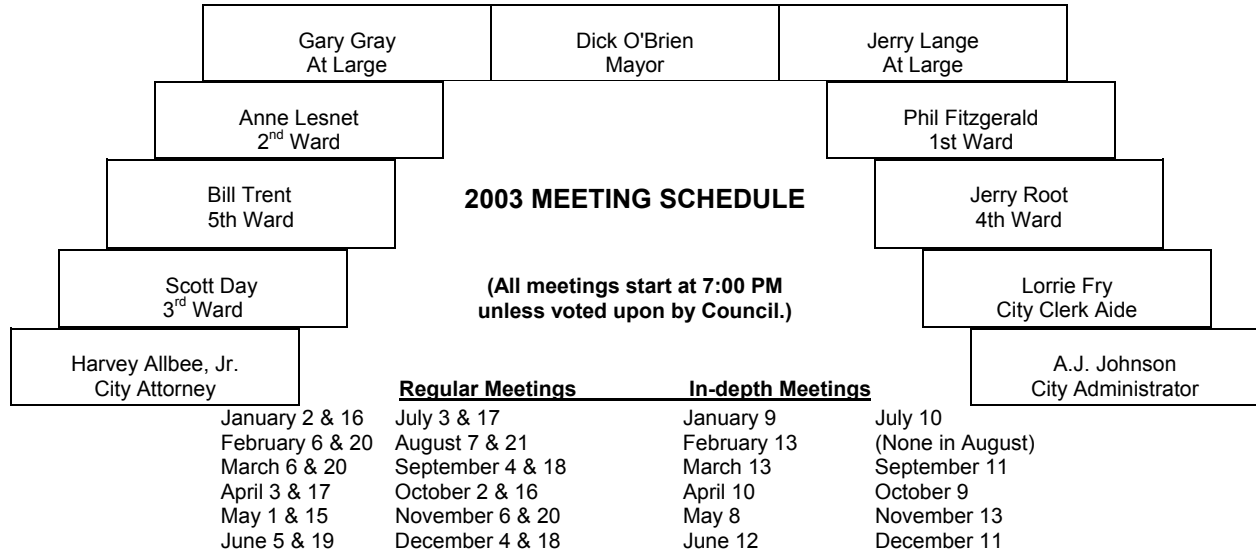


MUSCATINE CITY COUNCIL



AGENDA

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2003, 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **OPENING PRAYER**
4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
5. **COMMUNICATIONS - CITIZENS**

A. Swearing in of Police Officer Lonnie Mason

At this time Muscatine Police Officer Lonnie Mason will be sworn in.

B. Presentation of the Keep Iowa Beautiful Award to Lavene Payne and Debbie Yerington

At this time there will be a presentation by Jerry Sneff from the "Keep Iowa Beautiful" program to Lavene Payne, Debbie Yerington and the City of Muscatine.

6. MINUTES - APPROVAL

- A. Regular City Council Meeting – November 6, 2003
- B. In-Depth City Council Meeting – November 13, 2003

7. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence from the Agenda.

- * 9 – A
- * 13 – A-G
- * Bills*

*Approval of attached Bills for Approval totaling \$1,057,099.49 is subject to the approval of any related agenda item(s).

8. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Proposed Lease of City Right-of-Way at 107 Roscoe Avenue

Previously the City Council took action to establish a public hearing for the proposed lease of city right-of-way at 107 Roscoe Avenue. The city periodically receives and reviews requests from private property owners for the use of public right-of-way for private parking. The property located at 107 Roscoe Avenue currently has private parking in the public right-of-way; however, the lease for such parking has expired and needs to be renewed at this time. There are strict qualifications and criteria that must be in place for a homeowner to be eligible to make application for the use of public right-of-way for public parking. Because the proposed lease is in excess of three years, a public hearing is required.

Now is the time for the public to comment on the proposed lease of city right-of-way at 107 Roscoe Avenue.

