County holds levy in 2018 budget

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - A $11.7 million county budget will be submitted to the public on March 7 with a levy of $10.388/$1,000 assessed valuation.

The rate was originally proposed at about 1.5 cents cheaper but a large deficit in the 2018 Fiscal year proposed budget prompted supervisors to move the levy back to current levels.

County budget director Cindy Renstrom submitted the final budget at Tuesday’s regular meeting of the Lee County Board of Supervisors.

The budget sets the levy at the same rate as 2017 and Renstrom says the county can whittle away at Mental Health Services and debt service to offset about $500,000 in additional budget shortfall for 2018, however, the budget worksheet still shows a deficit of about $1.58 million for 2018.

The budget was also prompted after the Lee County Board of Supervisors asked to move the levy back to current levels.

The county has budgeted a fund balance at the end of the fiscal year 2017 of $12.2 million and projected 2018 ending fund balance of $10.6 million. Supervisors also asked all department heads to reduce their budget.

“I was able to get the deficit down to $1,059,000 by taking out the deficits,” said Supvisors. Braden was sworn in at Tuesday’s regular meeting of the Lee County Board of Supervisors.

Braden is sworn in by District Judge John Wright.

“First of all I want to thank the board for giving me this opportunity to serve as Lee County Attorney. Like I said, prior to going to law school, this was the goal I’ve always had and I look very much forward to serving in this role to the best of my ability,” Braden told the board.

According to Fraise, in order to get on the May 2nd ballot, a candidate for County Attorney must submit an affidavit of candidacy and a petition with 228 signatures by April 7th at 5:00 p.m. to the Auditor’s Office. That is 1 percent of the registered voters in the Lee County on July 2016 per Iowa Code 45.1.

A phone call to the Lee County Attorney’s office for comment from Boddicker was unreturned.

Counties attorney election to go on May 2 ballot

Editor’s note: It was incorrectly reported that the election for the Lee County Attorney would be held in the 2018 election cycle as that was the discussion among Lee County Board of Supervisors when Ross Braden was appointed last week. However, according to statute the election must be held on the first countywide ballot which will be May 2 when the referendum to build a new Lee County Health Department will be decided.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - Fort Madison attorney Ross Braden was sworn in as Lee County Attorney this morning at the regular meeting of the Lee County Board of Supervisors. Braden is sworn in by District Judge John Wright.

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County attorney election to go on May 2 ballot

Progress

Construction work on Boulders Inn & Suites on the west side of town is fully underway as workers lift materials onto the second deck of the building, if approved, will be built on the west end of campus in Montrose. The building, if approved, will be built on the west end of the property.

Boddicker had said after the appointment last week that he would be considering filing for a special election, but the May 2 election would make that a moot point.

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SPORTS

In Wednesday’s edition we’ll have a preview of the upcoming regional championship game between Mt. Pleasant and the Bloodhounds.

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Progress

Construction work on Boulders Inn & Suites on the west side of town is fully underway as workers lift materials onto the second deck of the addition above, while at right, work continues in the balmy weather on the new Fareway Grocery set to open this fall.
Our Family Serving Your Family for Over 80 Years!

KEMPKER'S RENTAL

Farm Madison Financial Services

OBITUARIES
THOMAS W. ST. CLAIR

Thomas W. St. Clair, 62, of West Point, passed away on February 20, 2017 at 4:10 PM at his home.

He was born on August 26, 1954 in St. Baudile to William and Charlotte St. Clair. He married Vickie Lynn Trolinger in 1975 and they later divorced. He then married Denise Green on September 4, 1982 in Montrose and they later divorced but remained friends to each other. Tom worked at DuPont for over twenty five years. Tom loved the river. He enjoyed spending time at his cabin, fishing and taking rides in his john boat. He was also an avid reader. Tom was a huge Iowa Hawkeyes, St. Louis Cardinals and Kansas City Chiefs fan. Survivors include a son, Allen St. Clair of Bellows, TX, a daughter, Katie Cunningham of Dallas, TX, one grand- son, Oliver Desvignes of Dallas, TX, three sisters, Steven (Lisa) St. Clair of M. Madison and John (Car- ol) St. Clair of Overland Park, KS, two sisters in laws, Linda (Steve) Hampton of Bettendorf and Jeanne Kietelar of Davenport and his sometime, Denise St. Clair of Des Moines, IA. He was preceded in death by his parents. Friends may call after 1 PM on Thursday, February 23, 2017 at King-Lynn Funeral Home & Crematory where the family will meet with friends from 3-5 PM. Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynn. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

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Fall in love with these beautiful homes

