

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

I, Jeff Lee, being duly sworn, on my oath, say that I am an advertising clerk at the *Muscatine Journal*, a newspaper of general circulation, published in the City of Muscatine, Muscatine County, Iowa; and that the following Notice:

Muscatine City Clerk
Special Meeting
March 15, 2006

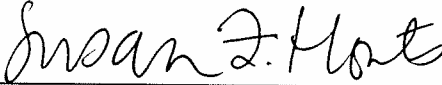
Of which the annexed printed slip is a true, correct and complete copy, was published in said *Muscatine Journal* one time having been made there in on:

March 29, 2006

Jeff Lee

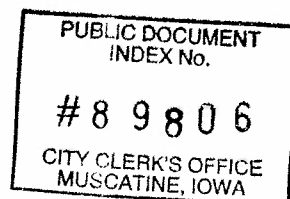
STATE OF IOWA MUSCATINE COUNTY

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
29th day of March, 2006


Susan F. Honts, Notary Public



Susan F. Honts
Iowa Notarial Seal
Commission number 153623
My Commission Expires 10/19/2007



CITY OF MUSCATINE SPECIAL MEETING Lower Level Conference Room

5:30 p.m. - March 15, 2006

Mayor Richard O'Brien called the Special City Council meeting for Wednesday, March 15, 2006, to order at 5:30 p.m. Councilmembers present were Press, Fitzgerald, Howard, Shihadeh, Bynum, Trent, and Day. Also present were City Administrator A.J. Johnson, Finance Director Nancy Lueck, and Planning, Zoning and Building Safety Director Steve Boka.

The purpose of the special meeting was to review bids recently received by the City of Muscatine for the "Pearl of the Mississippi - Phase II" project. Mayor O'Brien outlined the process of review to the City Council members and then turned the meeting over to City Administrator Johnson who provided an historical background of the project and where it is to date. Mr. Boka then provided additional information concerning the bids received and the analysis of those bids and the recommendation that was put forward. Council was previously supplied information concerning the financing options concerning the project itself.

Gary Wieskamp, Co-Chairperson of the Community Improvement Action Team, was also present and urged Council to support the project and to move forward with it. There were several questions posed by City Council concerning why there was a cost overrun, better definition of items that were donated for the project, process

of value engineering, history of the funding, financial impact of the project, etc.

Finance Director Lueck reviewed with Council finance options available for the project if they wish to proceed.

Prior to any other additional conversation, Mayor O'Brien asked if there was a consensus from Council to proceed with this project. A show of hands was asked for with six members indicating they wish to proceed with the project and one member voting against. Once that consensus was reached, the Mayor asked for additional review of financial options for Council.

Motion approved to implement the following financial option for the project: 1) Use the sales tax only refund that the city received totaling \$60,192; 2) that the \$89,808 remaining bond proceeds for previous road improvements would remain available for roadway projects only and not be used for this project; and 3) the city would fund the shortfall on this project by issuing additional bonds that are anticipated for June 2006.

There was some debate whether or not the Council should bond during this current issue or wait for the future. It was decided that it would be best to bond for the project at this time.

Prior to adjournment, Councilmember Shihadeh expressed disappointment in the

engineer's estimate and felt that he should have been more on target with his estimate versus the bids that we received.

Meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A.J. Johnson
City Administrator