



City of Muscatine

MINUTES

Thursday, February 8, 2024

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ROLL CALL**

3. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. Public Works Administration

Engineering

Roadway Maintenance

Traffic Control

Snow and Ice

Street Cleaning

Building and Grounds

Collection and Drainage

Equipment Services

Equipment Replacement

Public Works Administration

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the Public Works Administration Budget.

Engineering

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the Engineering Budget.

Public Works Director Brian Stineman and City Engineer Kevin Coon were present to answer questions from City Council. Mr. Coon stated he is working on upgrading the record keeping process with new technology.

Mr. Coon also stated he is bringing back sidewalk inspections and shared these had not been done since the 1970s. Mr. Coon will be bringing back city/resident cost share options for City Council to review in April.

Roadway Maintenance

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the Roadway Maintenance Budget.

Public Works Director Brian Stineman, and Roadway Maintenance Supervisory Tyson Wedekind were present to answer questions from City Council.

Traffic Control

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the Traffic Control Budget.

Public Works Director Brian Stineman stated this department is responsible for all signs, crosswalk painting and parking lot painting.

Mr. Wedekind stated they would like to implement a 15 year replacement plan for street signs. Mr. Wedekind explained the city would be divided into zones to implement and track the sign replacement.

Councilmember Jindrich had questions regarding the total number of street signs were in Muscatine.

Mr. Wedekind stated there are approximately 6650 street signs throughout the City.

Snow and Ice

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the Snow and Ice Budget.

Mr. Stineman stated the department was requesting a snow package for one of the dump trucks, two salt spreader stands and road salt in their budget request.

Mr. Stineman stated that there was \$50,000 budgeted for downtown snow removal this year and we have more than doubled that with the large snowfall that we had in January.

Mr. Stineman stated many employees are crosstrained and have been able to come together to help out when there were major snow storms to help running machinery for snow removal.

Councilmember Lewis had questions regarding emergency services during snow storms and how the vehicles are able to get to emergencies.

Fire Chief Ewers stated they have a snow plow that goes out in front of ambulances during weather events.

Mr. Ewers also stated they were working with Johnson and Scott Counties on an imminent death plan for transportation of patients during emergency weather events.

Councilmembers stated concerns with citizens not being able to reach the buttons on crosswalks and parking meters during snow events due to the pileup of snow.

Mr. Stineman stated when there is that much snow in a short amount of time there is nowhere to put the snow except on the curb until it can be hauled away.

Councilmember Conard had questions regarding when the downtown snow removal contract would go out for bid.

Mr. Stineman states it goes out for bid each year and John Brauns was the only bidder last year.

Street Cleaning

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the Street Cleaning Budget.

Mr. Stineman stated the department had purchase a new pelican sweeper this year for street sweeping.

Mr. Stineman stated the department requested a new automated leaf pick up machine that would take less time and and manpower than the older machines. Councilmember Conard had questions regarding having emergency street parking during leaf pickup season to help staff remove the leaves.

Mr. Stineman stated he is currently working on a leaf pickup schedule that would be more efficient than what is currently being used.

Building and Grounds

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the Building and Grounds Budget.

Mr. Stineman stated there are 3 fulltime and 6 parttime employees to take care of all city buildings. He states any problem is given to them to try to fix prior to hiring any services outside of the city.

Building and Grounds Supervisor Stan O'brien stated he is working on a preventative maintenance plan that would assist in keeping items running without having to catch up with broken down equipment.

Councilmembers had questions regarding where the City supplies are purchased that were addressed by Mr. O'brien stating most are purchased through Bistate and others go out for bid.

Collection and Drainage

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the Collection and Drainage budget.

Mr. Stineman and Collection and Drainage Supervisor were present to share what activities are included in this department.

Mr. Etzel stated that last year they started lining pipes as an alternative to replacing old pipes. He stated this is more time efficient, less costly and less invasive than replacement of sewer lines. He stated that 2355 line of pipe was lined last year with no issues and that this would add an additional 30-50 years on the already existing pipes.

Mr. Etzel stated that the cost to line a pipe approximately \$50/foot and to replace it is \$720/ft.

Equipment Services

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the Public Works Equipment Services Budget.

Public Works Director Brian Stineman stated this department is responsible for all maintenance on City Equipment, unless the repair is warranty related or too big for staff to handle.

Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance Supervisor Randy Moeller share information on upcoming projects to include the replacement of underground gas storage tanks. Mr Moeller also stated a request for a new diagnostic scan tool to be used on vehicle repairs.

Councilmember Lampe had questions regarding the cost effectiveness of hiring someone qualified to do the bigger vehicle maintenance. Mr. Moeller stated it is better to send the big repairs out for specialized repairs.

Equipment Replacement Fund

Finance Director Nancy Lueck gave an overview of the Equipment Replacement fund Budget.

Mr. Moeller stated the issues with vehicle availability is still an issue with some vehicles.

He stated buses and police tahoes continue to be the hardest to acquire.

There was discussion regarding an increase in Tahoes and the option to purchase Dodge Durangos in their place.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Lampe moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:23 pm.