

**CITY COUNCIL
IN-DEPTH MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 1994, 7:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL**

Mayor Pro Tem Ralph Freese called the in-depth meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Members present: G. Gray, D. Gray, Moench, O'Brien, P. Fitzgerald, K. Fitzgerald. Absent: J. Phillips.

Staff present: Johnson, City Administrator; Hill, Public Works Director; Casstevens, Finance Director; Whittaker, Community Development Director; Wolf, Parks and Recreation Director; Childs, City Engineer; and Boka, Building and Zoning Administrator.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation by the Muscatine County Task Force Association. Mark Patton, a representative of the task force, was present to introduce housing task force members and to review with city council information previously distributed concerning the task force's activities and recommendations for governmental and private entities. Also speaking on behalf of the organization was Mrs. Barbara Fick. Both Fick and Patton encouraged city council to review the document submitted and consider taking action on items which would help improve the existing housing stock and to make housing more available in the community. Johnson responded on behalf of staff, indicating that many of the items highlighted in the report are currently being addressed by city staff. Also, it was noted city staff will continue to work with organizations such as this in order to enhance the availability and quality of housing within the community.

At this time on the agenda, Mayor Pro Tem Freese asked for comments from those in the audience on items not on the agenda. He recognized Barb Longtin, Art Center Director, who made a brief presentation concerning the American Wind Symphony Program planned for July 1994 in the Muscatine area. Longtin introduced Mr. Robert Boudreau, Director of the Wind Symphony, who make a brief presentation to city council which outlined the program. Following his presentation, he thanked city council for their time.

The next agenda item was an update of the Capital Projects for FY1993/94 and projected for 1994/95. Childs reviewed the items with council. A number of projects were highlighted, including the Hershey upgrade from Houser to the by-pass, finalization of the Kent Stein Improvement Project, East Hill Sewer Separation, and the West Cleveland Sewer Extension Project. It was also noted that the Mulberry

Improvement Project from Colony Drive to Houser Street was substantially completed and that the city would also be undertaking a major renovation and extension project at the municipal airport for construction year 1994.

The public hearing for the CIP for the next five years was held next. Whittaker was present to provide council with an overview of the CIP and answer questions on projects listed. Council Member Phil Fitzgerald questioned the process and the selection of some of the street improvement projects and urged staff and council members that when it came time to look at these projects more closely, they should also consider things such as traffic counts and an engineering review of the underlying structure of roadways before we determine which ones to make improvements on. He also noted that before any improvements or construction of a new East Hill fire station is underway, he would like to see some analysis and continued studies as to the number of calls, type of calls, and possible reorganization of the public safety building operations before he would be comfortable in taking any action on a new fire station. Whittaker stated that the Five-Year Capital Improvement program was a planning document to be used by council and prior to any action being taken on items within the program, additional public hearings and staff analysis would be presented to council for consideration. It was noted that council will be presented with a resolution approving the CIP at the January 20 meeting. With no further discussion, it was moved by Phil Fitzgerald, seconded by Kevin Fitzgerald, to close the public hearing. Approved 7-0.

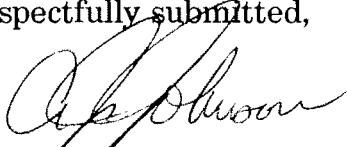
The next item on the agenda was the riverfront improvement project update by Randy Hill. Hill indicated we as a committee hope to have a portion of the trail on the levee completed for 1994, deck construction at the old Timmons site, reconstruction of the flag wall, railroad relocation activities, improvements to the insurance building, ordinance enacted for restrictions for "tow in" and "no wake" area, and service for boaters to begin Memorial Day. Also, in connection with the riverfront activities, Wolf updated council on the proposed dredging activities for the boat harbor and boat landing area on the riverfront. Wolf reviewed the history of the dredging program and the work staff has been involved with with representatives concerning the projects for 1994. It was noted this project was tentatively scheduled to begin the fall of 1993 but was postponed due to anticipated high water in the spring of 1994 which virtually would prevent any activity taking place. Wolf indicated there would be approximately 16,000 cubic yards of dredge material removed from the affected area. At this time it is anticipated it will be placed at the upper loop area of the Riverside Park. This would create problems for the Great River Days activities for this year. Wolf indicated he and Johnson had already been in contact with GRD officials and they understand the situation and are making alternative arrangements for this year and possibly 1995. They also indicated GRD representatives may be present to update council members at the next council meeting on how they are approaching the summer's activities.

The last item on the agenda was a proclamation for the Diversity Awareness Month for February 1994. Moench moved for its approval. Seconded by O'Brien. Approved 7-0.

There were no comments from council members. Johnson reminded council of the meetings on the one percent sales tax option on Sunday, January 16, at Grant and Mulberry Schools.

With no further business to discuss, it was moved by Kevin Fitzgerald, seconded by Phil Fitzgerald to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 PM. Approved 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A.J. Johnson".

A.J. Johnson
City Administrator