



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL 20, 2022

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THREE SET TO JOIN MPD; THREE PUBLIC HEARINGS TO BE HELD

Cargo containers on private property; weed and vegetation ordinance hearings set

MUSCATINE, Iowa – Three new police officers will be sworn into service and the Muscatine City Council will conduct three public hearings Thursday (April 21) in the final meeting of April. The Council meeting starts at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers on the second floor of Muscatine City Hall, 215 Sycamore Street, Muscatine, Iowa.



A virtual meeting will be held in conjunction with the in-person meeting for those who want to view the proceedings or make a comment but cannot attend in person. Details for joining the virtual meeting are listed below.

Three individuals will be sworn into service with the Muscatine Police Department at the start of Thursday's meeting including Kassy Middagh, Darran Ritchie, and Samantha Wheeler. Each will be sworn in by Judge Tom Reidel.

The placement of cargo containers on private property is currently regulated under the rules for placement of pre-fabricated accessory structures (i.e., sheds). While cargo containers are



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functionally equivalent to many accessory structures used for storage purposes, they are not designed or built to be aesthetically compatible with a residential setting.

City Council directed staff to bring forward options for specific and restructure regulation of cargo container placement. The proposed regulations that are the subject of the first public hearing Thursday, would be placed in Chapter 20 of Title 10 (Zoning) of City Code. For a detailed look at the regulations click on [Proposed Code Changes](#).

The second public hearing concerns the proposed revision to the weed and vegetation management regulations with the intent to make them easier to understand and enforce. The revision would relocate and centralize weed and vegetation into a single new chapter. Current regulations are spread across multiple chapters of City Code. For a detailed look at the proposed new chapter click on [Title 16 Chapter 8](#).

Thursday's City Council meeting is open to the public. Citizens who do not want to attend the in-person meeting can watch and/or participate through the GoToMeeting virtual meeting portal. Information on joining the session and how to make a comment during the meeting is listed below. The session will also be broadcast live on the City of Muscatine [YouTube channel](#) and on Muscatine Power & Water Cable Channel 2.

Information on the presentations and other agenda items can be found by clicking [AGENDA](#) to download the April 21, 2022, City Council agenda and/or attachments.

The best way for the public to participate is to dial in to the GoToMeeting session, mute your device, watch the session on YouTube or Cable Channel 2, and, at the appropriate time, unmute your device to ask a question or make a comment. The public can also use the "chat" feature on the *GoToMeeting* virtual meeting to pose a question to the Mayor, Council, or staff member.



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Muscatine City Council Meeting | Thursday, Apr. 21, 2022 | 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CDT)

Join the meeting from your computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone by clicking the following link:
<https://www.gotomeet.me/CityofMuscatine/city-council-meeting>

You can also use your phone by dialing [+1 \(669\) 224-3412](tel:+16692243412), follow the prompts, and type in Access Code 970-499-597 when prompted.

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/970499597>

Please mute your computer or phone while listening to the proceedings (press *6 when using phone or mute button on computer). A chat window is available when you use your computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Those wishing to speak or to ask a question are asked to use the chat box to post a message that will be seen by the Mayor who will address the questions or call on the speaker in turn. Those using their phones must wait until the Mayor asks for additional comments. The Mayor will recognize you prior to you addressing the Council.

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