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City Administrator Report to Mayor & City Council

June 15, 2012, Edition No. 50

REPORT:

1. Comp Plan: Please see the attached summary prepared by Bi-State from the Mulberry Planning District Town Hall Meeting.
2. Bi-State: Please see the attached copy of the Commission in Review for May 2012.
3. CVB: Chamber CEO Bill Phelan stopped by City Hall to speak to Mayor Hopkins. Mr. Phelan shared that of the \$57,000 left in the CVB fund balance, it will be reduced significantly when the CVB bills are paid (reimbursement) to the GMCCI. In fact, it will be reduced to almost nothing as they have recently discovered that the CVB manager has been paid out of or by the GMCCI and not the CVB fund. Therefore, the CVB fund owes the GMCCI fund 21 months of wages and additional costs such as rent, etc. Mr. Phelan will present a detailed accounting next week.
4. ATE: We received a payment from GATSO today (5/14) of \$31,130. The City's revenue net of GATSO's fee is \$20,249. The updated spreadsheet is attached.
5. Transfer Station: Attached is the report for Spring Clean Up Week 2012. Please review Laura's attachment and feel free to ask any questions. Laura notes that this year's week went great with very few problems to address. This is partially due to a great joint effort of our Public Works Street Department and our Refuse Collection Department. Please note that Laura updated the total from 2011. (Not all the bills were accounted for on special items at the time of the last report.)
6. P&R Update: Please accept the following information (supplied by Rich Klimes) as an update on the Parks and Recreation Department current programs, projects and services:
 - Muscatine Municipal Golf Course - Through the end of May the golf course was roughly 2,646 rounds and roughly \$80,000.00 ahead of last year at this time. We continue to receive good comments about course conditions. The improvements to the three tee boxes has helped improve play over last year. Staff will begin the process of starting the irrigation project in the next few weeks. The challenge for the golf staff is to find a way to sustain the increased amount of play throughout the entire playing season.
 - Soccer Complex - The girls state soccer tournament went on with great results. The event is a three-day single elimination tournament with 24 teams involving three classes of competition. It is my understanding that the event attracted roughly 4000 spectators which is about 300 to 400 more than last year. The union was very pleased again with the facilities and the community interest in the event. Staff and community representatives will make a presentation next week to the union in an attempt to retain the event for the next three years. Over the next two

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

weekends the Soccer Complex will host the Muscatine Soccer Club summer tournaments which should have roughly 145 teams. There are also 2 camps and three leagues planned for this summer. The new concessionaire is generating better sales than last year.

- Boat Harbor - The boat harbor has seen an increase in usage from past years. The long dock has 42 rented slips, which is roughly 10 slips more than last year. Due to the larger than usual boats requesting slips we will need to re-configure the docks as we have less slips available for larger boats with the current structure. We have 9 slips available to rent. The houseboat dock has 16 slips rented which is roughly 1 more than last year. We have 3 slips available to rent in this area. We are in the process of working on law enforcement enforceable signage for the harbor to protect the renters from having their slips used by invasive non-paying boaters.
- Aquatic Center - The Aquatic Center is having a great start to the swimming season. We have around 9000 swimmers so far this year, which is higher than the rainy June of last year. Swimming lessons are now held exclusively at the Aquatic Center as we are no longer using the Carver Swim Center. The participation numbers are strong. The pool staff continues to practice positive public relations while enforcing pool guidelines. We have had some minor gang related issues that caused a couple of citizens to find other leisure time activities for the summer. The Police Department was very helpful and it appears the problems have gone away. The new concessionaire is generating better sales than last year.
- Mississippi Mist Riverfront Fountain - The fountain is not running due to issues with one of the pumps and internal parts. Contact is currently taking place with Carver Pump to fix the issues as soon as possible. The citizens are anxious for the fountain to be going.
- Kent Stein Park - The park is in full swing this month! Several hundred citizens can be seen using the park on a week-night basis. There have been several successful weekend baseball and softball tournaments sponsored by the Cardinal Baseball Group and the USSSA Softball Group. The maintenance of Bruner Field is now being overseen by the Kent-Stein Division and it appears the schools are happy with the arrangements. The schools will pay the City \$11,260.00 annually for this service. The dry weather has helped the playing season as no one likes a rain out! The new concessionaire is generating better sales than last year.
- Pearl City Station / Riverview Center / Park Shelters - The rental buildings are being heavily utilized this year. Annually, Pearl City Station has over 90 rentals, Riverview Center 90 rentals and park shelters over 435. We are on pace to beat all of these numbers! The Lagoon Shelter Project is being coordinated by a Leadership Muscatine Group and they reached their funding goal of \$22,000.00. The funding is as follows: Monsanto \$9,000.00, Kent Corporation \$5,000.00, Rotary Club \$2,000.00, Muscatine Community Foundation \$3,000.00 and Central State Bank \$3,000.00. The project will replace the old shelter with a new one. Staff

will be bringing the request to purchase to City Council in the near future. Another Leadership Muscatine Group is working on the Entrance Shelter Project.

- Recreation Programs - Participation in the summer recreation programs continues to be strong. Adult Volleyball Leagues have 18 teams which is about 5 teams more than last year, Tee Ball numbers are up to roughly 150 which is up from 140, Family Bike Ride doubled participation to roughly 50 riders, Blast Ball, Tot Lot and Tennis Lessons all have strong numbers and are currently open for registration.
- Mellon City Criterion - The bike race took place on Memorial Day weekend for the 34th year. The race drew 540 bikers from 25 states. Positive comments were received about the park.
- Strong Man Competition - This competition also took place Memorial Day weekend. This was the 2nd year for this event. The event drew 30 competitors from 13 different states with roughly 300 spectators enjoying the Muscatine Riverfront.
- Adopt A Park Program - There are 12 sites adopted this year as compared to 9 sites last year. Sponsoring organizations are as follows: Gary Bean Family, Al Wagner and Friends, Rosemary Peterschmidt, Dana LaRue Family and Friends, Community Bank, Muscatine Cardinals Baseball, Knights of Columbus, Disc Golf Club, and Bridgestone Bandag.
- Greenwood Cemetery - The grounds and plantings are looking wonderful this year. We re-organized the landscaping beds in the entryways off Lucas and they turned out great as we have heard many positive comments. The new mowing schedule and the new staff alignment has worked out well and has given us a more presentable facility more consistently. The agreements for Office Operations and Retail Sales are coming due and we will be bringing these to Council for approval at the next meeting. The Office Operations Agreement will stay the same in terms but will extend for an additional two years. The Retail Sales Agreement has requested a change in terms of items over \$500.00 to 21% from the previous 23% along with the two-year extension. This change will allow for a performance based pay increase for the vendor instead of a flat dollar increase.
- Thank you for your time and attention to these items. Please let me (Rich) know if you have any questions, comments or concerns.