

CITY OF MUSCATINE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Chambers - 7:30 p.m. - March 3, 1994

Mayor Jeanette Phillips called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Phil Fitzgerald, Kevin Fitzgerald, O'Brien, Moench, Dan Gray, Freese, and Gary Gray present.

Councilmember Dan Gray gave the opening prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

#13504. Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald moved to approve the minutes of the February 17, 1994 Regular City Council meeting and the February 8-10, 1994 and February 15 and 16, 1994 budget meetings. Seconded by Councilmember Moench.

Councilmember Freese, speaking in reference to the February 17 meeting, stated that the last paragraph on page 3 should be amended to read "travel and training was more...."

Vote - All ayes; motion carried.

#13505. Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: Filing of Communications A-H; and bills totaling \$671,800.69. Seconded by Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Phillips stated that a public hearing was being held to allow public comment on the proposed fiscal year 1994/95 budget.

City Administrator A.J. Johnson thanked Councilmembers and members of City staff for the effort put forth on the proposed fiscal year 1994/95 budget. Assisted by David Casstevens, Finance Director, the City Administrator presented an overview of the proposed budget.

City Administrator Johnson stated that a final public hearing will be held on March 10, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. at which time Councilmembers will set the tax levy for the 1994/95 fiscal year.

Councilmember Moench stated that he enjoyed working with City staff and Councilmembers throughout the budget review process; however, he felt that the following three areas were disappointments to him: 1) City Council's removal of a garbage truck purchase over the City Administrator's recommendation; 2) the denial

by City Council to purchase recycling trailers; and the allocation of \$80,000 for the Tourism Bureau which was \$10,000 more than last year.

There were no oral or written petitions for or against the proposed fiscal year 1994/95 budget.

#13506. Councilmember Gary Gray moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Freese. All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Phillips stated that a public hearing was being held concerning the City's proposed riverfront promenade.

City Administrator Johnson stated that Larry Wolf, Parks and Recreation Director, would be reviewing the riverfront promenade project which is a component of the overall riverfront development project that has been reviewed by Councilmembers a number of times. He stated that he felt the proposed promenade will have a tremendous visual affect on the riverfront.

Mr. Wolf told Councilmembers that there will be a slight variation in the construction of the promenade. He stated that he would be explaining the design change and then would be asking Councilmembers to table the public hearing until the April 7, 1994 Regular City Council meeting.

Mr. Wolf stated that while the City Engineer was developing the construction plans for the project it was discovered that the area in question had once been a fill area. He told Councilmembers that the walkway will be moved back approximately 12 feet and it will no longer be necessary to reinforce the area with pilings. He said another variation will allow for elevation changes. He stated that these design changes should not have an affect on the construction schedule, noting that the promenade should be completed during the 1994 construction season. He asked that Councilmembers table the public hearing until the April 7, 1994 Regular City Council meeting.

Councilmember Gary Gray asked the City Engineer to inform the public about the elevation levels of the pier and upper level decks.

City Engineer Ray Childs stated that the platform on the river level will be approximately 17 feet, noting that that is the level where flood waters come up out of the river onto the drive. He stated that the observation decks will be at 8 foot and 10 foot levels, noting that the highest deck will be approximately 10 feet higher than the platform on the river. He stated that there will be portions of the promenade that are ramped and portions that are stepped.

Mr. Wolf pointed out that the promenade will be handicap accessible, noting that the general concept of the proposed promenade will not see any significant changes.

#13507. Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald moved that the public hearing concerning the proposed riverfront promenade be tabled until April 7, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. Seconded by Councilmember O'Brien. All ayes; motion carried.

City Administrator Johnson pointed out that the April 7, 1994 public hearing will be a continuation of this public hearing and that Councilmembers will be asked to take action approving the plans and specifications for the proposed promenade.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Phillips stated that a public hearing was being held concerning the sale of property from the City of Muscatine to the Muscatine County Solid Waste Management Agency.

City Administrator Johnson stated that a public hearing is necessary whenever the City decides to sell city-owned property. He stated that the sale of this property will complete a transaction that began approximately three years ago.

There were no oral or written petitions for or against the proposed sale of City property.

#13508. Councilmember Gary Gray moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Freese. All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Phillips stated that a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed issuance of \$875,000 of general obligation corporate purpose bonds to be used for parks improvements and extensions and improvements at the Municipal Airport.

City Administrator Johnson stated that this \$875,000 in combination with other previously authorized City debt will equal the \$3 million debt issuance the City will be seeking this spring.

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

#13509. Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember O'Brien. All ayes; motion carried.

#13510. Councilmember Dan Gray moved the resolution be adopted authorizing the issuance of \$3 million of general obligation corporate purpose bonds. Seconded by Councilmember Gary Gray. All ayes: Councilmembers Gary Gray,

Freese, Dan Gray, Moench, O'Brien, Kevin Fitzgerald, and Phil Fitzgerald. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#13511. Councilmember O'Brien moved to adopt the resolution authorizing the sale of City property to the Muscatine County Solid Waste Management Agency in the amount of \$140,000. Seconded by Councilmember Moench. All ayes: Councilmembers Phil Fitzgerald, Kevin Fitzgerald, O'Brien, Moench, Dan Gray, Freese, and Gary Gray. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#13512. Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald moved that the resolution be adopted approving the executed deed between the City of Muscatine and the Muscatine Solid Waste Management Agency. Seconded by Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald. All ayes: Councilmembers Gary Gray, Freese, Dan Gray, Moench, O'Brien, Kevin Fitzgerald, and Phil Fitzgerald. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#13513. Councilmember Gary Gray moved that the resolution be adopted setting a public hearing on March 17, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers concerning the proposed application for highway safety funds in connection with proposed improvements to Hershey Avenue from Houser Street to the Bypass. Seconded by Councilmember O'Brien.

Councilmember Freese asked the City Engineer to draw out a map of the proposed improvements.

Mr. Childs presented a drawing of where deceleration lanes would be located, noting that this has been on the Capital Improvements Program for the past five years. He explained how the deceleration lanes would aid people using the intersection. He told Councilmembers that the construction of these lanes would cost approximately \$12,000.

Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald asked Mr. Childs if he had traffic count figures available.

Mr. Childs stated that approximately 3,000 cars use this intersection each day.

Vote - All ayes: Councilmembers Phil Fitzgerald, Kevin Fitzgerald, O'Brien, Moench, Dan Gray, Freese, and Gary Gray. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#13514. Councilmember Dan Gray moved the resolution be adopted setting a public hearing on March 17, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers concerning a proposed corrected utility easement to the Muscatine Soccer Complex. Seconded by Councilmember Moench. All ayes: Councilmembers Gary Gray, Freese, Dan Gray, Moench, O'Brien, Phil Fitzgerald, and Kevin Fitzgerald. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#13515. Councilmember Moench moved to approve the agreement between the City of Muscatine and the Koala Futball Club for the supervision of the Muscatine Soccer Complex. Seconded by Councilmember Dan Gray. All ayes; motion carried.

#13516. Councilmember Gary Gray moved to approve the request for the purchase of fire fighting foam from Clarey's Safety Equipment in the amount of \$13,755.09. Seconded by Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald.

Councilmember Freese asked about the shelf life of this foam.

Fire Chief Steve Dalbey stated it is expected to have a shelf life in excess of 20 years.

Vote - All ayes; motion carried.

#13517. Councilmember O'Brien moved to approve the installation of a flashing red light at the intersection of East 3rd and Oak streets with costs for installation being paid by the HON Company. Seconded by Councilmember Dan Gray. All ayes; motion carried.

#13518. Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald moved to adopt the resolution releasing real estate mortgage Case #129 under the Community Development Residential Rehabilitation and Conservation Grant Program. Seconded by Councilmember Freese. All ayes: Councilmembers Gary Gray, Freese, Dan Gray, Moench, O'Brien, Kevin Fitzgerald, and Phil Fitzgerald. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#13519. Councilmember Phil Fitzgerald moved to adopt the resolution releasing real estate mortgage Case #125 under the Community Development Residential Rehabilitation and Conservation Grant Program. Seconded by Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald. All ayes: Councilmembers Gary Gray, Freese, Dan Gray, Moench, O'Brien, Kevin Fitzgerald, and Phil Fitzgerald. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

Councilmember Fitzgerald, speaking in reference to comments made earlier in the meeting regarding the budget process, stated that he felt the disappointments expressed were not the opinions of the entire City Council. He stated that the remarks made were disturbing to him but that his remarks were not meant to be adversarial.

Councilmember O'Brien stated that he had recently attended the Eastern Iowa Tourism Association meeting and that he felt it is a strong group. He stated that he would like to see Muscatine's Tourism Bureau make regular presentations to the City Council regarding its activity.

Councilmember Dan Gray commended both the Fire Department and Public Works Department for their efforts during the recent fire on Gobble Street.

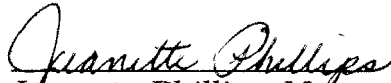
Councilmember Freese commended the Street Department for its snow removal efforts.

Councilmember Gary Gray said he agreed with Councilmember Kevin Fitzgerald's feelings concerning the budget process.

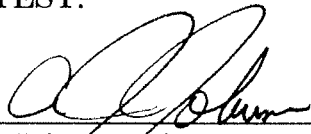
City Administrator Johnson reminded Councilmembers of the appointment scheduled for Friday morning at 10:15 a.m. at Krieger Motors at which time the City would be receiving the new DARE vehicle.

#13520. Councilmember Freese moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Councilmember O'Brien. All ayes; motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.


Jeanette Phillips, Mayor

ATTEST:


A.J. Johnson, City Administrator