

November 20, 2023

The Mahaska County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on the above date at 9:00 a.m. in the third-floor conference room of the Mahaska County courthouse. Present were the following board members: Chairman – Mark Groenendyk; Vice chairman – Steve Wanders; and Member – Chuck Webb. Also present were Darin Hite, IT; Andrew Ritland, County Attorney; Russ Van Renterghem, Sheriff; Troy Bemis, Courthouse Maintenance Director; Eric Dursky, Sanitarian; Chris Clingan, Conservation Director; Arthur Zacharjasz, Mahaska Health; Channing Rucks, Oskaloosa Herald; John Bandstra, Letitia Kelderman, Jack Rempe, Jon and Jean Stanford, Micah Van Mersbergen, Joe Warrick, Joyce Wilson and Teri Rogers, County Auditor. This meeting was live streamed by Communications Research Institute of William Penn University.

Chairman Groenendyk opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the agenda after removing agenda item #9 for today's meeting. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Public comments:

- ✚ Jon Stanford, Richland Twp, approached the Board and stated his opposition to “green methanol” production as a solution to the CO2 pipeline “problem.”
- ✚ Jean Stanford, Richland Twp, approached the Board and commented that methanol production requires a huge amount of water. Her concern lies with the fact that our rivers and lakes are already at a deficit.
- ✚ Andy Alexander, Fremont, thanked the Board for their support opposing the carbon sequestration pipeline effort and for attending the educational meeting in Fremont. He also asked the Board to consider creating an ordinance similar to other counties like Shelby County.
- ✚ Micah Van Mersbergen updated the Board on MidAmerican Energy's Wind Prime project. They are ready to fully depreciate the Chillicothe coal plant for tax purposes. He asked the board to encourage our legislators to keep reliable sources of energy operating.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve both sets of minutes from Nov. 6th (board meeting and work session on MODES project) and Nov. 14th. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the bills in the amount of \$765,923.50 for October. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to open the public hearing on vacating roadway pursuant to Iowa Code 354.23. Roadway being described as South Street, measuring 66 feet in width which runs between Block 3 of the Original Plat of the Town of Peoria and Block 3 of Maxon's Addition, from the east right-of-way line of West Street east to the west right-of-way line of Cross Street (County Road T33). Discussion related to how this became county property. This action puts this into private property. No written or oral comments were received. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to close the public hearing. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the following resolution. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2023-20
RESOLUTION ON ROAD VACATION AND QUIT CLAIM
Resolution No. 2023-20

WHEREAS a public hearing was held on November 20, 2023, on the matter of vacating and closing a portion of Mahaska County Secondary Roads in the Town of Peoria in Section 22, Township 77 North, Range 17 West of the 5th P.M., Mahaska County, Iowa as hereinafter further described:

South Street, measuring 66 feet in width which runs between Block 3 of the Original Plat of the Town of Peoria and Block 3 of Maxon's Addition, from the east right-of-way line of West Street east to the west right-of-way line of Cross Street (County Road T33).

WHEREAS: All objection and/or comments received at the Nov. 20, 2023, public hearing were dealt with by the Board of Supervisors;

WHEREAS: Said part of present right-of-way of the closed roads are no longer necessary or required for use by the public for highway or road purposes and will not hereafter be required for construction or maintenance purposes for any highway.

WHEREAS: The road vacation herein shall, by the approval of this Resolution, result in the transfer of ownership of said vacated road to the following person:

Gary Richard Van Ee and Marcia Lois Van Ee, Trustees of The Gary R. and Marcia L. Van Ee Living Trust dated August 3, 2017:

The North 33 feet of South Street lying between Block 3 of the Original Plat of the Town of Peoria and Block 3 of Maxon's Addition, from the east right-of-way line of West Street east to the west right-of-way line of Cross Street (County Road T33).

David Lovell and Rebecca Lovell

The East 231 feet of the South 33 feet of South Street lying between block 3 of the Original Plat of the Town of Peoria and Block 3 of Maxon's Addition, from the east right-of-way line of West Street east to the west right-of-way line of Cross Street (County Road T33).

Dirk Jacobs and Kaye Lynn Jacobs

The West 115.5 feet of the South 33 feet of South Street lying between block 3 of the Original Plat of the Town of Peoria and Block 3 of Maxon's Addition, from the east right-of-way line of West Street east to the west right-of-way line of Cross Street (County Road T33).

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED by the Mahaska County Board of Supervisors that said section of road be ordered vacated and closed and do hereby Quit Claim to the adjoining property owners, all our right, title, interest, estate, claim and demand, the vacated property listed above subject to the right of utilities to continue in possession of any easement existing at the time of vacation. See Exhibit "A" attached.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above-described property shall be transferred by virtue of this document alone, without the preparation or issuance of a deed or other documentation, to the property owners identified therein, and/or their successors in interest if appropriate.

Adopted this 20th day of November 2023.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve the 2nd tire canvass from the recent city/school election. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to approve the Urban Renewal report for FY 22/23. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Arthur Zacharjasz, Occupational and Employee Health with Mahaska Health approached the board to present Mahaska Health's proposal to use the opioid settlement money to fund the activities of a Crisis Liaison. He has consulted the Opioid Response Network and they have provided recommended job training, goals, and crisis intervention program development at the community level. Sheriff Van Renterghem has heard from the Wapello County sheriff and police department that the person they are using in this capacity is a tremendous benefit. It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to accept the agreement with MHP for the use of opioid settlement funds. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Discussion relating to the letter from the Iowa Attorney General's office to Mark Groenendyk dismissing the allegations of domestic abuse made by the Mahaska County Sheriff's office. All allegations were dismissed.

Discussion held regarding seeking individuals to serve on Oskaloosa Planning and Zoning Board and Board of Adjustments. The regulations spelled out in City Zoning, 414.23 were discussed. Application forms can be obtained in the Auditors office for these Board positions.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to go into Closed Session. Webb withdrew the motion so we could wrap up the regular board meeting before moving into closed session.

Committee Reports: None

Public Comments: None

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to go into closed session. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders for the Board to go back into open session. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Wanders seconded by Webb to adjourn. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Attest: _____

Teri Rogers
Mahaska County Auditor

Mark Groenendyk
Mahaska Co. Board of Supervisors