

6-A

CITY OF MUSCATINE  
REGULAR MONTHLY SESSION OF CITY COUNCIL  
Council Chambers - January 7, 1988 - 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Don LeMar.

Roll Call: Councilmembers York, Harder, Sayles, Phillips, Amerine, Powell, and Kemp present.

The opening prayer was given by Father Walter Helms, St. Mary's Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor LeMar announced the hearing was being held to receive public comment on the rezoning of a parcel of property on Colorado Street and adjacent to Muscatine Mall from R-L to C-1.

Kevin Whittaker, Director of Planning and Community Development, described the location of the parcel.

There were no oral comments for or against the proposed rezoning.

There were no written petitions for or against.

#10712. Councilmember Amerine moved to close the hearing. Seconded by Councilmember Kemp. All ayes; motion carried.

Mayor LeMar thanked the people for their vote of confidence and stated that he would be available at any time either at the Mayor's office or at home.

#10713. Councilmember York moved to approve the Minutes of the December 17, 1987, Regular City Council Meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Phillips. All ayes; motion carried.

#10714. Councilmember York moved to adopt the resolution approving the cigarette permit for George's Steak House, 1510 Isett Avenue. Seconded by Councilmember Sayles. All ayes: Councilmembers York, Harder, Sayles, Phillips, Amerine, Powell and Kemp. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#10715. Councilmember Kemp moved to approve the proclamation from the Mayor proclaiming the month of January as "Voluntary Blood Donor Month". Seconded by Councilmember Amerine. All ayes; motion carried.

#10716. Councilmember York moved to approve, on second reading, the ordinance amending Title 9, Chapter 9, to establish new procedures for notifying private property owners for removal of noxious weeds. Seconded by Councilmember Kemp.

Councilmember Kemp stated that this ordinance is one of the better ones to come before the Council, and should solve a number of problems with weed and snow removal.

Vote - All ayes: Councilmembers York, Harder, Sayles, Phillips, Amerine, Powell and Kemp. Motion carried, and ordinance approved on second reading.

#10717. Councilmember Kemp moved to approve, on second reading, the ordinance amending Title 3, Chapter 8 to modify the notification procedures for snow and ice control on public sidewalks adjacent to private property. Seconded by Councilmember Amerine. All ayes: Councilmembers York, Harder, Sayles, Phillips, Amerine, Powell and Kemp. Motion carried and ordinance adopted on second reading.

#10718. Councilmember Sayles moved to adopt the ordinance, on first reading, to rezone approximately 32 acres located off of Colorado Street adjacent to Muscatine Mall from R-L Large Scale Residential to C-1 Commercial. Seconded by Councilmember York. All ayes: Councilmembers York, Harder, Sayles, Phillips, Amerine, Powell and Kemp. Motion carried and ordinance approved on first reading.

#10719. Councilmember Amerine moved to approve the resolution setting a public hearing on January 21, 1988, for the 1987-1992 Five Year Capital Improvements Program. Seconded by Councilmember Phillips.

Councilmember Kemp stated that he has had several calls from constituents regarding the status of the funding for the Garfield School Target Area and requested an update.

Kevin Whittaker, Director of Planning and Community Development, stated that funding has been applied for, but a decision will not be received until March.

All ayes: Councilmembers York, Harder, Sayles, Phillips, Amerine, Powell and Kemp. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#10720. Councilmember York moved to adopt the resolution accepting the final work and authorizing final payment for the boat launching ramp project. Seconded by Councilmember Sayles. All ayes: Councilmembers York, Harder, Sayles, Phillips, Amerine, Powell and Kemp. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#10721. Councilmember Sayles moved to adopt the resolution accepting the final work and authorizing final payment on the courtesy/auxiliary boat dock. Seconded by Councilmember York. All ayes: Councilmember York, Harder, Sayles, Phillips, Amerine, Powell and Kemp. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#10722. Councilmember Amerine moved to approve the agreement between the City of Muscatine and the Federal Aviation Administration for the operation and maintenance of the VOR at the Muscatine Municipal Airport. Seconded by Councilmember Phillips.

