



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, February 19, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Former City of Johnston Accounting Clerk Charged

JOHNSTON, Iowa – In July of 2017, the City of Johnston worked closely with the Iowa State Auditor's Office to perform a special audit following discovery of stolen funds. The audit revealed undeposited collections totaling \$13,569.66.

As a result of the investigation conducted by the Johnston Police Department and the Iowa State Auditor's Office, Teresa Osburne, a former accounting clerk with the City of Johnston turned herself into the Johnston Police Department at 7:10 a.m. on Monday, February 19 and was charged with the following:

- Theft 1st Degree, a Class C Felony,
- Fraudulent Practices 1st Degree, a Class C Felony,
- Theft 2nd Degree, a Class D Felony,
- Fraudulent Practices 2nd Degree, a Class D Felony,
- Theft 5th Degree, a Simple Misdemeanor,
- Fraudulent Practices 5th Degree, a Simple Misdemeanor, and
- Felonious Misconduct in Office, a Class D Felony.

Osburne was later booked into Polk County jail.

The City of Johnston took immediate actions to improve security measures surrounding handling of City funds, including those recommended by the State Auditor. These improved security procedures include reviewing controls, ensuring user names and passwords are not shared by employees when recording transactions, ensuring all disbursements are approved by City Council and documented in the meeting minutes, ensuring the petty cash fund is used for its intended purpose and any disbursements are supported with adequate documentation, and ensuring each department performs a reconciliation.

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