

City of Muscatine
In-Depth City Council Minutes
7:00 p.m. May 12, 2022

Mayor Bark called the City Council In-Depth meeting for Thursday, May 12, 2022, to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmembers present were Froelich, Jindrich, Osborne, and Lewis. Councilmembers Brockert and Gordon were present via gotomeeting. Councilmember Hopkins was absent.

The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance.

City Administrator Webb gave a presentation on the results from the recently conducted Community Survey. Ms. Webb shared areas that the City is excelling at as well as areas that the City needs to work on for improvement. There was council discussion regarding the areas that need improvement.

Human Resources Manager, Stephanie Romagnoli gave a presentation regarding possible updates to the City of Muscatine Smoking Policy. Ms. Romagnoli stated that changes are proposed to restrict smoking on all City owned property with the exception of open areas of the Golf Course and Public Housing.

Ms. Romagnoli stated that the rationale for the changes is to encourage reduction in tobacco product use, support the Healthy Home Town, free signage available from the state currently and free quit line provided by the state.

There was discussion among council regarding the changes and a consensus was reached to move forward with future discussion on the changes. City Administrator Webb stated staff would bring back more data and answers to Councilmember questions regarding enforcement, clarification of locations and possible smoking areas at large events.

Animal Control Officer, Courtney Patel, gave a presentation on a proposed Trap, Neuter and Release (TNR) Program. Ms. Patel stated that a volunteer group has asked for permission to trap, alter, vaccinate and return feral cats to their original location with no cost to the city. Ms. Patel stated this program would free up shelter space, reduce the number of feral cats and lower the aggressiveness in feral cats.

There was discussion among Council regarding euthanizing feral cats, putting them up for adoption if adoptable, the life span of feral cats and concerns of trapping a resident's pet. There was a consensus to bring back code change for City Council's approval at a future meeting.

Police Captain, Anthony Kies, gave a presentation regarding possible changes to the All-Terrain Vehicle use on City Streets Regulations in Title 7, Chapter 2 of Muscatine City Code. Mr. Kies stated several requests had been received from residents desiring to drive their UTV's on City Streets. Mr. Kies reviewed the differences between an ATV and a UTV and stated these regulations would only apply to UTVs.

There was discussion with City Council regarding enforcement and restricted roads.

There was a consensus to move forward with language to change the code to allow UTVs on City Streets.

Mayor Bark gave a shout out to the Muscatine Fire Department for their successful delivery of a baby in the back of an ambulance. Mayor stated mother and baby were both doing well.

Councilmember Hopkins moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Brad Bark, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carol Webb, City Administrator