

CITY OF MUSCATINE
IN-DEPTH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

April 9, 1981

7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Schauand, Aldermen Platt, Koehrsen, Rada, Hilton, Kemp and Duncan.

ABSENT: Alderman Waltman.

ALSO PRESENT: Soren Wolff, City Administrator; Steve Boka, Building and Zoning Administrator; Arlen Wiggs, Community Development Director.

Steve Boka, Building and Zoning Administrator, provided a slide presentation to City Council highlighting the types of non-conforming signs which would be required to be removed under the existing Ordinance which was passed in 1973, and subsequently amended in 1976, requiring all non-conforming signs to be removed by August, 1981. Mr. Boka indicated the major requirements which caused signs to be non-conforming was the 10' set-back from the property line, signs overhanging the City right-of-way, signs which are revolving, signs which are lighted by flashing lights, and multiple signs on one lot.

Mr. Bruce Houston, member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, indicated the Board had dealt with the Sign Ordinance for the past five (5) years and had strictly adhered to the provisions and had granted only a few of variances. Mr. Houston indicated the Ordinance should be reviewed by the Board of Adjustment, the Planning Commission and the City staff to determine whether or not certain sections of the Ordinance needed to be reviewed.

Mr. E. White, 1310 East 5th Street, stated it would be very difficult for the Little League Organization to sell advertisement for only a one year period, even if the existing signs were allowed to remain at Kent-Stein Park for the 1981 Little League season. Mr. John Robinson, 812 West Third Street, speaker on behalf of the Muscatine Red Sox, indicated that without permission to advertise in Bruner Field, the Red Sox could not survive financially. Mr. Robinson indicated that previously twenty three (23) companies had purchased

advertising at a cost between \$50.00 to \$100.00 per sign. Mr. Charles Burrows, 131 West Second Street, stated the City should permit signs in City parks to help maintain the parks and support programs for children. Mr. Don Anderson, 809 Oak Street, asked whether it would be possible to permit the Muscatine Red Sox to have advertising signs painted on the existing fence, if the new fence needed painting.

The City Council requested the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Zoning Board of Adjustment, and City staff to review the Sign Ordinance and determine whether any changes should be made to the Ordinance prior to the enforcement by August of 1981. Council requested recommendations be brought back to the City Council for their consideration. City Council indicated no signs were to be installed in Bruner Field as they were prohibited by the City Ordinance.

The City Council was then provided with recodified ordinances of Title I, Administrative Procedures, and Title II, Commissions and Boards. The City Administrator indicated to Council the recodified ordinances included revisions, consolidation and inclusion of ordinance amendments which have been made over the past three (3) years. Numerous ordinances, especially in the first two (2) titles of the Code, had not been revised to reflect the actual operation of the City. It was further noted numerous state statutes have been changed or amended which impacted many of the local ordinances. The City Administrator informed Council that plans are to complete the draft of the recodified ordinances by July of 1981 with approval of the recodified code by September. Council was also provided with a set of proposed rules and regulations which outlined the procedures for conducting Council meetings. These rules were required to be adopted by resolution in accordance to the recodified ordinance titled Mayor and City Council. Members of Council were requested to review the first two sections of the recodified Code which would be discussed in detail at a future Council meeting.

Mr. Charles Burrows, 131 West Second Street, addressed the City Council indicating he had experienced several problems with storm water backing into his basement after the reconstruction of Second Street. Mr. Burrows also indicated several of his adjacent neighbors were experiencing odor problems with backed up sewers. The City Administrator indicated he would direct the City Engineering Office to take a survey of all of the properties in the 100 block of West Second Street to determine the extent of the problem.

Mr. Burrows also requested City Council to reconsider the location of the recently established loading zone in the 100 block of West Second Street indicating he preferred the loading zone to be on his side of the street. City Council requested the City Administrator to place this item for reconsideration on the next Council agenda.

Mr. Arlen Wiggs, Community Development Director, reviewed with City Council the status of the Community Development program. Mr. Wiggs indicated the City had not been successful in reviewing approval of a new three (3) year funding period which would start in November of 1981. Mr. Wiggs reviewed the funding allocation of the various positions in the Community Development Department and indicated sufficient funds would be available to maintain the current staff until June 30, 1982 with some minor changes in staff allocation. Mr. Wiggs also indicated that as a result of several under-runs on the Liberty Street paving and the anticipated under-run on Franklin and Taylor Street improvement project that an additional \$100,000 could be appropriated for housing rehabilitation to assist low and moderate income families in the Franklin School target area. Also, it was anticipated an additional \$100,000 would be available for the construction of the sanitary sewer in Houser Street for the proposed public housing project located North of the Slough on Houser Street. Mr. Wiggs indicated he would be presenting the proposed changes to the CACIM Subcommittee and would then be requesting HUD to approve the recommended appropriation changes. The City Council indicated they agreed with the concept of allocating an additional \$100,000 for housing rehabilitation instead of making other public improvements in the Franklin School target area.

Council was also informed that the staff is planning to put in a revised grant application which would be submitted by the Fall of 1981 with the possibility of receiving grant approval for a new three (3) year funding period of approximately \$2 million for the Old Town target area.

The City Administrator then reviewed the proposed grant application to be submitted to the Iowa Department of Transportation for both Capital and Operating Assistance for the City's Public Transit System. It was proposed that an application be submitted to IDOT for capital funding in the amount of \$15,000 for the constructing of bus shelters, bus signs, and benches as follows:

Section 18 - FHWA Funds	\$12,000
IDOT Funds	\$ 1,500
Local Funds	\$ <u>1,500</u>
Total:	\$15,000

It was proposed that a request be submitted for Operating Assistance to support the cost of operating the Public Transit System for 1981-82 in the amount of \$226,550 as follows:

Section 18 - FHWA Funds	\$24,878
IDOT Funds	\$45,000
Fare Box Revenues	\$45,000
Local Funds	<u>\$111,672</u>
Total:	\$225,660

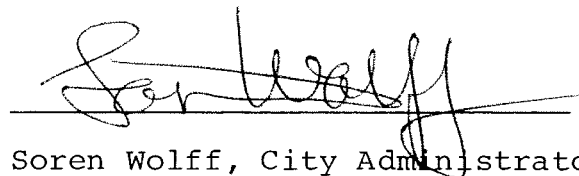
Alderman Rada asked how the amounts from the Federal Government compared to the amounts the City had anticipated receiving when the system was initially started. The City Administrator informed Council that City staff had expected to receive approximately \$70,000 from the Federal Government in operating assistance compared to the \$25,000 which may be received. The City Administrator further noted that the Federal Government is currently considering phasing out all Operating Assistance for public transportation over the next three (3) years. Council was informed the current financial status of both the Federal and State Government would put a greater burden on the City of Muscatine if the Public Transit System is to be continued. Council was informed that a public hearing on the proposed grant application was scheduled for the April 16, 1981 Council meeting.

The City Administrator then reviewed the proposed Temporary Pay Plan covering all of the temporary employees of the City, primarily part time summer help in the Parks and Recreation, Streets and Engineering departments. It was noted that the increase varied from 4% to 11% depending on the various classifications and five (5) jobs were reclassified. Council was informed the proposed revised Temporary Pay Plan would be on the next Council agenda for approval.

The Mayor indicated a request had been received from the Easter Seal Society for permission to sell Easter Lilies on April 11th with an alternate rain date for April 18th.

#5410 On motion by Alderman Rada, seconded by Alderman Duncan, the Easter Seal Society was authorized to sell Easter Lilies on April 11th with an alternate date of April 18th.

#5411 On motion by Alderman Duncan, seconded by Alderman Rada, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:45 p.m.



Soren Wolff, City Administrator