

Muscatine City Council Meeting Minutes – April 3, 2025

Mayor Bark called the City Council meeting for April 3, 2025, to order at 06:00 PM. at the Muscatine City Hall Council Chambers.

Invocation: Isaac Doucette

Councilmembers Present: Brockert, Jindrich, Osborne, Gordon, Lewis, Lampe, Conard.

Mayor Bark presented a Proclamation for Drinking Water Week to Ryan Streck from MPW. Ryan Streck from MPW was present to accept the proclamation.

Gordon, seconded by Lewis moved to approve the agenda as presented. Vote: All ayes - Motion Passed.

Citizen communication:

Ann Brumbrck, 112 6th Street, was present to share concerns with Public Safety staffing. Ms. Brumbeck stated that Muscatine is under-staffed according to the National average for a city the size of Muscatine. She stated that it would be a mistake to cut positions at the fire/police dept.

Councilmember Follow up to Citizens:

Councilmember Osborne made clarification regarding his comments on a "hiring freeze" stating his intention was a steady headcount of employees. Councilmember Lewis stated the City's first priority is safety for the community and regarding the cut of the Assistant Fire Chief, it was an administrative cut and not a cut of someone that goes to houses to fight fires. Councilmember Brockert made clarifying statements regarding the hiring of staff for the MUSCO sports dome and read a statement regarding the different types of funds and where the money from each fund is generated and spent.

Approval of Consent agenda: Lewis/Conard – all ayes, passed (March 20, 2025 City Council Minutes. Use of City Property Request for Twisted Cat Outdoors, Muscatine Area Farmers Market, Pearl City Media Holiday Stroll. March 17 and 24 County Board of Supervisors Minutes. Approval of Bills Totaling \$2,099,252.74.)

Public Hearings:

Public Hearing on an Amendment to Title 10, Chapter 26, Section 2 of the City Code to Promote Residential Infill by Relaxing Side-Yard Setback Requirements for Certain Preexisting Very Narrow Residential Parcels. There were no written or oral comments regarding this public hearing. Gordon/Lampe moved for the public hearing to be closed. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

Public Hearing on an Ordinance Amending Title 8, Chapter 1, Section 4 and Title 8, Chapter 10, Section 2 of the City Building Code that Would Remove the Need for the Submission of Engineered Plans for Post-Framed Buildings that are Less 1,440 Square Feet in Size. There were no written or oral comments regarding this public hearing. Lewis/Osborne, moved for the public hearing to be closed. All ayes, Motion Passed.

Public Hearing for the Purpose of Hearing Community Comments Regarding the Sale and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages at the new MUSCO Sports Center. There were no written or oral comments

regarding this public hearing. Gordon/Jindrich, moved for the public hearing to be closed. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

Public Hearing on the Status of the Community Development Block Grant Funded Downtown Revitalization Project. Jodi Royal Goodwin - Community Development Director, gave a short presentation on the progress of the Community Development Block Grant-funded Downtown Revitalization Project. There were no written or oral comments regarding this public hearing. Lewis/Gordon moved for the public hearing to be closed. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

From the City Administrator:

First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Title 10, Chapter 26, Section 2 of City Code to Promote Residential Infill by Relaxing Side-Yard Setback Requirements for Certain Preexisting Very Narrow Residential Parcels. Lampe/Osborne, moved to approve the first reading of the Ordinance. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Title 8, Chapter 1, Section 4 and Title 8, Chapter 10, Section 2 of the City Building Code that Would Remove the Need for the Submission of Engineered Plans for Post-Framed Buildings that are Less 1,440 Square Feet in Size. Lewis/Osborne, moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Title 3, Chapter 5, Section 10 of the City Code to Allow for the Sale and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages at the MUSCO Sports Center. Gordon/Jindrich moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance. Councilmember Osborne gave clarifying statements to address citizen concerns regarding alcohol sales at the Dome. Rich Klimes - Parks and Recreation Director shared information regarding City venues that allow for the sale and consumption of alcohol. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

Second Reading of an Ordinance Amending Title 8, Chapter 1, Section 4 of City Code to Mirror the State Historic Building Code. Lampe/Lewis, moved to approve the second reading of the Ordinance. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

Request to Waive Third Reading and to Adopt on Second and Final Reading an Ordinance to Vacate and Deed Undeveloped Right of Way between the Adjoining Property Owner of 607 Van Buren Street and Parcel ID 082518004. Gordon/Lampe, moved to waive the third reading and adopt the ordinance on second and final reading. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

Request to Waive Third Reading and Adopt on Second and Final Reading an Ordinance to Vacate and Deed an Undeveloped Right of Way to the Adjoining Property Owners Located at 1719 Pearlview Court and 1715 Pearlview Court. Conard/Jindrich, moved to waive the third reading and adopt the ordinance on second and final reading. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

Resolution Setting a Public Hearing for April 17, 2025, on the Proposed Amendment #1 to the City Budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025. Brockert/Conard moved to Adopt the Resolution. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

Resolution Setting a Public Hearing for April 17, 2025, on the Proposed City Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026. Gordon/Lewis moved to Adopt the Resolution. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

Resolution Amending the Muscatine City Council Invocation Policy. Brockert/Lampe moved to Adopt the Resolution. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

Resolution Granting an Easement to Interstate Power & Light Company (Alliant Energy) on a Portion of City Owned Property Located at 1321 Nebraska Street. Lewis/Osborne moved to Adopt the Resolution. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

Resolution to Award Contract for the Lake Park Boulevard Over Mad Creek Bridge Deck Overlay Project to Boulder Contracting, Inc. in the Amount of \$165,504.30. Gordon/Osborne moved to Adopt the Resolution. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

Closed Session Meeting

Request to enter closed session closed session per Iowa Code Section 21.5.1.c to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent and where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in the litigation, and in accordance with Iowa Code Section 622.10 to discuss attorney/client privileged and attorney work product matters with legal counsel. Gordon/Osborne moved to enter closed session at 7:12 pm. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

There was discussion regarding the closed session topic: no action was taken.

Councilmember Gordon, seconded by Councilmember Lampe moved to exit closed session at 7:29 pm. Vote: All ayes, Motion Passed.

Councilmember Gordon moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Ministerial Meeting on Economic Development Update