



City of Muscatine

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday, March 14, 2024

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Bark called the City Council meeting for March 14, 2024 to order at 06:00 PM.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: Nadine Brockert, John Jindrich, Jeff Osborne, Peggy Gordon, Angie Lewis, Don Lampe. Councilmembers Absent: Matt Conard.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

4. **COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. Presentation and request for Support of an Application to the Iowa Economic Development Authority by GIP LLC for Workforce Housing Tax Credits for the Palms Drive Development

Adam Gillitzer from GIP, LLC presented information regarding a proposed development of a 24 Unit Apartment Complex at 3612 Palms Drive and requested a resolution of support to the Iowa Economic Development Authority by GIP LLC for Workforce Housing Tax Credits and a financial match from the City of Muscatine of \$1000 per unit.

City Council was in full support of moving forward with this resolution to be brought back at a future meeting for approval.

- B. Presentation by Terry Martin regarding slough pumping and proposing a cost share agreement

Terry Martin, representing the Louisa Muscatine Drainage District #13, presented to City Council a request for the City of Muscatine to pay a portion of the cost associated with pumping the City's storm water runoff out of the Slough and into the Mississippi River. The proposed agreement would be a 5 year agreement in the amount of \$5,000 annually to be adjusted accordingly with the review of water pumped logs. This would be paid out of the collection and drainage fund.

Councilmembers supported moving forward preparation of this agreement to be brought to a future council meeting for approval.

C. Presentation on Miracle Field Project

Members of the Parks and Recreation Department Rich Klimes, Jeff Limburg and Blake Allington were present to share information on a proposed Miracle Field Project at Kent Stein Park. This field would be made specific for the use of special needs/handicapped to be able to engage in baseball/softball in a safe accessible environment.

City Councilmembers had questions regarding the surface of the field, the maintenance of the field, the control of use and the concerns of neighboring houses being affected that were addressed by the Parks and Recreation Department Staff.

Councilmembers supported moving forward with staff moving forward looking for outside funding options for this project.

D. Discussion on Parks and Recreation Capital Project Updates

Parks and Recreation Director Rich Klimes was present to give a requested update on current Parks and Recreation Projects. The following projects were reviewed:

Greenwood Cemetery Chapel Building Improvements - To be completed Spring 2024

Weed park Lagoon Project - This will shore up the banks, Increase the depth of water to sustain fish over the winter and control algae on the pond, clean up and make repairs on duck island and replacement of the fishing deck. Completion projected to be in the fall of 2024.

Councilmember Jindrich suggested the fishing dock be lowered closer to the water for ease of kids fishing.

Indoor Sports Complex: Final design is complete and will be going out for bid in April, Estimated completion date is late fall early winter 2024.

Councilmembers had questions regarding the fee structure, financial sustainability and community use of the facility that were addressed by Mr. Klimes.

Southend Improvement Project:

Musser Park- Security light and cameras still need to be installed. Estimated to be completed Spring 2024.

Sunset Park - Completion of Connector trail to be complete Spring 2024

Taylor Park- Restrooms are in progress, benches and shade features to be completed in Spring 2024, Working with contractor on surface problems on the pickleball courts, working with MPW regarding discoloration of water at the splash pad.

Upcoming projects include: rose garden renovation, riverfront fountain repairs, ragbrai bikes to be installed on riverfront, addition park sec

E. Discussion regarding the FY 2024/2025 Funding Amount for the Muscatine Humane Society

City Administrator Webb stated that at the last budget session the

councilmembers present were a split vote on the amount of funding to be given to the Muscatine Humane Society. Councilmember Lampe stated he was in favor of funding at \$80,000 which split the tie vote. This will be put into the final budget for council approval.

5. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilmember Osborne requested setting a time at a future meeting to discuss the next steps to be taken regarding the Brooke Street lots that were pulled from the bid listings.

Councilmember Lampe thanked the Devitt Avenue residents for attending and participating in the March 13, 2024 special meeting regarding sidewalks on Devitt Avenue.

City Administrator Webb stated MPW had agreed to include information regarding senior discounts in the billing mailer.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Gordon moved the meeting be adjourned at 06:55 PM.