

City of Muscatine, City Council meeting minutes, July 21, 2026 City Hall Council Chambers

Mayor Bark called the City Council meeting for July 21, 2026, to order at 05:30 PM.

Ray Oehme-Vineyard Church gave the invocation

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

From the Mayor:

Mayor Bark gave a statement on the current situation on the north side of the 200 block of East 2nd Street and a brief overview of what the city is working on at this time regarding this situation.

Proclamation for International Lifeguard and Pool Staff Appreciation Day — July 31st

Approval of Agenda:

Gordon/, Lewis moved to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes, motion passed.

Consent Agenda:

Lampe/Conard, moved to approve the Consent Agenda including City Council minutes (July 7 & 14, 2026) Use of City Property Requests (Senior March, Homecoming Parade, Pintastic Mile) Cigarette permit (Home Base), Alcohol Permits (Love's Travel Stop, Port City Underground, Greater Muscatine Chamber of Commerce – Great River Days), Receive and File (Muscatine County Board of Supervisors minutes, Library Board Minutes) Purchase Orders (Shelangoski Construction) and Bills totaling \$8,290,958.17.

Public Hearing:

Continuation of appeal hearings pursuant to City Code 9-3-8 for council deliberation and decision on appeals for:

1. Muscatine Downtown Investors - 209 E. 2nd Street - Lampe/Conard moved to deny the appeal. 6 ayes, 1 nay(Osborne) motion passed.
2. Muscatine Downtown Investors - 211 E. 2nd Street - Conard/Gordon moved to deny the appeal. 6 ayes, 1 nay(Osborne) motion passed.
3. Muscatine Downtown Investors - 221 E. 2nd Street - Conard/Lewis moved to deny the appeal. 6 ayes, 1 nay(Osborne) motion passed.
4. Muscatine Downtown Investors - 223 E. 2nd Street - Lewis/Gordon moved to deny the appeal. 6 ayes, 1 nay(Osborne) motion passed.
5. Matt McFadden - 227 E. 2nd Street - Lampe/Conard moved to deny the appeal. 6 ayes, 1 nay(Osborne) motion passed.
6. Samantha Kaufmann - 229 E. 2nd Street - Lewis/Gordon moved to deny the appeal. 6 ayes, 1 nay(Osborne) motion passed.
7. Terry Mowl- 219 E. 2nd Street - Gordon/Conard moved to deny the appeal. 6 ayes, 1 nay(Osborne) motion passed.
8. K & R LLC - Kevin Philips - 217 E. 2nd Street - Lampe/Lewis moved to deny the appeal. 6 ayes, 1 nay(Osborne) motion passed.
9. James Sichterman - 207 E. 2nd Street - Lewis/Gordon moved to deny the appeal. 6 ayes, 1 nay(Osborne) motion passed.

Councilmember Osborne had comments regarding the information that was given to residents and Council regarding the reasoning for the unsafe to occupy notices.

From the City Administrator:

Gordon/Lewis moved to approve the Second reading of an Ordinance amending Title 13, Chapter 6 of City Code regarding Prohibited Discharge Standards and Specific Pollutant Limitations. All ayes, motion passed.

Gordon/Osborne moved to adopt a resolution authorizing special assessments for unpaid abatement service fees and rental housing fees to private properties. All ayes, motion passed.

Lampe/Gordon moved to adopt a resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Iowa Department of Transportation for Federal COVID-Relief Funding to conduct a Transit System Study. All ayes, motion passed.

Lewis/Osborne moved to adopt a resolution approving the contract and bond for the 2026/2027 Hot Mix Asphalt Overlay Project. All ayes, motion passed.

Jindrich/Conard moved to approve a request to authorize the dates for the Municipal Deer Hunt for 2026-2027. All ayes, motion passed.

Lewis/Brockert moved to approve a request for change order number 1 to the West Hill Sewer Separation Project Phase 6E in the Amount of -\$8,609.25. All ayes, motion passed.

Gordon/Lewis moved to approve a request for the issuance of a purchase order to TYMCO, Inc., in the amount of \$331,568.00, for the Purchase of a TYMCO Regenerative Air Street Sweeper. All ayes, motion passed.

Gordon/Osborne moved to approve a request to enter into an agreement with the Iowa DOT, accepting State Transit Assistance (STA) for Fiscal Year 2027, in the amount of \$330,221.00. All ayes, motion passed.

Staff/Council Reports:

Councilmembers shared their thoughts regarding the downtown building structure issues and stated they have had a hard time making the decisions they have but ultimately it is the goal of the City Staff and City Council to keep the residents of Muscatine safe. They encouraged residents to stay off social media with posts and if there are questions or issues to please come to the City Council meetings to address the issues face to face.

Closed Session:

Gordon/Conard moved to enter closed session at 6:05 pm 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. All ayes, motion passed.

Present for Closed session: Mayor Bark, Councilmembers Osborne, Brockert, Lewis, Jindrich, Conard, Gordon and Lampe, City Administrator Mardesen, City Clerk Hilger, Police Chief Kies, Assistant Police Chief Snider, Community Development Jodi Royal-Goodwin, Melissa Rinnert and City Attorney Kylie Franklin.

Councilmember Lewis, seconded by Conard moved to exit closed session at 6:49 pm.

Councilmember Gordon motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm.