

CITY OF MUSCATINE  
CITY COUNCIL BUDGET REVIEW SESSION  
City Hall Council Chambers – February 4, 2023 – 8:00 a.m.

Mayor Brad Bark called the meeting for the City Council's budget review session for Saturday, February 4, 2023, to order at 8:00 a.m. Councilmembers present were Osborne, Froelich, Lewis, Hopkins, Jindrich, Brockert and Gordon

The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance

Senator Mark Lofgren and Representatives Mark Cisneros and Taylor Collins were present to review bills currently in the house and to answer questions from City Council.

### **Transit**

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the proposed Transit Budget.

Amy Fortenbacher, Transit Supervisor, stated the City had received two of the new busses that had been ordered and that they would be for service in 2-3 weeks.

Ms. Fortenbacher stated she was applying for a grant for the wash bay and should know by summer if it is approved.

Ms. Fortenbacher discussed the current camera system in the busses and explained why a new camera system would benefit the transit department. There was discussion regarding cost analysis for different systems and systems that would allow future upgrades.

There were questions from City Council regarding night service on the Muscabus. Ms. Fortenbacher stated there is still a bus running from 5:30-Midnight.

### **Parking**

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the proposed budget for the Parking Dept. Ms. Lueck stated parking has rebounded since Covid.

Mayor Bark stated he was looking forward to having a parking task force to work on plans for improvements to the City of Muscatine Parking system.

City Administrator Webb stated discussion on the parking systems is scheduled for the May in-depth meeting.

### **Refuse Collection**

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the proposed Refuse Collection budget.

Solid Waste Manager Dave Popp shared information regarding the requested additional staffing to be split between refuse collection and the Transfer Station.

City Council had questions regarding container replacement policy and stickers stating what could be recycled that were addressed by Mr. Popp.

Public Works Director, Brian Stineman, shared that the refuse collection department has been one of the biggest challenges due to supply chain issues and keeping the trucks all running.

There were concerns with City Council regarding the amount of trash being left behind after public events on City property. Council had questions regarding the possibility of the street sweeper being used before cars are let back on the streets, charging the organizer of the events for the street sweeper service, taking a deposit from organizers until the area is back to prior event status.

Nancy Lueck reviewed the Refuse Collection Fund Statement.

## **Landfill**

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the proposed Landfill budget.

Solid Waste Manager Dave Popp and Public Works Director Brian Stineman shared updates on the landfill operations and the improvements made with the new contracted landfill manager.

City Council had questions regarding the methane produced at the landfill and the capturing of the methane. Mr. Popp stated the EPA was changing regulations related to methane and researching ways to mitigate methane.

Mr. Popp discussed a form of a “swap shop” where residents could drop off unwanted still usable items that could be taken by someone that could use the item.

Nancy Lueck Reviewed the Landfill Fund Statement.

## **Transfer Station**

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the proposed Transfer Station.

Solid Waste Manager, Dave Popp, stated work on the tipping floor project would begin on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Nancy Lueck Reviewed the Transfer Station Fund Statement.

## **Water Pollution Control Plant**

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the proposed Water Pollution Control Plant Budget.

Water Pollution Control Plant Director, Jon Koch stated currently there is a new rate study in progress.

Mr. Koch shared information regarding a study using algae to remove nitrogen and phosphorus from waste.

Mr. Koch stated the WPCP Capital project will include a new HVAC system, upgraded electrical and a new UV disinfection system.

Nancy Lueck reviewed the Water Pollution Control Plan Fund Statement.

## **Storm Water**

Finance Director, Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the proposed Storm Water Budget.

Mr. Koch discussed the different bio cells being created around Muscatine and the use of storm water at the pollinator park.

Mr. Koch stated this year they would like to get the railings on the bridge at the pollinator park.

## **Housing**

Community Development Director, Jodi Royal-Goodwin, gave an overview of the different housing programs being managed by the Housing Dept.

Ms. Royal-Goodwin stated that for public housing the City has 100 units at Clark House and 50 units at Sunset Park. In 2022 there was turnover in 38 of the units. She states the facilities at Clark House are aging and there are significant issues with the elevator, roof ventilation and water damage in the electrical room.

There were questions from staff regarding the elevators, how often they break down, cost to repair, safety of residents that were discussed between council and staff.

City Council had questions regarding exterminating and if bed bugs continue to be an issue in public housing. Ms. Royal-Goodwin stated that it is still an issue.

Council had discussion regarding renovation of the entire Clark House to upgrade to more modern standards.

Ms. Royal-Goodwin stated that sunset park is in the process of receiving a new playground and new lighting at the facility.

Ms. Royal-Goodwin stated Hershey Manor is in need of a new water filtration system and there was discussion on operations and administration processes at Hershey Manor.

Finance Director Nancy Lueck shared a list of items she had noted that City Council would like to discuss in further detail to include:

- \$10,000 increase to GMCCI
- \$5000 increase to MCSA
- Putting inspector body cams on revised budget
- Discussion on parking meters

Councilmember Jindrich motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:45

Respectfully submitted,

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Cinda Hilger, Administrative Secretary

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Carol Webb, City Administrator

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Dr. Brad Bark, Mayor