

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2023 10:00 A.M.

The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center. Present: Chairperson Zumbach, Vice Chairperson Rogers and Supervisor Running-Marquardt. Board members voting "AYE" unless otherwise noted.

Chairperson Zumbach called the meeting to order.

Motion by Zumbach, seconded by Rogers to approve minutes of June 21, 2023 as printed.

Charlie Nichols, Planning Dir., recapped the Resolution Extending the Renewable Energy Overlay Rezoning Moratorium from June 30, 2023 until September 30, 2023 noting that the discussion of the summaries took place a couple weeks ago. This is the final extension request, and they will not take any new applications for projects. Applications that have already been approved will not be affected.

Chairperson Zumbach questioned a March 31st date referenced in the resolution and Nichols clarified that the date should be June 30, 2023.

Supervisor Rogers stated that the moratorium is a mechanism not to delay a project but to ensure that no potential applicant can submit an application that would be subject to the standards of the previous ordinance. He appreciates everyone's patience with this noting that the county has learned better practices. Rogers will not support further extensions of the moratorium.

Nichols explained that the county may not need a full three months to get the new code written. When the Board first passed a moratorium, they wanted to approve pauses in three-month blocks. If the ordinance is ready by August 1st, it would go to the Planning & Zoning Commission on the third Monday of the month and then go to the Board for three readings.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt stated that she would like to see this move as fast as possible while making sure the county is doing its due diligence to get it right. She suggested taking portions of the policy that are ready to the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting to get discussions ready in July. She also will not support further extensions of the moratorium. It is not easy working toward what's best for Linn County including all the decommissioning and battery storage, but it is really important that they get it right.

Chairperson Zumbach added that he felt this would take a lot of time but does not think it will take until September 30th. He appreciates the time Nichols has taken during this process.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Running-Marquardt adopt Resolution 2023-6-92 as amended:
A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE MORATORIUM ON ACCEPTING REZONING APPLICATIONS FOR THE RENEWABLE ENERGY OVERLAY DISTRICT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS IN LINN COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 107, ARTICLE VII WHEREAS, the Linn County Board of Supervisors ("Board") on October 12, 2022, duly adopted Ordinance No. 17-10-2022 entitled, "An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa by Amending Provisions in Chapter 107, Article VII Relating to the Enactment of a Moratorium on Accepting Rezoning Applications for the Renewable Energy Overlay District" ("Moratorium Ordinance"); and

WHEREAS, the passage and publication of the Moratorium Ordinance as prescribed by Iowa Code enacted a new subsection 107-149(h)(1) in the Linn County Code of Ordinances that states, "The County shall not approve any request to rezone property to the Renewable Energy Overlay District for a period or periods as described in Sections 107-149(h)(2) while the Board of Supervisors reviews and possibly revises language in this chapter related to utility-scale solar and wind installations;" and

WHEREAS, the passage and publication of the Moratorium Ordinance as prescribed by Iowa Code further enacted a new subsection 107-149(h)(2)(a) that stipulates that Subsection 107-149(h) shall be repealed automatically on December 31, 2022, unless extended before that date by Resolution of the Board of Supervisors until no later than June 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, upon the request and recommendation of the Linn County Planning and Development Director, the Board finds and determines that it is necessary, desirable, and in the best interests of Linn County to extend the moratorium deadline of June 30, 2023, as established by Linn County Code of Ordinances Section 107-149(h)(2)(a), to provide for additional time for the review and possible revisions of language in Linn County Code of Ordinances Chapter 107 related to utility-scale solar and wind installations.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY RESOLVES that the moratorium on requests to rezone property to the Renewable Energy Overlay District, as established by Linn County Code of Ordinances Section 107-174(h)(2)(a), is extended from June 30, 2023, until September 30, 2023.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 26th day of June, 2023.

Ashley Balias, LCCS, shared a PowerPoint presentation on the Alliance for Equitable Housing highlighting the following: framework, steering committee, action plan groups and the next steps (release of progress report, website development, identification of a logo/branding, etc.).

Sara Buck, City of Cedar Rapids, shared a PowerPoint presentation for National Alliance to End Homelessness.

