

CITY OF MUSCATINE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Chambers – 7:00 p.m. – January 16, 2020

Mayor Broderson called the City Council meeting for Thursday January 16, 2020, to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were: Councilmembers Hopkins, Froelich, Malcolm, Gordon, Brockert, Jindrich and Brackett.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Communications-Citizens

Mayor Broderson Swore in Firefighters Mike McCartney and Zach Howell.

Curtis Clark, 108 Laurel Street was present to appeal the removal of his dog from the City of Muscatine. Mr. Clark shared with City Council why he feels his dog is not a vicious dog and he should be allowed to remain in the City. There were questions and comments from City Council regarding the incidents that occurred.

City Council upheld the removal of the dog from the City of Muscatine.

Consent Agenda

Councilmember Froelich, Seconded by Councilmember Brackett, moved the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

- Items 6 A-B: Approval of City Council Minutes
 - Items 8 A-E: Petitions and Communication
 - Items 9 A-B from the Mayor
 - Items 12 A-E: Receive and File
 - Bills for Approval totaling \$2,024,051.33
- Vote: Ayes-7 Nays -0 Motion carried

Public Hearing

Mayor Broderson stated this public hearing concerns the plans, specifications, form of contract and cost estimate for the Grandview Avenue Reconstruction Project.

There were no oral or written comments.

Councilmember Brackett moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Vote: All ayes, Motion carried

From the Mayor

Mayor Broderson read aloud a proclamation for the 19th Amendment Centennial Commemoration and presented it to Sue Johannsen with the League of Women Voters.

Item 11A:

Councilmember Hopkins moved to adopt Resolution #2020-0022 approving the plans, specifications, form of contract and cost estimate for the Grandview Reconstruction project. Seconded by Councilmember Jindrich.

Vote: Ayes-7, Nays-0, Motion carried

Item 11B:

Councilmember Jindrich moved to adopt Resolution #2020-0023, setting a public hearing for

February 6, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. regarding a proposed zoning change to 7.59 acres of land located on the north side of Grandview Avenue for the development of a 51-unit multi family dwelling for low- and moderate-income seniors. Seconded by Councilmember Gordon
Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays-0, Motion carried

Item 11C:

Councilmember Brackett moved to adopt Resolution #2020-0024, setting a public hearing for February 6, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. regarding a proposed zoning change to 4.56 acres of land located at 400 Colorado Street for the development of a 51-unit multi family dwelling for low- and moderate-income seniors. Seconded by Councilmember Froelich.

There were comments from City Council regarding the difference between zoning types that were addressed by Assistant Community Development Director Andrew Fangman.

Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried

Item 11D:

Councilmember Brockert moved to adopt Resolution #2020-0025, approving the final plat for Stanley Woods Subdivision. Seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried

Item 11E:

Councilmember Malcolm moved to adopt Resolution #2020-0026, for the assessment of unpaid nuisance abatement costs to private properties. Seconded by Councilmember Jindrich.

Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried

Item 11F:

Councilmember Jindrich moved to adopt Resolution #2020-0028, implementing fees to contractors requesting City staff to perform saw cutting of City Streets. Seconded by Councilmember Brackett. There were questions from City Council regarding the city's costs to perform this cutting that were addressed by Public Works Director Brian Stineman. Mr. Stineman stated the fees would not create revenue but would cover the cost of the saw blades and labor.

Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried

Item 11G:

Councilmember Brackett moved to approve Request #2020-0027, approving the renewal of an Interagency Agreement between Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals and the Muscatine Municipal Housing Agency. Seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried

Item 11H:

Councilmember Hopkins moved to approve Request # 2020-0029, for a Professional Services Agreement with Stanley Consultants for engineering assistance with Phase II of the High Strength Waste Project. Seconded by Councilmember Froelich.

Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried

Item 11I:

Councilmember Brackett moved to approve Request #2020-0030 for the issuance of a purchase order to Sitlers Supplies Inc, in the amount of \$37,856.55, for the purchase, installation and warranty of LED lighting for the High Strength Waste Project. Seconded by Councilmember

Gordon. There were questions regarding the type and quality of the lighting being used that were addressed by WRRF Director Jon Koch.

Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried

Item 11J:

Councilmember Gordon moved to approve Request #2020-0031, for the issuance of a purchase order to Illinois Lift Equipment in the amount of \$25,774.00, for the purchase of a fork lift for the Muscatine Organics Recycling Center. Seconded by Councilmember Brackett.

Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried

Item 11K:

Councilmember Malcolm moved to approve a Request for all Muscatine Municipal Buildings to publicly display the City of Muscatine Flag. Seconded by Councilmember Brackett.

Councilmember Brackett moved to amend the motion to state that all municipal buildings in the City of Muscatine that are accessed by the public display a City of Muscatine Flag. Seconded by Councilmember Malcolm.

Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried

Vote on Original motion: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried

Item 11L:

Councilmember Brackett moved to approve a request to establish an Ad-Hoc Committee titled “Search Committee” to assist the City Council to Identify the Final Candidates for the future City Administrator. Seconded by Councilmember Gordon.

There was discussion among City Council regarding the members of the Search Committee and how they would be chosen that was addressed by Mayor Broderson.

Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

Item 11M:

Councilmember Malcolm requested the item regarding selecting an attorney to represent the City of Muscatine in potential litigation matters resulting from the removal of the City Administrator, be tabled until a future meeting due to more information needing to be presented to City Council prior to making a decision. Interim City Administrator stated he had received information that the City’s insurance company ICAP would defend the City of Muscatine regarding any litigation concerning the dismissal of the former city administrator. There was discussion among council regarding the need for additional counsel. There was a consensus with City Council members to allow Interim City Administrator Greg Jenkins to contact the Davis Brown Law Firm for a maximum of four hours for preparation in defending the City of Muscatine in this matter. If more time is needed by Davis Brown Law Firm it will be brought back to City Council for approval.

Item 11N:

Interim City Administrator Greg Jenkins stated in his opinion the City of Muscatine should postpone the search for City Attorney services until a new City Administrator was in place. Mr. Jenkins stated he feels that the City Administrator would be working closely with the City Attorney and should be involved in the process.

There was discussion among City Council regarding options to consider when hiring an attorney. There was a consensus with City Council to postpone the search for City Attorney until July 2020.

Communication:

Councilmember Malcolm stated he would like to have City of Muscatine flags for sale on consignment at the Chamber of Commerce, and would like new flags without the fringe to be installed in City Council Chambers.

Councilmember Froelich requested City Council and Public Works have further discussions regarding the intersection of Houser and Fulliam Streets at the February 6th City Council Meeting.

Councilmember Jindrich shared the Muscatine School District “We are One” campaign to raise money for improvements to the stadium and field at the Muscatine High School.

Councilmember Hopkins stated he would like to see the City Council, County Board of Supervisors and the Muscatine School Board to meet quarterly for joint meetings.

Councilmember Brackett requested staff check the condition of the sidewalks at the Clark House. Mr. Brackett stated he had received calls regarding the poor conditions. He would like a report from staff regarding the cost and time it would take to repair said sidewalks.

Interim City Administrator Greg Jenkins stated the planning process for the 2020 hazard mitigation plan update is underway and a draft of the plan is expected to be complete in February. There will be two public meetings held to allow community members to review the plan. Meeting dates are as follows Tuesday Feb 11, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Musser Public Library and Thursday Feb 13 6:00-7:00 p.m. at West Liberty Public Library. Both meetings will off a short presentation followed by an opportunity for the public to ask questions and offer feedback.

Mayor Broderson gave a list of upcoming events in Muscatine this week and encouraged citizens to support these opportunities.

Councilmember Brackett moved to adjourn meeting at 8:32 p.m.

ALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING RECORDINGS CAN BE WATCHED ON THE CITY OF MUSCATINE YOUTUBE PAGE.

Mayor Diana Broderson

Attest:

Greg Jenkins, Interim City Administrator