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City Administrator Report to Mayor & City Council

2018.10.26, Edition No. 327

WEEKLY UPDATE:

- City Council Goals: Reminder - The City Council goal sessions scheduled for November 8th. The session will be held in the Lower Level Conference Room at 5:30pm. City Staff will be holding their goal setting session this coming week. It was postponed last week following the ransomware attack.
- Casualty Kit Training: AC Hartman will be providing Casualty Kit training at 5:30pm on November 1st in the Council Chambers. This is a follow up to the Active Killer training that the Council received.
- Rollback: The Residential Rollback will "roll up" to 56.9180% for FY 20 (an increase of 2.33% from the FY 19 rollback of 55.6209%). Some good news as we begin the budget process.
- Dog Park: The community will gather in the main shelter of the Muscatine Dog Park Thursday, Nov. 1, for a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the facility to patrons. The ceremony is scheduled for 4 p.m.
- Fire Department: According to Chief Ewers, the Fire Department passed their Illinois ambulance inspection with zero deficiencies. Kudos to BC Hillard and Captain Summitt on the prep work and coming in on their day off for the inspection.
- Annual Accomplishments: I am currently reviewing the departments Annual Accomplishments report and hope to have it out to Council soon.

"I remember Muscatine for its sunsets. I have never seen any on either side of the ocean that equaled them" — Mark Twain



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CITY OF MUSCATINE PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
OCTOBER 26, 2018

MUSCATINE DOG PARK OPENING CEREMONY SET FOR NOV. 1

Long awaited off-leash Dog Park scheduled to open in Muscatine next week

MUSCATINE, Iowa – The community will gather in the main shelter of the Muscatine Dog Park Thursday, Nov. 1, for a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the facility to patrons. The ceremony is scheduled for 4 p.m.

One of the most talked about projects for the past five years has been the creation of a Community Dog Park. The off-leash park is the first of its kind in Muscatine and is located off of Houser Street across from Kent Stein Park on 14 city owned acres adjacent to the Muscatine Pollinator Park.

Citizens for an Off-leash Muscatine Park (COMP4DOGS) worked with the City of Muscatine and the Community Improvement Action Team (CIAT) to develop and implement the project. The site features a half-acre senior dog area, a 1.5 acre area for small dogs, and a three acre enclosure for large dogs. The project was one of four projects that were part of The Pearls of Progress Project which successfully pursued and received a Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) grant from the state of Iowa.



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The Muscatine Community Dog Park had an estimated price tag of \$243,081 which included development of the fenced areas, an entrance shelter, two water fountains, six benches, trees, a shed, and four shelters. Most of the funds were raised through private donations with part of the cost covered by the CAT grant and an allocation from the City of Muscatine.

While the park will not be officially open until Nov. 1, dog owners can visit and take tours of the site from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 27. COMP team members will be on hand during the morning to provide information, brochures, and permit registration forms. Also scheduled to be on hand will be a group of Boy Scouts who will be setting up the small shelters in the enclosures.

“We encourage people to come out, walk the park, and have a firsthand look at what the park offers,” Peggy Gordon, one of the leaders of COMP4DOGS. “You may bring your dog with you but they will have to remain on leash since the site is still a construction zone.”

The organization also plans to have a Field Day at the site with volunteers from COMP available to answer questions about the rules, permits, and dog park etiquette. The Field Day will be held at 10 a.m. -2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 3, and Sunday, Nov. 11.

For more information, visit the Muscatine Dog Park page on the City of Muscatine web site.