Supervisor Rogers thanked both Balias and Buck for their work on the two-day symposium and what they have built their careers on with some of the most vulnerable people in the community.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt addressed the approximately 10% of people who are in emergency situations and the housing first model does not work for them. She asked that they please advocate for the other vulnerable population that need more than just housing first.

Chairperson Zumbach added that regarding rental housing there is a need for landlords.

Lisa Powell, HR Dir., discussed updates/revisions to six Human Resources policies as follows:

- Group Insurance Policy, PM-028 – took out all the references that required an annual change and added to the summary plan so revisions are not needed every year; short term and long term disability updates; added open enrollment clause.
- Equal Opportunity Policy and Diversity Philosophy, PM-024 – emphasized that the county is looking at the older population remaining in the workforce.
- Recognition Policy, PM-007 – added special deputies; added for exemplary service the department/office of the employee will fund any group awards over 10 employees.
- Fitness Reimbursement Policy, PM-101 – reimbursement is increasing to \$30/month; online exercise courses are now eligible for reimbursement; adding aerobic and/or anaerobic activities are eligible for reimbursement.
- Employee Well-Being Policy, PM-022 – added online fitness classes; recent law change regarding breastfeeding and additional time needed in excess of breaktime.
- Training and Tuition Reimbursement Policy, PM-013 – removed Kaplan University; removed language about reducing the reimbursement for any government, college or other program grants, scholarships, fellowships, etc.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve Employment Change Roster (payroll authorizations) as follows:

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Help Desk Spec/

Desktop Assoc James Mays Termination/rescinded position acceptance 6/26/23

FACILITIES

Facilities Director Luke Fischer New hire 7/24/23 Gr 30 \$98,304/annually Repl A.

Rossetti

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Detention Officer Tammy Beatty Transfer – internal applicant 6/24/23 56E \$26.67–TB

\$28.00 New position

Detention Officer Raelynn Dawson-Jensen Transfer – internal applicant 6/25/23 56D \$25.31–TB

\$28.00 New position

Detention Officer Ariel Spitzner Transfer – internal applicant 6/26/23 56E \$26.67–TB

\$28.00 New position

Detention Officer Esther Pascal Transfer – internal applicant 6/27/23 56C \$24.03–TB

\$28.00 New position

Detention Officer Heather Walker Transfer – internal applicant 6/28/23 56B \$22.76–TB

\$28.00 New position

Senior Account Clerk Erin Clayton New hire 7/10/23 55A \$20.42

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Clerk Typist Bonnie Howard Termination/deceased 6/21/23

JUVENILE DETENTION

Youth Counselor Cortney Williams Step increase 7/12/23 36C \$27.73+\$.25–36D

\$29.24+\$.25

Cook Diane Stastny Step increase 7/21/23 54C \$21.00–54D \$22.01

Youth Counselor Kyler Schott Step increase 7/25/23 36B \$26.34+\$.25–36C

\$27.73+\$.25

Youth Counselor Joseph Carmody Termination (on-call only) 5/30/23

Intervention Counselor Benjamin Potter Termination/layoff 6/30/23

Tracker Chad Underwood Step increase/contract D7/25/23 56B \$23.07 – 56C

\$24.37

ENGINEERING

Light Equip Operator Lukas Gottschalk Step increase 7/27/23 17D \$26.26–17E \$28.22

Engineering Tech II Travis Broell Promotion – internal applicant 6/24/23 17E \$27.53–58C

\$27.98

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve claims for payroll deduction checks #71011393-#71011413 in the amount of \$721,763.24, ACH in the amount of \$57,269.02, and wires in the amount of \$2,014,674.15 for a total of \$2,793,706.41.

Motion by Zumbach, seconded by Rogers to enter into a closed session to discuss pending litigation, pursuant to Code of Iowa 21.5(1)(c).

Vote: Running-Marquardt – Aye Zumbach – Aye Rogers - Aye

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to go out of closed session.

Vote: Running-Marquardt – Aye Zumbach – Aye Rogers - Aye

Adjournment at 11:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JOEL D. MILLER, Linn County Auditor
By: Amanda Hoy, Executive Assistant

APPROVED BY:

LOUIS J. ZUMBACH, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors