

CITY OF MUSCATINE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Chambers – 7:00 p.m. – May 19, 2011

Mayor Dick O'Brien called the City Council meeting for Thursday, May 19, 2011, to order at 7 p.m. Councilmembers present were LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#21598. Councilmember Fitzgerald moved to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2011 City Council meeting and the May 12, 2011 In-Depth City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Bynum. All ayes; motion carried.

#21599. Councilmember Lange moved the Consent Agenda be approved as follows: Filing of Communication A and Bills for Approval totaling \$5,260,988.05 as well as receipt summaries and journal entries for February and March 2011. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor O'Brien stated a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed amendments to the floodplain ordinance.

There were no oral or written petitions for or against the proposed amendments to the ordinance.

#21600. Councilmember Shihadeh moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor O'Brien stated a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed Amendment #2 to the 2010/2011 city budget.

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

#21601. Councilmember LeRette moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Roby. All ayes; motion carried.

#21602. Councilmember Bynum moved the request from Zion Lutheran Church be approved for the use of city property for its annual neighborhood block party on Wednesday, June 8, 2011, from 5 to 7 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes; motion carried.

#21603. Councilmember Roby moved the request be approved from the St. Mary's/St. Mathias Parish for the use of city property for the Corpus Christi Procession on Sunday, June 26, 2011, from approximately 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Lange. All ayes; motion carried.

#21604. Councilmember LeRette moved the proclamations be adopted declaring May 2011 as "National Preservation Month" and May 27-28, 2011 as "Poppy Days". Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes; motion carried.

#21605. Councilmember Bynum moved to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending floodplain regulations. Seconded by Councilmember Roby. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried and first reading of the ordinance approved.

#21606. Councilmember Lange moved the resolution be adopted approving Amendment #2 to the 2010/2011 city budget. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#21607. Councilmember Roby moved the resolution be adopted writing off debts of certain former public housing tenants. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald.

Councilmember LeRette stated he wanted to clarify that while these debts are being written off, the individuals owing the debts will not be able to receive public housing assistance in the future without repaying them.

Housing Administrator Dick Yerington stated the individuals would either have to repay the debt or enter into a collection agreement. He stated this represents less than 1% of all the debts the city has collected.

Councilmember Roby pointed out this amount is for a two-year period. She also pointed out that some of the individuals have passed away.

Vote – All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#21608. Councilmember Natvig moved the resolution be adopted approving the subordination agreement for 106 Taylor Street. Seconded by Councilmember Shihadeh. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#21609. Councilmember Fitzgerald moved the resolution be adopted accepting completed work for 312 Green Street and authorizing final payment to North Construction. Seconded by Councilmember Lange. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#21610. Councilmember Bynum moved the resolution be adopted authorizing the submission of an Intelligent Transportation Systems grant application to the Iowa Department of Transportation. Seconded by Councilmember Roby.

City Administrator Gregg Mandsager, referring to the second paragraph of the memorandum that was received from Transit Supervisor Kristy Korpi, stated the topic of dispatch, scheduling software had been discussed during the recent budget sessions. He stated that Ms. Korpi is working with MAGIC to create a program that works in conjunction with GIS technology to improve the efficiency of the transit route planning.

Vote - All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#21611. Councilmember Lange moved the resolution be adopted awarding the contract for the 2011 Street Improvements Program to Illowa Investment in the amount of \$451,409.61. Seconded by Councilmember LeRette.

Councilmember Roby stated she noticed there was a large difference between the two bids that were received and asked if both bids were correct. She asked if there was a reason why there was such a large difference.

Public Works Director Randy Hill stated these two firms bid against each other every year and the disparity is usually about the same.

Vote – All ayes; Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#21612. Councilmember Fitzgerald moved to declare items as surplus and authorize their sale. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes; motion carried.

#21613. Councilmember Roby moved to authorize the issuance of a purchase order to Weikert Contracting in the amount of \$47,627.15 for the 2011 Street Striping Contract. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.

#21614. Councilmember Natvig moved to approve the lease of a new copier for the Finance Department. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.

#21615. Councilmember Lange moved to approve Change Order #1 for the South End Fire Station Project. Seconded by Councilmember Bynum.

Councilmember Fitzgerald asked if this would be all of the value engineering changes.

City Administrator Mandsager answered no. He stated that one item being looked into is for the exhaust system. He stated the type of system that is currently being looked into will be eligible for grant funding.

Fire Chief Jerry Ewers explained the proposed exhaust system.

Councilmember Fitzgerald asked if the new system would be in place when the building is ready for use, and City Administrator Mandsager answered yes.

Councilmember Shihadeh asked if the change in the exhaust system will be Change Order #2.

City Administrator Mandsager answered yes but stated it will be a deduction.

Councilmember Roby asked if changing the thickness of the concrete will affect its longevity, and Chief Ewers answered no.

Vote – All ayes; motion carried.

Under comments, Councilmember Bynum stated that work is progressing on Hershey Avenue. He asked residents not to park on Hershey Avenue while it is under construction.

Councilmember Roby stated Memorial Day is coming up. She asked residents to visit the city's website to find out what the holiday schedule will be.

Councilmember Lange stated it looks like the automatic traffic enforcement device at Washing Street and Park Avenue is not working yet.

City Administrator Mandsager stated he was correct. He stated that as soon as it is in operation, City Council will be notified. He stated there will also be a 30-day warning period.

#21616. Councilmember Shihadeh moved to go into Closed Session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss pending litigation and property acquisition. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried.

The Muscatine City Council went into Closed Session at 7:40 p.m. Thursday, May 19, 2011, to discuss pending litigation and property acquisition. Present were Mayor Dick O'Brien and Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Also present were City Administrator Gregg Mandsager, Public Works Director Randy Hill, Finance Director Nancy Lueck, Community Development Director Steve Boka, and Solid Waste Manager Laura Liegois.

#21617. Councilmember Shihadeh moved to leave the Closed Session at 8:31 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried.

#21618. Councilmember Shihadeh moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:32 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.

Richard W. O'Brien, Mayor

ATTEST:

Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator