

CITY OF MUSCATINE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Chambers – 7:00 p.m. – March 20, 2014

Mayor Hopkins called the City Council meeting for Thursday, March 20, 2014, to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmembers present were Rehwaldt, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Phillips, and Spread.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ann Bahn, 2805 Termini Drive, thanked City Council for its adoption of the proclamation declaring April 2014 as National Donate Life Month. She introduced Doug Stewart who has had two liver transplants. Mr. Stewart passed out donor information. Ms. Bahn invited City Council to participate in the golf outing on May 31, 2014 at the Geneva Golf & Country Club.

#22804. Councilmember Phillips, seconded by Councilmember Spread, moved the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

- Regular City Council Minutes of March 6, 2014 and In-Depth City Council Minutes for March 13, 2014
- Request on first reading for a new Class “C” Liquor License for Saints Mary and Mathias School Home and School Association, 100 Harbor Drive (Pearl City Station) – Saint Mary and Mathias Church (pending inspections and insurance) and renewal of a Class “A” Liquor License and Sunday Sales for American Legion Club, 110 S. Houser Street – Edward H. Bitzer Post No. 27 of the America (pending inspections)
- Approval of use of city property from Saints Mary & Mathias Catholic School for the Annual Ball at Pearl City Station on April 26, 2014.
- Proclamation Declaring April 2014 as “National Donate Life Month” and “Sexual Assault Awareness Month”
- Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Recognizing Sister City Relationship between Zhengding, Hebei, P.R.C. & Muscatine, Iowa, U.S.A.
- Filing of Communications 12A-D
- Bills for Approval totaling \$6,379,565.09

Vote – All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Hopkins stated a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed submission of the annual application for state and federal transit funding.

There were no written petitions for or against this proposed action.

#22805. Councilmember Shihadeh moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Hopkins stated a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed west cellular tower lease extension at Greenwood Cemetery.

Linda Newcomb of Muscatine stated she was opposed to having cell towers at Greenwood Cemetery. She asked if that is what is being considered and if so, she asked that City Council vote it down.

Mayor Hopkins stated the issue is not for a new cell tower but for a lease extension of a cell tower already located at the cemetery.

Ms. Newcomb then stated she feels all the cell towers should be removed from the cemetery.

Councilmember Fitzgerald questioned why the lease should be extended to 2043.

Councilmember Bynum asked if any other options were presented as part of the lease extension request.

Parks & Recreation Director Rich Klimes stated the original lease was entered into in 1998. He stated the current lease expires in 2028 and the company would like to extend that to 2043. He stated there were no other options presented. He stated the past leases were done every five years but the company is asking for three five-year extensions.

Councilmember Fitzgerald asked if this action could be tabled until the next City Council meeting or if it required action tonight.

Mr. Klimes stated it was up to City Council.

Councilmember Fitzgerald asked who would be responsible for removing the cell tower if the lease is terminated.

Mr. Klimes stated the company would be responsible for removing the tower. He stated this is a simple amendment and there is financial incentive for the city to extend the lease.

Councilmember Shihadeh asked why they are seeking the extension now since the current lease does not expire until 2028.

Mr. Klimes stated the company feels extension of the lease will make them more competitive.

Councilmember Natvig asked how many other carriers are on the tower, and Mr. Klimes answered none.

There were no oral or written petitions for or against the proposed budget.

#22806. Councilmember Natvig moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Rehwaldt. All ayes; motion carried.

#22807. Councilmember Bynum moved the resolution be adopted authorizing the submission of the annual application for state and federal transit funding. Seconded by Councilmember Phillips. All ayes: Councilmembers Rehwaldt, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Phillips, and Spread. Motion carried.

#22808. Councilmember Fitzgerald moved to table the resolution approving the west cellular tower lease extension at Greenwood Cemetery to the April 3, 2014 City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Bynum. All ayes: Councilmembers Rehwaldt, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Phillips, and Spread. Motion carried.

#22809. Councilmember Spread moved the resolution be adopted setting the public hearing on the City of Muscatine's Capital Improvement Plan for fiscal years 2014 through 2018 for Thursday, April 3, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald. All ayes: Councilmembers Rehwaldt, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Phillips, and Spread. Motion carried.

#22810. Councilmember Phillips moved the resolution be adopted approving the Joint Use Facilities Agreement with the Muscatine School District. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald. All ayes: Councilmembers Rehwaldt, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Phillips, and Spread. Motion carried.

#22811. Councilmember Fitzgerald moved to approve Change Order #1 for the Colorado Street Reconstruction Project. Seconded by Councilmember Bynum. All ayes; motion carried.

#22812. Councilmember Natvig moved to approve the 2014/2015 Road Rock Salt Purchase Agreement between the City of Muscatine and the City of Davenport. Seconded by Councilmember Shihadeh.

Councilmember Fitzgerald asked how much salt was being purchased.

Public Works Director Randy Hill stated two barge loads are being purchased or 3,000 tons, which is split with Muscatine County. He stated the city has exhausted its supply.

Councilmember Fitzgerald asked what would be used if the state does not allow the use of cinders.

Mr. Hill stated there are a couple of issues. He stated that sand freezes and it is hard to get more salt if it is needed.

Vote - All ayes; motion carried.

Under comments, Public Works Director Hill reminded everyone that on March 25th and 26th meetings will be held at the Muscatine High School Commons concerning the Cedar Street Project. He stated that if residents are not able to make the first meeting, they are welcome to attend the second meeting. He stated residents who cannot make either meeting are welcome to call Public Works.

Mr. Hill then reminded people that beginning March 24th Colorado Street will be closed at Park Avenue and just east of Plaza Drive. He stated that on March 31st work will begin on the Cedar Street Project as well.

Mayor Hopkins stated that on Saturday, March 29, 2014, Mayor Yang from Zhengding County in China will be at the Hampton Inn from 7 to 8 a.m. for a breakfast and then at the History & Industry Museum from 8:30 to noon to meet folks and answer questions they might have. He also stated there will be a Chinese art exhibit at the former Marie Lindsay building from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#22813. Councilmember Shihadeh moved the meeting be adjourned at 7:25 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.

DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor

ATTEST:

Randy Hill, Acting City Administrator