Noah, Jeff Otto, and Phoebe Pittman. Also present were City Administrator Tyler Trout, City Attorney Brad Sloter, City Engineer John Fallis, Fire Chief Sam Deverell, and Street Superintendent Tony Stoneypher. Citizen/Tony Comments – None. Mayor Andrews welcomed everyone to the meeting. Motion by Lumley, second by Pittman to approve the agenda. Ayes - 5. Motion by Lumley, second by Otto to approve the minutes of the March 2 and March 11 meetings. Ayes - 5. Motion by Pittman, second by Noah to approve the consent calendar. Ayes - 5. The consent calendar consisted of the following - Approval of Class C Retail Alcohol License for the CITY OF CHARLES CITY DBA WILDWOOD GOLF COURSE; Approval of Contractor Bond and/or Certificates for NOLI'S CUSTOM CONCRETE, LLC, and STEEGE CONSTRUCTION, INC.; Approval of 2/26 Financials for City of Charles City & CC Public Employees Health Plan; and the Payment of Claims (including those approved by other boards):

VENDOR, TOTAL

VERIZON	\$120.03
CITY OF CHARLES CITY	\$1,080.00
CC PUBLIC EMP HEALTH PLAN	
EMC NATIONAL LIFE-SUPPLEM	\$39,422.26
BRODRANT COMPANY	\$6.00
CAROL CASE	\$1,603.00
CENTRAL LOCK SECURITY	\$3,657.50
TRENT PARKER / COMPUTER PARKER	
FARM BUREAU	\$840.00
COREY HAWKE	\$422.00
HY-VEE INC.	\$50.00
INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES	\$4,364.67
IOWA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION	\$150.00
KANOPY INC.	\$78.00
KIRK GROSS COMPANY	\$2,355.18
MICK GAGE PLUMBING & HEATING	
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	\$2,961.28
MIDWEST TAPE	\$159.69
NEWBAUER INC.	\$37.00
OMNITEC COMMUNICATIONS	\$238.66
RICHARD HUDSON	\$550.00
SCHUEH ACE HARDWARE	\$4.09
AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE	
AMERICAN PASS TRAIN MUSEUM	\$18,344.73
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY LLP	\$2,818.21
BREITBACH OFFICE LLC	\$140.00
BRUENING ROCK PRODUCTS INC.	
CALHOUN-BURNS & ASSOCIATES	\$2,470.25
CARQUEST AUTO PARTS	\$2,500.00
CHARLES CITY AREA DEV CORP	\$918.52
CHARLES CITY PRESS INC	\$40.00
CINTAS CORPORATION	\$1,668.73
CIRCLE K COMMUNICATIONS INC	
CITY OF CHARLES CITY	\$119.47
DIXES FIRE COMPANY	\$2,002.48
DIXON ENGINEERING INC	\$1,000.00
DO IT ALL SERVICES LLC	\$967.50
FMC LANDFILL	\$975.00
IOWA ASSOC MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	
IDOT-CASHIER'S OFFICE	\$1,185.00
IPF MOTION SOLUTIONS INC	\$827.08
IPF MOTION SOLUTIONS INC	\$2,318.06

