

MUSCATINE CITY COUNCIL
IN-DEPTH COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

March 11, 1982

7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Platt, Councilmembers Brewer, Kite, Sayles, York, Hilton, Plett and Waltman.

ALSO PRESENT: Soren Wolff, City Administrator; Ray Childs, City Engineer; Craig Olson, Director of Water Pollution Control Plant; Arlen Wiggs, Community Development Director.

The City Administrator informed the Council Istari Construction Company was appealing the decision of the District Court Judge on the Sunset Park Housing Construction Project. It was noted that until the matter could be reviewed by the City Attorney, the next step on the Housing Project was uncertain.

The City Council then reviewed the proposed Sewer Rate increases to be effective April 1, 1982 and for the 1982-83 fiscal year. Council was provided with details on the rate structure and the impact the rate change would have on each of the residential and industrial customers. Three (3) different options were outlined with average increases varying from 11.8% to 19.4%. The impact of industrial waste loadings were outlined indicating 1981-82 industrial charges would amount to approximately \$2,405,000 and charges for residential customers, including small commercial and industrial users, were \$744,000. The City Administrator indicated as a result of the economy and lower industrial loadings to the plant than originally budgeted, it was necessary to increase the sewer rates in order to maintain an adequate fund balance.

The City Administrator noted that meetings with several major industrial users would be concluded the following week and at that time a specific recommendation would be forwarded to the City Council. It was noted option #2, which included approximately an average increase of 12%, appeared to be the best alternative. In addition, Council was informed there were several options available to deal with senior citizen rates in regard to the discount. It was noted the current discount for senior citizens was \$.50 per month.

The Council then reviewed two proposed public improvement projects which would be requested for public hearing at the March 18, 1982 Council meeting. The City Engineer reviewed the Storm Sewer problems on West Bay Drive and outlined a proposed solution to the storm water problems. The City Engineer also reviewed the proposed Street Resurfacing Program for 1982 indicating the type of recycling process to be used and the streets to be resurfaced. Council was informed public hearings should be set for April 1st on both of the projects.

The request for Industrial Revenue Bonds for the Hotel Muscatine was dropped from the Agenda due to the need for additional staff review.

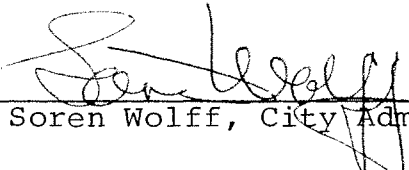
The City Administrator then informed Council that approximately a year ago the City had initiated an inhouse site analysis for a new public works facility and solid waste transfer station. It was further noted a decision had been made that it was not economically feasible to construct a transfer station due to the future uncertainty of the location of the landfill. Council was informed the existing public works facilities were extremely inefficient for vehicle maintenance and storage.

The City Administrator indicated in 1981, the City had sold a parcel of property on Clay Street for \$25,000. These funds had been set aside in a Special Account to fund an Engineering and Architectural Study and develop cost estimates for a new facility.

The City Administrator recommended that a Architect-Engineering Selection Committee be established consisting of two Councilmembers and several staff people. The Committee would then interview architect-engineering firms and make a recommendation to the City Council. Mayor Platt and Councilmember Plett was selected to serve on the Committee. Council also set the date of April 8, 1982 to tour the existing public works facility and site prior to a decision being made on selecting an architectural firm.

The City Council then reviewed a proposal to obtain flood-earthquake insurance for City facilities. The City Administrator indicated the City Hall and Wastewater Treatment Plant were located in flood plains as designated by the Federal Housing and Urban Development. Several quotes were reviewed with the City Council and the City Administrator was requested to investigate other alternatives and limits and was requested to obtain the necessary insurance coverage.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15 p.m.


Soren Wolff, City Administrator