

CITY OF MUSCATINE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Chambers – 7:00 p.m. – March 7, 2013

Mayor DeWayne Hopkins called the City Council meeting for Thursday, March 7, 2013, to order at 7 p.m. Councilmembers present were LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Phillips, and Spread.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Hopkins swore in Police Officer Jolisa Colman and Firefighters Rob Klaren and William Zamastil.

#22413. Councilmember LeRette, seconded by Councilmember Natvig, moved the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

- Approval of the February 14 & 19, 2013 Budget minutes and the February 21, 2013 City Council minutes
- Second reading on a new Class “A” Liquor License for SS Mary and Mathias Home and School Association, 3200 Lucas Street – SS Mary Mathias Home and School Association (pending inspections and insurance); second reading on a new Class “C” Liquor License and Sunday Sales for Boonies on the Avenue, 214 Iowa Avenue – Michael Kleist (pending inspections and insurance); renewal of a Class C Liquor License and Sunday Sales for The Rendezvous, 3127 Lucas Street – Cindy’s Rendezvous LLC (pending inspections); and renewal of a Class A Liquor License and Sunday Sales for American Legion Club, 110 Houser Street – Edward H. Bitzer Post No. 27 of the America (pending inspections and insurance)
- Filing of Communications 12A-E
- Approval of Bills for Approval totaling \$1,105,305.26 as well as journal entries for August through December 2012 and January 2013

Vote – All ayes; motion carried.

At this time Miss Muscatine Anna Masengard talked about the importance of music education in schools. She stated that by adopting the proclamation declaring March as “Music in Education Month”, City Council will be showing its support of Muscatine’s youth.

Mayor Hopkins then read the proclamation.

#22414. Councilmember Shihadeh moved the proclamation be adopted. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes; motion carried.

Mayor Hopkins then welcomed Boy Scout Troop #167 to the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Hopkins stated a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed adoption of the budget and certification of taxes for Fiscal Year 2013/2014.

There were no oral or written petitions for or against the proposed budget and certification of taxes for Fiscal Year 2013/2014.

#22415. Councilmember Natvig moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald.

City Administrator Gregg Mandsager gave a power point presentation of the proposed budget summary. He stated the proposed budget includes the following:

- \$48,588,107 – Operating and Capital Expenditures
- \$45,299,971 – Revenues (available fund balances will be used in 2013/2014)
- \$2,360,000 – General Obligation Bonds (including \$300,000 to be paid from TIF funds)
- \$12,539,510 – General Property Taxes (excluding TIF taxes)
- \$15.67209 – City tax rate per \$1,000 valuation

City Administrator Mandsager then gave a breakout of the budget which covered where the money comes from, how funds are used, and city tax levy rates by type. He then reviewed the city's 10-year tax rate history and its proposed property tax rate. He stated the city was able to maintain the tax rate due to 1) not funding all of General Fund employee benefits from the employee benefits levy (\$530,246) with that amount funded from the General Fund balance and 2) using \$40,000 from the Insurance Trust to fund a portion of the increased insurance costs.

City Administrator Mandsager then provided highlights of the General Fund, Enterprise Fund, and Capital Projects summary. He stated that in summary the proposed budget positions the city for future year budgets including the possible impacts that legislative changes currently being considered may have on the city's ability to continue to fund the current level of city services. He stated this improved position includes:

- A General Fund balance of 15.0% of General Fund expenditures which meets the 10% bond rating requirement and provides a balance that will assist in the event of emergencies or future year funding shortfalls.
- Allows for funding of department capital expenditures from available balances in lieu of from bond issues which results in a savings of interest costs.
- Maintains a steady tax levy rate avoiding significant year-to-year decreases or increases in the rate.

City Administrator Mandsager ended the presentation by thanking City Council and staff for helping to finalize the 2013/2014 budget.

Vote to close the public hearing – All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Hopkins stated a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed Amendment #1 to the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 city budget.

There were no oral or written petitions for or against the proposed Amendment #1.

#22416. Councilmember Shihadeh moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Spread. All ayes; motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Hopkins stated a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed concession agreement with Happy Joe's Pizza.

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

#22417. Councilmember Spread moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Phillips. All ayes; motion carried.

#22418. Councilmember Natvig moved the resolution be adopted adopting the budget and certification of taxes for the Fiscal Year 2013/2014 City Budget. Seconded by Councilmember Shihadeh. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Phillips, and Spread. Motion carried.