JENDRO SANITATION SERVICES	\$63,855.03
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	\$113.77
LANDIA	\$142.56
LESSIN SUPPLY COMPANY	\$1,268.81
LYNCH DALLAS LEGAL	\$413.00
MICK GAGE PLUMBING & HEATING	
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	\$587.20
MIKE'S C&O TIRE INC	\$11.11
MPH INDUSTRIES INC	\$781.99
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC	\$2,755.00
NCL OF WISCONSIN	\$2,274.35
NEWBAUER INC	\$185.19
NOAH,SMITH,SCHUCKNECHT-SLOTTER	\$56.78
NOAH	\$3,615.00
J&P LIMITED/O'HENRY'S STITCHES	
O'REILLY FIRST CALL	\$67.00
P'RYLL NOVAK ELECTRIC INC	\$45.98
QUALITY PUMP & CONTROL	\$982.37
SADLER POWER TRAIN INC	\$142.49
SALT	\$131.85
SCHUEH ACE HARDWARE	\$15.00
SHERWIN-WILLIAMS CO	\$177.23
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	\$88.57
STIVERS MIDWEST PRO UPFITTERS	
SUPERIOR LUMBER INC	\$98.82
SUPERIOR WELDING SUPPLY CO	\$12,972.59
SWARTZROCK IMPLEMENT CO	\$409.13
T&C MACHINE	\$80.00
T&W GRINDING & COMPOST SERVICE	\$306.00
ULINE	\$210.00
VOLATIA LANGUAGE NETWORK	\$6,739.00
ACCESS SYSTEMS LEASING	\$2,121.57
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$42.35
BERGLAND & CRAM INC	\$145.69
BOB PEACE DBA PEACE MUSIC	\$837.96
CC PAYROLL	\$3,322.94
FF GRANDPARENTS	\$99,145.48
GENERAL TRAFFIC CONTROLS	\$12,304.91
GRANDER	\$750.00
HAWKINS INC	\$1,467.70
MICROBAC LABORATORIES, INC.	\$1,852.30
MISSISSIPPI LIME COMPANY	\$1,852.30
MTI DISTRIBUTING INC	\$204.50
SHORT ELLIOT HENDRICKSON INC	\$10,215.14
WISCONSIN INDEPENDENT NETWORK	\$365.85
BUSINESS CARD	\$3,650.00
CENTURYLINK	\$1,313.75
VERIZON	\$8,744.23
US POSTAL SERVICE	\$1,343.58
EFTPS (PAYROLL TAXES)	\$1,260.71
ICMA MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS	\$1,000.00
VISA	\$24,638.71
BANCORPSV	\$5,002.03
CENTRAL-MCGOWAN, INC.	\$82.82
DAIDA	\$951.44
DISH NETWORK	\$1,729.90
IOWA DEPT OF REVENUE	\$1,595.53
LEAF	\$204.24
MEMIACOM	\$585.00
OMNITEC COMMUNICATIONS	\$152.26
PITNEY BOWES SUPPLIES	\$172.26
QUILL CORPORATION	\$172.26
SKYBLUE SOLUTIONS	\$206.31
WEX BANK	\$213.40
TOTAL	\$756.38
	\$9,205.35
	\$417,200.06

sincere thanks to Gene LaBounty for his many years of dedicated service on the Board of Adjustment, and also expressed appreciation to Dave and Pete for their willingness to serve. Mayor Andrews opened the public hearing concerning the 2026 North Grand Avenue CPKC Railroad Crossing Improvement Project. Affidavit of publication dated 3/10/2026 was informally filed. Mayor asked for written comments. There being none, he then asked for oral comments. There were none. Motion by Knighten, seconded by Pittman to close the public hearing. Ayes - 5. Engineer Fallis explained that the project includes reconstruction of approximately one block of North Grand Avenue through the railroad crossing, installation of curb and gutter, new crossing materials and signals, a new 12-inch water main, and lining of approximately 150 feet of sanitary sewer. Two addendums were issued during bidding, with no changes to the project scope. Councilmember Pittman introduced Resolution No. 29-26 entitled, "APPROVING FINAL PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND FORM OF CONTRACT FOR THE 2026 NORTH GRAND AVENUE CPKC RAILROAD CROSSING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT" and moved for adoption. Seconded by Noah. Resolution duly passed on roll call vote as follows: Lumley, Noah, Pittman, Knighten, and Otto. Nays: None. Engineer Fallis stated that the city received two bids that were opened on March 12, with Popp Excavating, Inc. submitting the low bid of \$512,311.70, which was above the Engineer's Cost Opinion of \$415,000. Higher costs were attributed in part to increased mobilization costs and complexities associated with the railroad coordination. Engineer Fallis recommended awarding the contract to Popp Excavating, Inc., noting the contractor's experience with railroad projects, in the amount of \$512,311.70. Councilmember Pittman introduced Resolution No. 30-26 entitled, "APPROVING AWARD, CONTRACT, AND BOND FOR THE 2026 BRACKET STREET CN RAILROAD CROSSING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT" and moved for adoption. Seconded by Noah. Resolution duly passed on roll call vote as follows: Noah, Pittman, Knighten, Otto, and Lumley. Nays: None. Mayor Andrews opened the public hearing concerning the 2026 Bracket Street CN Railroad Crossing Improvement Project. Affidavit of publication dated 3/10/2026 was informally filed. Mayor asked for written comments. There being none, he then asked for oral comments. Ryan Boehmer expressed concerns regarding project costs and the use of the closure incentive funding, noting that earlier discussions referenced improvements to the Kellogg and E Street crossings. Mayor, council, and staff explained that while initial discussions included these crossings, project scope evolved to include the Bracket Street and Iowa - Lane Street improvements to accommodate access and coordinate with the North Grand Avenue project and railroad signal requirements. It was noted that the North Grand project is largely funded through Section 130 funding, while the closure incentive funds are being applied to Brackett and Iowa - Lane Street improvements. Additional crossing improvement projects will require future funding. No further comments were received. Motion by Pittman, seconded by Noah to close the public hearing. Ayes - 5. Engineer Fallis reported that the preliminary plans were approved February 18, 2026, and one addendum was issued making minor quantity adjustments, with no changes to the project scope. Councilmember Pittman introduced Resolution No. 31-26 entitled, "APPROVING FINAL PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND FORM OF CONTRACT FOR THE 2026 BRACKET STREET CN RAILROAD CROSSING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT" and moved for adoption. Seconded by Knighten. Resolution duly passed on roll

