



City of Muscatine

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday, September 8, 2022

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: Nadine Brockert, John Jindrich, Jeff Osborne, Peggy Gordon, Angie Lewis, Dennis Froelich, DeWayne Hopkins. Councilmembers absent . Mayor Brad Bark, City Attorney Brent Hinders, City Administrator Carol Webb and Administrative Professional Cinda Hilger were also present.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

4. **COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. GMCCI Overview of the Live Muscatine Program

Megan Francis gave a presentation on the Live Muscatine Initiative. Ms. Frances shared an overview of the program including the Live Muscatine Print Guide on how to live in Muscatine, the Live Muscatine Website (livemuscatine.com), information regarding the newcomer orientation classes and community tours.

Hannah Howard continued the presentation by sharing how the program will fill an important need in Muscatine by showing off our community to potential homebuyers.

Ms. Howard stated one goal is to want newcomers to feel welcome and want them to stay in Muscatine. She stated they have had great response to date with the program and are seeing positive impacts in the community.

B. Proposed Revisions to the Rules of City Council for the City of Muscatine

City Administrator Webb started the presentation by defining what the Rules of Council are and stating that City Attorney Brent Hinders was present to address

any questions that the City Council may have. Ms. Webb stated she was looking for support from City Council to move forward with a resolution approving the proposed changes.

Ms. Webb gave an overview of the proposed changes including changing the starting time of Council meetings, remote access to meetings, changes to the agenda order, and language changes for clarification purposes in several sections.

Councilmember Lewis stated she would like a change made to state Cell phones needed to be silenced not turned off during council meetings.

Council stated support for the changes and moving forward with a resolution.

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C. Draft Capital Improvement Plan for fiscal years 2024 through 2028

April Limburg was present to share changes and clarifications to the Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Years 2024-2028.

Councilmembers thanked City staff for the hard work on putting together the CIP and encouraged citizens to read through it for explanation of the projects being done, the scoring process used in determining the priority for the list of projects and where funding comes from for the projects.

D. Proposed Muscatine School District Baseball/Softball Complex at Kent-Stein Park

City Administrator Carol Webb gave an overview of the proposed baseball/softball complex at Kent Stein park and stated Muscatine School Superintendent Clint Christopher was present to address questions and concerns the City Council has.

Mr. Christopher shared the timeline for the planning and construction process of the proposed complex and stated the School District would be working closely with the City Administration and the Parks and Recreation Department in the design process for the project.

There were concerns from City Councilmembers regarding parking that were addressed by Mr. Christopher and Ms. Webb.

Ms. Webb stated if there was support from City Council to move forward with this project, staff would begin negotiations with the school board and would bring a proposal back to council for consideration.

Councilmember Brockert offered to set up a meeting with residents in the area to gather input prior to the design of the complex.

There was support from City Council to move forward with the negotiations for this project.

E. Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding a SolSmart Designation

Community Development Director, Jodi Royal Goodwin, was present to share a presentation regarding SOLSMART Designation for the City of Muscatine.

Ms. Royal-Goodwin stated she was present to determine if City Council wanted to pursue moving forward with the designation.

Ms. Goodwin gave an overview of the SOLSMART Program and how the program helps to promote the development of solar use in the community.

She explained the three levels of designation for program and what each would require from the City.

There were questions from City Council regarding training, and staff expectations that were addressed by Ms. Royal-Goodwin.

She stated that staff could integrate the groundwork for the program into amendments currently being made to City Code.

Council had questions regarding what the designation would do for the City and if it was intended for businesses or residents that were addressed by staff.

Gage Huston, Muscatine Power & Water, was present to share how MPW would work with the community regarding solar power.

Councilmembers stated they were in favor of the program and working on integrating it as the City Code Amendments are made.

5. **COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

Councilmembers shared upcoming events in the community.

City Administrator Webb stated the Grant Cycle is open for Grandview Neighborhood for Community events and small projects.

6. ADJOURNMENT