- B. Proposed Lease of City Right-of-Way at 715 Iowa Avenue

Previously the City Council took action to establish a public hearing for the proposed lease of city right-of-way at 715 Iowa Avenue. The city periodically receives and reviews requests from private property owners for the use of public right-of-way for private parking. The property located at 715 Iowa Avenue currently has private parking in the public right-of-way; however, the lease for such parking has expired and needs to be renewed at this time. There are strict qualifications and criteria that must be in place for a homeowner to be eligible to make application for the use of public right-of-way for public parking. Because the proposed lease is in excess of three years, a public hearing is required.

Now is the time for the public to comment on the proposed lease of city right-of-way at 715 Iowa Avenue.

9. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Request for renewal of a Class C Liquor License and Sunday Sales Permit for Plamor Lanes, 1411 Grandview Avenue – Muscatine Properties Inc.
- B. Request for Use of City Property for 4th of July Activities

Presented for City Council’s consideration is a request for the use of city property for 4th of July activities 2004. The Convention & Visitors Bureau of the Muscatine Chamber of Commerce has submitted an application for the use of city property for a Grand Excursion and Independence Day Celebration from Thursday June 24, 2003 through Sunday, July 4, 2004. The proposed location for the activities would be on the riverfront, downtown on 2nd Street between Mulberry Avenue and Pine Street, and the traditional 4th of July parade route. There are a number of facts and logistical issues yet to be worked out on the project but the request has been submitted to secure the property for its use.

At this time City Council could take action to approve the use of city property for the 4th of July activities 2004 by the CVB.

10. FROM THE MAYOR

- A. Proclamation Declaring November 28, 2003 as “Shop Muscatine 1st Day”

The above proclamation has been submitted for City Council’s consideration and approval.

11. FROM THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

12. FROM THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

- A. Resolution Approving the Lease of City Right-of-Way at 107 Roscoe Avenue

Presented for City Council’s consideration is a resolution approving the lease of city right-of-way at 107 Roscoe Avenue. Previously the City Council conducted a public hearing to receive public comment on this proposed lease arrangement. The lease arrangement would be for a period of one year with an automatic renewal option unless either party objects to that renewal. The annual fee for the lease will be \$75 per year. All improvements and maintenance on the space will be that of the homeowners. The city reserves the right of easement across the property for public utilities and public projects.

At this time City Council could take action by resolution approving the lease of

city right-of-way for the purpose of parking vehicles.

B. Resolution Approving the Lease of City Right-of-Way at 715 Iowa Avenue

Presented for City Council's consideration is a resolution approving the lease of city right-of-way at 715 Iowa Avenue. Previously the City Council conducted a public hearing to receive public comment on this proposed lease arrangement. The lease arrangement would be for a period of one year with an automatic renewal option unless either party objects to that renewal. The annual fee for the lease will be \$75 per year. All improvements and maintenance on the space will be that of the homeowners. The city reserves the right of easement across the property for public utilities and public projects.

At this time City Council could take action by resolution approving the lease of city right-of-way for the purpose of parking vehicles.

C. Resolution Authorizing the Assessment of Nuisance Abatement Costs

Presented for City Council's consideration is a resolution authorizing the assessment of nuisance abatement costs. Periodically the City Council takes action to approve assessments for abatement of nuisance costs that are incurred throughout the year. The proposed request before City Council involves the assessment request for a list of unpaid abatement costs to private property owners as well as the assessment request of unpaid abatement costs to private property owners for properties that are currently in a foreclosure status. There are 10 properties that will be assessed abatement costs to the private property owners totaling \$2,546.43 and there are 27 properties total \$7,591.21 for abatement costs of properties in foreclosure.

At this time City Council could take action by resolution authorizing the assessment of unpaid abatement costs to private property owners.

D. Resolution Supporting a Housing Project for the Disabled

Presented for City Council's consideration is a resolution supporting the housing project for the disabled. At last week's In-Depth Meeting, the City Council heard a request from the Muscatine Welfare Association in association with Burns & Burns Architects Inc. of Iowa City for the construction of the "Fulton Place" housing units for developmentally handicapped individuals in the City of Muscatine. The housing project will contain up to 24 units with all units being handicap accessible. The units will be targeting people with disabilities and small families. This resolution of support is necessary for the project to be submitted to the Iowa Finance Authority for potential funding assistance.

At this time City Council could take action by resolution supporting the development of the rental units by Fulton Place Limited Partnerships for persons with disabilities and small families.