**SPLENOR IN THE WOODS**

- **3 BR, 3.50 BA**
- 3 car garage • 3,723 sq. ft.
- Splendor in the woods...with privacy...AND a view...AND an AMAZING home. Call today on this brick beauty perched atop a hill overlooking Ft. Madison with a view of the Mississippi River and almost 6 acres of ground. Offered are 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, a formal living & dining room, a large great room/kitchen/breakfast room combo and a study/ den with beautiful cherry cabinetry & bookshelves lining the walls. All of this with STUNNING hardwood floors. This beautiful home offering top-of-the-line features throughout.
- Listing #20160805 • $460,000

**DREAM HOME!**

- **3 BR, 2 BA, 4.3 ACRES**
- 3 car garage • 1,635 sq. ft.
- Amazing cedar log sided home in a quiet and private setting, a well-appointed guest house, and 26x32 metal building. The main home offers beautiful hardwood flooring with a awesome open floor plan. Enjoy summer evenings on the nice walk-out patio area. This is a dream home!!!
- Listing #20161063 • $299,000

**BEAUTIFUL PERIOD HOME**

- **3 BR, 2.50 BA • 2 car garage • 2,400 sq. ft. • 10,150 sq. ft. lot**
- Lovely tri-level home on a quiet cul-de-sac offering numerous upgrades. There are 3 bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths, a large living room, dining room and open kitchen with newer stainless steel appliances and a breakfast bar. Newer windows, HVAC, new floor coverings on main and lower level and freshly painted throughout. The large backyard is completely fenced and has a 24 x 16 patterned concrete patio. Don't miss out on this wonderful family home.
- Listing #20163040 • $167,500

- **4 BR • 3 BA • 2 car garage • 1,349 sq. ft. • 9,160 sq. ft. lot**
- From the inviting entrance to the serene back yard, you will enjoy it ALL and everything in between!!!! This very well maintained 4 bedroom, 3 bath home has everything your family will need to call this Home. There is a beautiful screened porch and a deck off the back of the house, all overlooking a meticulously landscaped large yard. Call today on this amazing home situated on a quiet, safe cul de sac!!!
- Listing #20163339 • $164,900

- **3 BR • 2 BA • 2 car garage • 1,168 sq. ft. • 5,54 cheat**
- Lovely family home comfortably situated at the end of a cul de sac, where you can enjoy the woods and the privacy! There is an inviting deck off the back of the home overlooking the woods and beautiful vinyl fencing. There are newer mechanicals and a newer roof, 2 fireplaces and lots of storage!! Don't miss out on this beauty.
- Listing #20163951 • $139,000

- **4 BR • 1.75 BA • 3 car garage • 2,052 sq. ft. • 8,700 sq. ft. lot**
- Beautiful 4 bedroom home with large rooms, recently redecorated and ready to move into. This home features stainless steel appliances, main floor laundry, eat in kitchen and formal dining room, main floor office or bedroom, open staircase, large living room and big bedrooms. Newer roof, siding and gutters on house. 24' X 36' insulated garage and workshop, plus carport. Large wrap porch great location near Old Settlers Park.
- Listing #20163776 • $129,500

- **3 BR • 1 BA • 1 car garage • 1,248 sq. ft. • 0.37 acres**
- Well-kept ranch on a beautiful, large corner lot in West Point, IA. New wooden privacy fence surrounding the entire back yard. There is also an attached garage and storage shed. A large wooden deck leads to the front door where you can sit and enjoy those beautiful Iowa summer sunsets! PLUS a covered deck in the back for those rainy days. This house is a rare find.
- Listing #20164234 • $119,900

**BEAUTIFUL PERIOD HOME**

- **3 BR • 2.75 BA • 2,754 sq. ft. • 3,550 sq. ft. lot**
- Gorgeous, turn-key home with large patio minimum maintenance. UPDATES GALORE!!! Practically perfect in every way, this 1841 home includes the latest improvements while keeping its Victorian charm.
- Listing #23006122 • $99,999

- **5 BR • 2.50 BA • 2 car garage • 2,834 sq. ft. • 14,868 sq. ft. lot**
- Amazing family home on a large corner lot in Farmington, IA. 2 fireplaces, beautiful woodwork, a beautiful open front porch, a large yard and an oversized garage!!
- Listing #20164117 • $127,500

**HOPE REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATES**

(319) 372-4040
903 Avenue G
Fort Madison
www.hopeassociatesre.com
www.seia.rapmls.com
We’d love to help you find your dream home!

2BR - 1BA
2 car garage
868 sq. ft.
$79,900

2BR - 1BA
2 car garage
1,330 sq. ft.
$250,000

2BR - 1BA
1 car garage
928 sq. ft.
$65,900

2BR - 1BA
1 car garage
924 sq. ft.
$59,900

2BR - 1.75BA
1 car garage
1,904 sq. ft.
$74,900

2BR - 1.75BA
1 car garage
1,903 sq. ft.
$88,900

3BR - 1.50BA
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