Councilmember Kemp reported that he has had calls from constituents stating that the landing lights and VOR were not working.

City Administrator Soren Wolff stated that the lights have been repaired. He noted that the VOR is a very sensitive piece of equipment, so it is checked on a monthly basis by Electronic Engineering. He indicated that the company is very good about responding to a service call in a short length of time. He noted that if there is a problem with the equipment at the airport, the airport manager should be contacted to facilitate correction of the problem. He added that if the equipment is out of service for any length of time, there is a specific procedure for notifying the pilots.

Vote - All ayes; motion carried.

#10723. Councilmember Amerine moved to receive and file Communication Items A through M. Seconded by Councilmember York. All ayes; motion carried.

#10724. Councilmember Kemp moved to approve bills totaling \$448,520.05 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to issue warrants for the same. Seconded by Councilmember Sayles. All ayes; motion carried.

Councilmember Kemp reported that there are problems with the synchronization of the traffic lights on Mulberry Avenue which is causing traffic tie-ups and vehicles going through red lights.

City Administrator Soren Wolff stated that the central controller for the system is outdated and no longer able to handle the synchronization. He reported that the Iowa Department of Transportation has approved the purchase of the new controllers, and Muscatine Power & Water is in the process of ordering the hardware. He stated that he would contact Muscatine Power & Water to check on the problems on Mulberry Avenue.

Councilmember York reported that the signal at Second and Cedar Street was not working at all one day this week.

City Administrator Wolff stated that whenever a signal is not functioning at a specific intersection, someone will call the Police Department, and they, in turn, will contact Muscatine Power & Water to take care of the problem.

City Administrator Wolff reported that he is drafting a letter to be sent to the Iowa Department of Transportation with the accident report regarding the recent fatality at the intersection of Hershey Avenue and the By-Pass. He noted this letter would express the Council's and Staff's concern regarding the number of fatalities on the By-Pass. He commended the Police Department for their excellent job on the investigative report on the recent accident. He noted that this issue was discussed extensively in early 1986 and four options were discussed at that time, but the IDOT felt that people were not used to the By-Pass at that time. He reported that he will also be sending a summary of trends regarding accidents at each intersection on the By-Pass over the past three years. He noted that he was extremely concerned about the fact that the accident rate decreased by 50% the second year, but last year the rate increased to more than the first year. He indicated that jurisdiction of the By-Pass is the state's, but since the State will not fund signalization after construction is completed, the Council may have to make a final decision if it is determined that signals are the solution. He stated that he would keep the Council informed on feedback from the IDOT on this issue.

Councilmember York stated that the speed limit on the By-Pass should be set at 45 mph because of the access, and that he didn't feel that signals would solve the problems. He then asked for information on the average speed on the By-Pass.

City Administrator Wolff reported that a speed study was done in late 1985, and the average speed on the By-Pass was 52-57 mph. The IDOT at that time did not feel there was an excessive speed problem based on the posted speed limit. He noted that the IDOT felt that a posted speed limit of 45 mph would be extremely difficult to monitor.

Councilmember York stated he felt that large trucks were going faster than 55 mph, especially near the intersection of Hershey Avenue because of the grade in that area.


City Administrator Wolff noted that Council will be discussing the problem in the near future. He asked Councilmembers to make a note of any comments they receive from the public and forward them to the staff, and staff will forward information to the Council as it is received.

Mayor LeMar announced that the Southeast Municipal League meeting is scheduled on January 20, 1988.

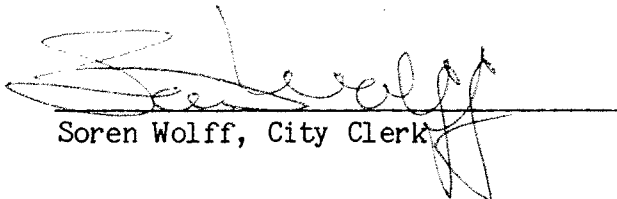
Mayor LeMar appointed Larry Kemp as Mayor Pro Tem.

#10725. Councilmember Kemp moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Amerine. All ayes; motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

  
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Don LeMar, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Soren Wolff, City Clerk