E. Request Authorization for the Issuance of a Purchase Order for CBD Snow Removal and Hauling Services

Presented for City Council's consideration is a request to approve the issuance of a purchase order for the Central Business District Snow Removal and Hauling Services. The city recently solicited bids for snow removal assistance in the Central Business District with one bid being received for the 2003/2004 snow removal season. There were a number of increases in per hourly costs for various activities that are performed under the contract. These costs however are within the anticipated range for providing this service. By approving this contract, the City Council frees up city work forces to work on the roadway surfaces within the community for snow removal purposes.

At this time City Council could take action to approve the contract for the 2003/2004 snow removal and hauling services between the City of Muscatine and Sulzberger Excavating Inc. of Muscatine.

F. Request Authorization to Install Customized Street Signs in the CBD

Presented for City Council's consideration is a request for authorization to install customized street signs in the Central Business District. Previously a group of interested citizens had approached the City Council to inquire as to whether or not the city would be willing to pay for street historic signs within the Central Business District. At that time the City Council endorsed the idea of the signage but informed the group they did not have the funds available at this time and that they would either have to raise the money themselves or the request would have to go through the normal budget review process. The organization that is supporting this activity has raised the necessary funds for the acquisition of these signs. A total of \$13,078.12 was raised for the installation of 35 different street signs and 26 posts for stop sign installation. The city will install the hardware and signage once it arrives.

At this time City Council could take action to approve the authorization to install customized street signs in the Central Business District.

G. Request to Establish 2004 City Council Meeting Dates

Presented for City Council's consideration is the request to establish the 2004 City Council meeting dates. Specifically the dates in question will be the meeting schedule for January 2004. Because of the placement of the New Year's holiday, it is being requested that the City Council meeting dates for January 2004 incorporate the second, third and fourth Thursdays of that month with the

meetings beginning at 7:00 p.m. The Council meetings for the remaining calendar year 2004 will not change except for the month of August in which the Council does not conduct an in-depth meeting.

At this time City Council could take action to establish the 2004 City Council meeting dates.

H. Request to Authorize Expenditure for Deer Count

At the City Council's November In-Depth meeting, Council received information from IDNR officials concerning the process for establishing a local deer hunt within the community. It was suggested that prior to any formal action or consideration by Council on this type of matter, that they consider engaging the IDNR in an aerial review and count of deer in the Muscatine city limits. Other cities have used this process of assessing the magnitude of the problem prior to allowing any type of special hunt within the community. The estimated cost for this project is \$200 to \$300. In order to cover any unknown expenses, it is recommended that city staff be allowed to enter into arrangements with the IDNR and/or other communities to cost share this type of project in an amount not to exceed \$500.

At this time City Council could take action to authorize the expenditure of funds not to exceed \$500 to assist in the assessment of deer population in the City of Muscatine.

I. Request to Authorize Contract for Services

Presented for City Council's consideration is a request to authorize a contract for services. As part of an ongoing effort to identify areas in which the city can reduce expenditures and at the same time try to maintain service levels within departmental activities, contracting for particular services had been presented and accepted by City Council. It is anticipated that with a retirement within the Police Department there will be an ongoing need for public safety grant solicitation monitoring and administration. By providing this service through a contract opportunity, the city will provide for these services at a greatly reduced cost to the city.

At this time City Council could take action to authorize a contract for services between the City of Muscatine and Torgerson Associates.

13. COMMUNICATIONS - RECEIVE AND FILE

- A. Muscatine County Board of Supervisors – October 27, 2003 & November 3, 2003
- B. Planning & Zoning Commission – October 14, 2003
- C. Bi-State Regional Commission – October 22, 2003
- D. Board of Water, Electric, and Communications Trustees – September 30, 2003
- E. Senior Resources
- F. City of Muscatine Financial Reports – October 2003
- G. Police Department Monthly Report – October 2003

14. APPROVAL OF BILLS

It is recommended bills totaling \$1,057,099.49 be approved and that the City Council authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to issue warrants for the same. It should be noted that this listing is subject to the approval of any related agenda item(s).

15. COMMUNICATIONS - COUNCIL MEMBERS

16. OTHER BUSINESS

17. ADJOURNMENT