

CITY OF MUSCATINE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Chambers - 7:30 p.m. - February 1, 1996

Mayor Richard O'Brien called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Churchill, Freese, Dan Gray, Gary Gray, Heckenliable, Phil Fitzgerald, and Kevin Fitzgerald present.

Councilmember Freese gave the opening prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

#14524. Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald moved to approve the minutes of the January 18, 1996 Regular City Council meeting and the minutes of the January 17, 1996 Goals and Objectives Session. Seconded by Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.

#14525. Councilmember Gary Gray moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: Filing of Communications A-E and approval of bills totaling \$703,070.01. Seconded by Councilmember Churchill. All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor O'Brien stated that a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed Cobblestone Place Residential Development Project.

Larry Schnittjer, representing MMS Consultants, gave a brief overview of the project and described the complexes to be constructed.

Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald asked when construction would begin.

Mr. Schnittjer stated that construction should begin this summer.

Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald asked if this project would be done in phases.

Mr. Schnittjer answered yes, noting that the project will include 10 different phases.

Councilmember Gary Gray asked if this is the property located next to the church.

Mr. Schnittjer stated that the property is located just west of the church site.

Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald asked about the proximity of University Avenue to the proposed development.

Mr. Schnittjer stated that the development would be west of University Avenue, and he explained the layout of the streets once the project is completed.

Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald asked if there would be any rental properties available in this development.

Mr. Schnittjer stated that the structures would probably consist of condominiums.

There was discussion on the price range of the units.

There were no oral or written petitions for or against the proposed development.

#14526. Councilmember Churchill moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor O'Brien stated that a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed downtown traffic signal removal project.

There were no oral or written petitions for or against the proposed traffic signal removal project.

#14527. Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor O'Brien stated that a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed Webster Street Paving Project.

There were no oral or written petitions for or against the proposed project.

#14528. Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Gary Gray. All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor O'Brien stated that a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed Kent Stein Park maintenance building project.

There were no oral or written petitions for or against the proposed building project.

#14529. Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Heckenliable. All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor O'Brien stated that a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed exchange of property between the City and Muscatine Power & Water.

Green Riley, 6801 51st Street, South, asked for an explanation on the southend sewer expansion project.

City Administrator Johnson stated that the project is intended to bring sanitary sewers to properties north of the Highway 61 Bypass near Houser and Sampson streets. He stated that sanitary sewers will eventually extend down the Highway 61 corridor.

Mr. Johnson stated that in order to facilitate this project, a lift station is needed and that the property the City would receive in this proposed exchange would be a good location. He pointed out that the 13 acres that Muscatine Power & Water would be receiving is a remnant of property left over from Phase II of the Industrial Connector Project. He stated that this property has potential for Muscatine Power & Water.

There was discussion on the time table for providing sanitary sewers for properties beyond Bandag.

There were no written petitions for or against the proposed exchange of property.

#14530. Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor O'Brien stated that a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed location of a medium security correctional facility within the City of Muscatine.

Pat Oberhaus, 3423 Spinning Wheel Court, presented the Mayor with a petition from residents of Muscatine who are opposed to the location of a correctional facility in Muscatine. He explained why he and the others signing the petition were opposed.

Other residents present to voice their opposition to the facility included Cal Purdy, 920 Webster Street; Fred Scott, 200 Ash Street; Mike Lawrence, 1112 Oak Street; Mike Kettle, 2248 Hummingbird Lane; John Stevens, 607 West 2nd Street; and Green Riley, 6801 51st Street, South.

Vern Wilson, 727 Lake Park Boulevard, spoke in favor of the facility.

#14531. Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Gary Gray. All ayes; motion carried.

Mayor O'Brien stated that recently he and Kevin Vos, Athletic Facilities Manager, had attended a meeting in California sponsored by the Sports Turf Manager Association. He stated that at that meeting Muscatine's soccer complex was named the "National Soccer Complex for the Year 1995". He recognized Kevin Vos for his efforts as well as Larry Wolf, Director of Parks and Recreation.

Mayor O'Brien then told Councilmembers that Kevin had been named "Sports Turf Manager of the Year" by the Iowa Sports Turf Management Association.

#14532. Councilmember Churchill moved to approve the appointment of Stacy Lewis to the Airport Advisory Commission, term expiring July 1, 1999. Seconded by Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.

City Administrator A.J. Johnson presented an overview of the fiscal year 1996/97 general fund budget.

