



City of Muscatine

ITEM NUMBER 2026-0046

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

DATE: 2/3/2026

STAFF

Brian Stineman, Public Works Director

SUBJECT

Request to Approve Amendment #4 to the Lease Agreement for Farm Land on the Muscatine Municipal Airport Property.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Request to approve Amendment #4 to the lease agreement for farm land on the Muscatine Municipal Airport property

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve the request

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The City owns and operates the Muscatine Municipal Airport on approximately 642 acres of real estate, of which 356 acres is either used for airport related activities or cannot be used for any other purpose. The remaining 286 acres is located within the airport fence and has been acquired to prevent construction within restricted aircraft approach zones. For the past 30 years, the city has leased this portion of the airport for agricultural purposes. The current leaseholder, Bartenhagen Farms, has continued to farm the property for more than 10 years, with the last lease negotiated and executed in 2012.

If the city wishes to lease a property for more than two years, a competitive process must be undergone, and current lessees are entitled to six months notice of intent to release a request for bids. Due to the proposed change in usage of some of the agricultural areas at the airport, a multi-year lease does not make sense at this time. Therefore, staff are proposing a one-year extension to the current lease with Bartenhagen Farms, which will extend the lease until December 31, 2026.

The planned construction of the joint-use training facility for the Muscatine Police Department and Muscatine County Sherriff's office has been canceled due to it being considered non-compliant with airport operations by the FAA. The return to the previous acreage is reflected in

Amendment #4 to the current agricultural lease. Staff propose keeping the lease rate the same at \$34,000 per year.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no negative impact to the budget to approve this agreement. The lease rate will remain at \$34,000 per year.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Bartenhagen Farms Lease Letter 2026
2. Ag Lease Amendment 4 (1)



1459 Washington St.
Muscatine, IA 52761-5040
(563) 263-8933
Fax (563) 263-2127

Public Works

City Transit 263-8152
Equipment Maintenance
Roadway Maintenance
Collection & Drainage
Building & Grounds
Engineering
Solid Waste
Airport

Fred, Roger, and Keith Bartenhagen Farms
9468 180th Street
Muscatine, IA 52761

January 20, 2026

RE: Muscatine Airport Farm Lease

Mr. Bartenhagen:

If you recall, last year we modified our lease agreement due to the City and Muscatine County's plans to construct a joint use training facility on a portion of the land that was currently farmed. Unfortunately this plan was rejected by the Federal Aviation Administration and therefore the plans have been scrapped. As such I am able to inform you that if you are interested you may farm the area that was proposed last year. At this time we are not changing the amount of the lease payments, however the available tillable area will revert to the "original" 255 acres.

I have included an amendment to the 2012 lease agreement. If you agree with this proposal please have your organization sign the document and return it to me and I will place it on the next available City Council agenda for their approval. We propose to make this a one year lease and will continue to move forward with yearly renewals until such a time as that becomes inappropriate.

In addition, if you have not already done so, please complete the annual water use report to the Iowa DNR and send me a copy via email or regular mail at your earliest convenience. This report is due by January 31, 2026.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please feel free to contact me via email or at the phone number below.

Sincerely,

Brian Stineman
Public Works Director
City of Muscatine
bstineman@muscatineiowa.gov
563-263-8933

**AMENDMENT #4 TO LEASE AGREEMENT FOR AGRICULTURE LAND
AT THE MUSCATINE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT**

Whereas, the City of Muscatine entered into a lease agreement with Fred, Roger, and Keith Bartenhagen Farms (Lessee) effective the 1st day of January, 2012; and

Whereas, the lease was amended to extend the term through December 31, 2025; and

Whereas, both parties desire to extend the lease for 1 year;

Now therefore, the Lease Agreement is amended as follows:

Term: the lease shall terminate December 31, 2026. All other terms and conditions of the lease remain unchanged and enforceable.

City of Muscatine



Brad Bark (Feb 6, 2026 16:15:27 CST)

Dr. Brad Bark, Mayor

Attest:



Matthew T Mardesen (Feb 6, 2026 17:11:16 CST)

Matt Mardesen, City Administrator

Bartenhagen Farms



Fred Bartenhagen



Roger Bartenhagen



Keith Bartenhagen