



City of Muscatine

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Bark called the City Council meeting for December 9, 2025, to order at 05:30 PM.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: Nadine Brockert, John Jindrich (left at 6:05 pm), Jeff Osborne (by phone), Peggy Gordon, Angie Lewis, Don Lampe, Matt Conard.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

4. **COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. Carver Corner Construction Design Update
(This discussion was cancelled to obtain more information)
- B. Presentation on Proposed New Comprehensive Plan
Andrew Fangman - Senior Planner- presented the proposed the new Comprehensive Plan to City Council. Following his presentation, Mr. Fangman requested direction from City Council on how to move forward. There were no objections from City Council to move forward with the proposed plan.
Councilmembers asked for periodic updates on items included in the plan.
- C. Review and Update of City Council Goals
City Administrator Matt Mardesen reviewed the City Council Goals and Objectives with City Council. The following changes were suggested.
Goal 2 — Add HNI property plans
Goal 3 — Faster turnaround for small business forgivable loans, Utilization of vacant City lots for housing projects
Goal 4 — Keeping ahead of structural issues in the downtown area to preserve the downtown atmosphere
Goal 5 — Change Indoor Sports Complex to making the sports complex an enterprise fund
New Projects to be initiated - Riverfront improvement plan, Art Center future plans, Dick Drake Way railroad overpass, HWY 61 access to sports complex area, South End Quiet Zone.

D. Downtown Parking Statistic Evaluation

City Administrator Mardesen presented the statistics collected on the downtown's 2-hour free parking to date. Mr. Mardesen shared comparisons in tickets from 2024 and 2025 and shared an overview of how this could affect the general fund budget.

Mr. Mardesen stated he wanted to get an idea of where council would like to proceed with the downtown parking in order to be able to bring back a proposal to City Council prior to the end of the free holiday parking.

Councilmembers had comments regarding the loss of funds from meters as well as fewer tickets being written. The effect the parking has on downtown shopping, both in favor of and against.

Councilmember Conard stated he is in favor of getting rid of meters, putting up signs and trusting citizens to do the right thing.

Councilmember Lampe stated he feels that free parking creates a more vibrant downtown and he has received positive comments from citizens, but also has concerns about revenue loss.

Councilmember Osborne stated that the loss of ticket numbers could be made up by increasing the fines for tickets.

Councilmember Brockert stated if the parking revenue is removed what will have to be given up in the general fund to compensate.

Councilmembers asked to make a final decision after all data has been collected at the end of the free holiday parking and present to Council.

Council had no objections to the City Administrator moving forward with preparing financial information for the parking evaluation.

5. **STAFF, COUNCIL AND MAYOR REPORTS**

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Lewis moved the meeting be adjourned at 06:40 PM.