

MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING

Council Chambers

February 1, 1979

7:20 p.m.

The hearing was called to order by Her Honor, Mayor Evelyn L. Schauland.

Roll Call: Ald. Platt, Waltman, Rada, Hilton, Kemp, and Koehrsen present.
Ald. Robinson absent.

Mayor Schauland announced the purpose of the public hearing was to receive citizen comments concerning the proposed ordinance adding Title X, Chapter 2, Section 3 entitled Smoke Detectors to the City Code.

There were no oral appearances for.

There were no written petitions for.

Mr. Richard Bublitz, Vice Chairman of the Muscatine County Citizens for Tax Relief, spoke against the proposed ordinance stating that it is not the responsibility of government to supervise the citizens own safety. He also stated that if the ordinance were to be a complete safety program, fire extinguishers should also be required.

Mr. Norb Beckey, 2814 Mulberry, also spoke against the proposed ordinance stating that he felt the ordinance needs more investigation and that the cost to citizens is too high.

Mr. Fred Leonard, 516 Fairview Avenue, representing the YMCA, spoke against the proposed ordinance stating that he feels the cost is too high for commercial buildings.

Dr. J.M. Woodhouse, 35 Colony Drive, stated that he felt people should decide for themselves if they wish to have the added expense this ordinance would require.

Mr. David Croy, representing the Muscatine Board of Realtors, stated that the high cost to home owners may prevent them from selling their homes and may force the closing of a sale to be delayed. He also stated that more manpower will be needed to inspect smoke detectors since it would have to be done every time a house is sold or re-rented.

Mr. Karl Reichert, Muscatine Board of Realtors, stated that he felt this would mean more additional work for the City as well as additional time to close a sale.

Mr. Robert Thomas, 1204 Logan Street, stated that he was against this ordinance because of the additional cost involved for the city and taxpayers.

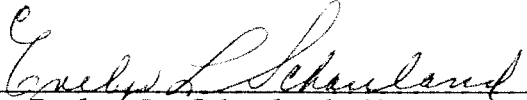
Mr. Bill Britt, Chairman of the Muscatine County Citizens for Tax Relief, stated that the high cost and the need for additional manpower were all factors which should be considered before this ordinance is passed. He added that he felt you can't legislate safety and there would be definite problems in enforcing this ordinance.

Mr. Edward Jensen, 401 Lowe Street, stated that he felt this ordinance was an invasion of privacy.

Ms. Ann Jones, 106 Laurel Street, stated that she felt this ordinance would be almost impossible to enforce in rental homes since the City has no record of when homes are re-rented. She added that she also felt this would be an invasion of privacy by saying what citizens must have in their homes.

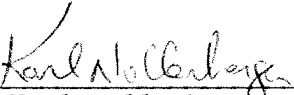
There were no written petitions against.

#3534. Ald. Waltman moved to close the public hearing. Second by Ald. Kemp.
All ayes; motion carried.



Evelyn L. Schauland, Mayor

Attest:



Karl Nollenberger, City Clerk