#22419. Councilmember Phillips moved the resolution be adopted approving Amendment #1 to the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 City Budget. Seconded by Councilmember LeRette. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Phillips, and Spread. Motion carried.

#22420. Councilmember LeRette moved to approve the concessions agreement with Happy Joe's Pizza. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes; motion carried.

#22421. Councilmember LeRette moved the resolution be adopted authorizing the quarterly assessment of unpaid abatement costs to private properties. Seconded by Councilmember Spread. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Phillips, and Spread. Motion carried.

#22422. Councilmember Spread moved the resolution be adopted requesting legislative action to address the Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System of Iowa dilemma. Seconded by Councilmember Shihadeh.

Councilmember LeRette stated he wanted to clarify that the purpose of this resolution is to ask for help in addressing this dilemma.

City Administrator Mandsager stated that two resolutions had been submitted for City Council's consideration.

Councilmember Spread read the additional verbiage in the resolution being proposed for adoption.

Vote – All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Phillips, and Spread. Motion carried.

#22423. Councilmember Phillips moved the resolution be adopted adopting the revised Articles of Agreement for the Bi-State Regional Commission. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Phillips, and Spread. Motion carried.

#22424. Councilmember Shihadeh moved the resolution be adopted setting the annual public hearing for public comment on the Muscatine Municipal Housing Agency Plan for Thursday, May 2, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Phillips, and Spread. Motion carried.

#22425. Councilmember Spread moved the resolution be adopted declaring necessity and providing for notice of hearing on the proposed Urban Revitalization Plan for Thursday, April 11, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember LeRette.

Councilmember Phillips stated that she does own property within the proposed Urban Revitalization Plan and that she would be voting in favor of tonight's action.

Vote – All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Phillips, and Spread. Motion carried.

#22426. Councilmember LeRette moved to authorize the purchase of a dump truck chassis for Public Works from Peterbilt of Council Bluffs in the amount of \$61,448. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes; motion carried.

#22427. Councilmember Phillips moved to authorize the purchase of equipment for a new truck chassis from Henderson Manufacturing in the amount of \$63,964. Seconded by Councilmember Shihadeh. All ayes; motion carried.

#22428. Councilmember Natvig moved to approve the 2013/2014 Road Rock Salt Purchase Agreement between the City of Muscatine and the City of Davenport. Seconded by Councilmember Shihadeh.

Councilmember LeRette asked how much salt would be purchased and if the cost would be split with Muscatine County.

Public Works Director Randy Hill stated two barge loads will be ordered and will be split with the county.

Vote – All ayes; motion carried.

#22429. Councilmember Spread moved to approve Change Order #1 for the Mad Creek Sanitary Sewer Extension Project. Seconded by Councilmember Phillips. All ayes; motion carried.

#22430. Councilmember LeRette moved to approve the request from the Water Pollution Control Plant to approve a Professional Services Agreement with Stanley Consultants in the amount of \$9,750 for a Phase I Feasibility Study of Design and Engineering for the Lab Expansion Project. Seconded by Councilmember Spread. All ayes; motion carried.

Under comments, Councilmember Natvig thanked staff for their input during the budget process.

Councilmember Phillips stated she enjoyed seeing the Boy Scouts at the meeting.

City Administrator Mandsager stated the first City Council meeting in July falls on the 4th. He stated there are two options available with the first holding the meeting on July 3rd and the second cancelling the meeting. He stated if the meeting is cancelled, any items requiring action could be placed on the July In-Depth meeting or a special meeting could be held. He stated staff's preference would be to cancel the meeting.

There were no objections from City Council to cancel the July 4th City Council meeting.

Mayor Hopkins welcomed the Boy Scouts and invited them back.

#22431. Councilmember LeRette moved to go into Closed Session at 7:45 p.m. to discuss litigation. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Phillips, and Spread. Motion carried.

Mayor Hopkins called the Closed Session to order at 7:50 p.m. Councilmembers present were LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Phillips, and Spread. Also present were City Administrator Gregg Mandsager, Finance Director Nancy Lueck, and Public Works Director Randy Hill.

#22432. Councilmember Shihadeh moved to leave the Closed Session at 8:10 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Phillips, and Spread. Motion carried.

#22433. Councilmember Shihadeh moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:11 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.

DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor

ATTEST:

Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator