

Spotlight on Local Government August 2024

Isabella County Board of Commissioners

- Approved the ballot language for a millage request of 1.45 mills for a period of six years, from 2024 to 2029, to support the Sheriff's Office Road Patrol services. The request will appear on the November 5 General Election ballot.
- Approved Fiscal Year 2025 budget millages as follows: Isabella County Commission on Aging at 1 mill, Isabella County Medical Care Facility at 1 mill, Isabella County Parks and Recreation at 0.35 mill, and Isabella County Transportation Commission (ICTC) at 0.862 mill. The ICTC levy is less than the voter approved millage.
- Approved an Intergovernmental Agreement template, on behalf of Register of Deeds/Equalization and Isabella County Local Units of Government, to implement a digital delivery of deeds system. Approval of the agreement will result in cost savings by not printing two sets of deeds, one for the Equalization Department and one for the Local Unit Assessor.
- Approved an expenditure of \$159,368 for information technology at the Sheriff's Office and the Correctional Facility.
 NetSource One, a current vendor for the County whose employees are stringently vetted, will provide the hardware, firewalls, programming, activation, and testing.
- Approved a 2024-25 contract with King Media in the amount of \$49,990 for a media campaign to enhance veteran's outreach. Isabella County Veterans Affairs assists veterans and their families with a wide variety of federal, state, and local benefits and services.
- Approved a 12-month contract with Wade Promotions in the amount of \$19,800 for veteran's outreach using ICTC bus advertising. This expenditure, as well as the one for King Media, will be funded by a grant from the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency.
- Approved an agreement with SecurAlarm to extend the access control and security

camera system at the Commission on Aging building and grounds. Improvements include access control to the pavilion restrooms and an additional security camera. The \$19,646 cost of the project will be supported by the Commission on Aging fund balance.

Mt. Pleasant City Commission

- Approved amendments to the Lawn
 Maintenance Ordinance that allow property
 owners to maintain native Michigan grasses
 at an unrestricted height and that expand
 the list of noxious weeds. Turf grass is still
 restricted to a height not to exceed 12
 inches.
- Approved the receipt of \$375,000 from Union Township for funding the north section of the Mid-Michigan/GKB Pathway that connects Nelson Park to Mission Creek Park. This section is a component of the proposed Mid-Michigan Pathway that will connect from Ithaca to Clare.
- Approved the extension of a Month-to-Month Agreement with Robert Lee Ervin to lease part of the former Mt. Pleasant Center property. The lease, which has been in place since 2011, allows Mr. Ervin to farm about 102 acres of the property for a monthly fee of \$1,311.55. Revenue from the lease is used to supplement the city's General Fund.
- Approved a per hour contract with Blystone & Bailey, CPAs to assist with accounting services. There is an unexpected vacancy in the Treasurer's Office.
- Approved a bid of \$137,508 from Gateway Refrigeration, Inc. of Clare for the replacement of boilers and recirculation pumps at the water treatment plant. Replacement of the units is supported by a grant of \$100,000 from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy. The water treatment plant, built in the 1990s, currently operates with its original boilers.