call vote as follows: Knighten, Otto, Lumley, Noah, and Pittman. Nays: None. Engineer Fallis stated that the city received two bids, with Popp Excavating, Inc. submitting the low bid of \$128,295.00, and Vieth Construction Corp. submitting a bid of \$149,372.00. The low bid was consistent with the engineer's estimate of \$127,000.00. Engineer Fallis recommended awarding the contract to Popp Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$128,295.00. Councilmember Pittman introduced Resolution No. 32-26 entitled, "APPROVING AWARD, CONTRACT, AND BOND FOR THE 2026 BRACKET STREET CN RAILROAD CROSSING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT" and moved for adoption. Seconded by Otto. Resolution duly passed on roll call vote as follows: Otto, Lumley, Noah, Pittman, and Knighten. Nays: None. Mayor Andrews opened the public hearing concerning the 2026 Iowa - Lane Streets Intersection Improvement Project. Affidavit of publication dated 3/10/2026 was informally filed. Mayor asked for written comments. There being none, he then asked for oral comments. There were none. Motion by Knighten, seconded by Lumley to close the public hearing. Ayes - 5. Engineer Fallis noted the project includes closure of the railroad crossing, with removal of crossing materials to be completed by the railroad, and relocation of the water main at an estimated cost of \$36,000 to be paid from the water fund. He then presented the two options: Option 1 (dead-end the streets) and Option 2 (one-lane connection). Two addendums were issued during the bidding process with no changes to the project scope. Fire Chief Deverell and Street Superintendent Stoneypher recommended Option 2 due to fire code requirements, safety concerns, and operational efficiency. Councilmember Pittman introduced Resolution No. 33-26 entitled, "APPROVING FINAL PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND FORM OF CONTRACT FOR THE 2026 IOWA - LANE STREETS INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT" and moved for adoption. Seconded by Noah. Resolution duly passed on roll call vote as follows: Noah, Pittman, Knighten, Otto, and Lumley. Nays: None. Engineer Fallis stated that Popp Excavating, Inc. submitted bids for each of the project options, with Option 1 coming in at \$95,451.00 and Option 2 for \$123,066.00. Engineer Fallis recommended awarding the contract to Popp Excavating, Inc. for Option 2 in the amount of \$123,066.00. Councilmember Pittman introduced Resolution No. 34-26 entitled, "APPROVING AWARD, CONTRACT, AND BOND FOR THE 2026 IOWA - LANE STREETS INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT" and moved for adoption. Seconded by Lumley. Resolution duly passed on roll call vote as follows: Pittman, Knighten, Otto, Lumley, and Noah. Nays: None. Council discussed the engagement letter with Dorsey + Whitney for the purpose of Fiscal Year 2027 general obligation short-term borrowing, noting the agreement allows for preparation of necessary documentation and that similar agreements were approved in prior years. Motion by Knighten, seconded by Pittman to approve Engagement with Dorsey + Whitney LLP. Motion duly passed on roll call vote as follows: Knighten, Otto, Lumley, Noah, and Pittman. Nays: None. Council considered Resolution No. 35-26 setting a public hearing for a loan agreement not to exceed \$240,000 for fiscal year 2027 general obligation short-term borrowing. City Administrator Trout noted the amount represents a not-to-exceed total and will fund essential corporate purpose items, including police equipment and vehicle reserve, and fire equipment and tanker replacement. The public hearing will be held on April 6, 2026. Councilmember Knighten introduced Resolution No. 35-26 entitled, "SETTING THE DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADDITIONAL

ACTION ON PROPOSAL TO ENTER INTO A GENERAL OBLIGATION CORPORATE PURPOSE LOAN AGREEMENT AND TO BORROW MONEY THEREUNDER IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$240,000." Seconded by Pittman. Resolution duly passed on roll call vote as follows: Otto, Lumley, Noah, Pittman, and Knighten. Nays: None. Councilmember Pittman introduced Resolution No. 36-26 entitled, "APPROVING A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THEISEN'S AND THE CITY OF CHARLES CITY FOR USE OF PUBLIC PARKING LOT" Seconded by Noah. Questions were raised about when the lease price had last been increased. Councilmember Lumley suggested reviewing the rate before next session. Resolution duly passed on roll call vote as follows: Lumley, Noah, Pittman, Knighten, and Otto. Nays: None. Miscellaneous Correspondence: No correspondence had been received. City Attorney's Report: Attorney Sloter had nothing to report at this time. City Clerk's Report: City Clerk Lentz noted that Engineer Fallis' retirement party will be held on Tuesday, March 24 at The Pub on the Cedar from 4:00-6:00 p.m. She also reviewed upcoming meeting dates. The Wednesday, March 25 planning session has been cancelled due to a lack of agenda items. The City Council will hold its regular meeting on Monday, April 6, which will include a special meeting and regular session beginning at 6:00 p.m. The next planning session is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15. A regular meeting for final budget approval will be held on April 20, followed by the last planning session of the month on Wednesday, April 29. All meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m. City Administrator Report: Administrator Trout reported the Ambulance Commission met last week, at which time Councilmember Noah was elected Chair and Chief Anderson Vice Chair; the Commission discussed the contract and feasibility study and agreed to meet with AMR, with the next meeting scheduled for April 9. Engineering onboarding continues, with Mark Crawford meeting staff. Crawford completed department tours with Engineer Fallis and attended his first department head meeting. No applications have been received for the Development Services Director position, so he is looking into extending the deadline. The Iowa Rural Development Summit will be held April 8-10 in Dubuque; he and Mayor Andrews are registered to attend, and one additional councilmember is needed, with Councilmember Knighten expressing interest. Administrator Trout expressed his appreciation for Engineer Fallis' many years of service and contributions to the city as he approaches retirement. Board, Commission, or Committee Reports: Councilmember Pittman reported on the Library Board meeting. The Board discussed use of the \$10,000 Carnegie Foundation gift, including potential chair improvements. A well-attended geocaching event was also held over the weekend. Otto reported that the Airport Commission and Parks and Recreation Board will both meet this week. Knighten reported on the Hotel/Motel Grant Committee, which will meet Wednesday, March 18 to consider two revised grant applications. Motion by Pittman, seconded by Noah to adjourn at 7:12 p.m. Ayes - 5.
Dean Andrews, Mayor
Attest: Brittney Lentz, City Clerk

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