#14533. Councilmember Churchill moved the resolution be adopted approving the development plan for the Cobblestone Place Residential Development to be located north of Colorado Street. Seconded by Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald. All ayes: Councilmembers Churchill, Freese, Dan Gray, Gary Gray, Heckenliable, Phil Fitzgerald, and Kevin Fitzgerald. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#14534. Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald moved the resolution be adopted authorizing a 90-day trial period for the removal of downtown traffic signals. Seconded by Councilmember Freese.

Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald stated that he has received calls from citizens asking whether crosswalks will be painted during this trial period.

Randy Hill, Public Works Director, stated that crosswalks will be painted.

Councilmember Heckenliable stated that he was concerned about school children who use the intersections at 4th Street and Mulberry Avenue and 6th Street and Mulberry Avenue. He asked the Police Department keep track of the number of traffic violations that occur at those intersections during this time frame.

Police Chief Gary Coderoni stated that if the 90-day trial period is approved, the Police Department will keep a record of the activity at the intersections involved in this request and that this information will be available at the end of the 90 days.

Councilmember Churchill stated that he feels traffic signals are needed to keep the traffic flowing smoothly on Mulberry Avenue, noting that he is also concerned about pedestrian safety. He pointed out that input is needed from the public on the effectiveness of these traffic changes.

Vote - All ayes: Councilmembers Churchill, Freese, Dan Gray, Gary Gray, Heckenliable, Kevin Fitzgerald, and Phil Fitzgerald. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#14535. Councilmember Freese moved the resolution be adopted setting February 29, 1996 as the date for receiving bids for the Webster Street Paving Improvement Project. Seconded by Councilmember Churchill.

Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald asked if any curb and gutter work would be done between 4th Avenue and Isett Avenue, and City Administrator Johnson answered no.

There was discussion on the sidewalk issue.

Vote - All ayes: Councilmembers Churchill, Freese, Dan Gray, Gary Gray, Heckenliable, Kevin Fitzgerald, and Phil Fitzgerald. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#14536. Councilmember Gary Gray moved the resolution be adopted approving the plans, specifications, form of contract, cost estimate and setting the bid opening date for the Kent Stein Park maintenance building project. Seconded by Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald. All ayes: Councilmembers Churchill, Freese, Dan Gray, Gary Gray, Heckenliable, Kevin Fitzgerald, and Phil Fitzgerald. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#14537. Councilmember Dan Gray moved the resolution be adopted approving the exchange of property between the City of Muscatine and Muscatine Power & Water. Seconded by Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald. All ayes: Councilmembers Churchill, Freese, Dan Gray, Gary Gray, Heckenliable, Kevin Fitzgerald, and Phil Fitzgerald. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#14538. Phil Fitzgerald moved that the resolution be adopted approving the submission of an application to the Iowa Department of Corrections for the location of a medium security facility within the City of Muscatine. Seconded by Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald. One aye: Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald.

Six nays: Councilmembers Churchill, Freese, Dan Gray, Gary Gray, Heckenliable, and Kevin Fitzgerald. Motion failed.

#14539. Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald moved the resolution be adopted to declare City real estate as surplus property and setting a public hearing on February 15, 1996 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers concerning the sale of said property. Seconded by Councilmember Heckenliable.

Wayne Taylor, Housing Administrator, gave an update on the scattered site housing project.

Vote - All ayes: Councilmembers Churchill, Freese, Dan Gray, Gary Gray, Heckenliable, Kevin Fitzgerald, and Phil Fitzgerald. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#14540. Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald moved the resolution be adopted setting a public hearing on February 15, 1996 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers concerning the proposed sale of property at 1919 Demorest Avenue. Seconded by Councilmember Churchill. All ayes: Councilmembers Churchill, Freese, Dan Gray, Gary Gray, Heckenliable, Phil Fitzgerald, and Kevin Fitzgerald. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#14541. Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald moved to approve the audit agreement between the City and Charles Bailly & Co. for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1996 at a cost of \$20,750. Seconded by Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.

#14542. Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald moved to approve the request to restrict parking on the Park Avenue Frontage Road between Ford Avenue and Cleveland Street. Seconded by Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald.

Councilmember Gary Gray stated that he was in favor of restricting the parking on this road; however, steps must be taken to prohibit parking on Park Avenue.

There was further discussion on this issue.

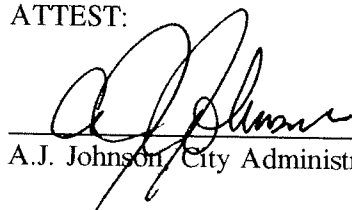
Vote - All ayes; motion carried.

#14543. Councilmember Churchill moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Councilmember Freese. All ayes; motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.


Richard W. O'Brien, Mayor

ATTEST:


A.J. Johnson, City Administrator