



# PRESS RELEASE

215 SYCAMORE STREET  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DECEMBER 20, 2023

## NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS TO BE SWORN IN THURSDAY

Final meeting of 2023 as two council members end their terms; two more begin term

**MUSCATINE, Iowa** – Two councilmembers will be attending their final meeting as a member of the Muscatine City Council while two recently elected citizens will be sworn in to begin their terms during the final City Council meeting of 2023 Thursday (Dec. 21).

The Council meeting begins at 6 p.m. and the public is welcomed, and encouraged, to attend the session in person.

DeWayne Hopkins is completing his four-year term as an at-large member of the Muscatine City Council, and will once again be a private citizen after deciding not to seek reelection. Hopkins had previously served as the Mayor of Muscatine from 2013-2014.

Dennis Froelich is also completing his four-year term as the City Council representative from Muscatine's First Ward. He also chose not to seek reelection.



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The public is invited to attend a reception from 5-6 p.m. Thursday (prior to the Council meeting) and thank these individuals for their service to the citizens of Muscatine.

Don Lampe and Matt Conard were both elected to the Muscatine City Council during last November's City Election. Both will be sworn in by Mayor Brad Bark and will begin their four-year terms at 12:00 a.m. on Monday, January 1, 2024. Bark won reelection as the Muscatine Mayor and will be sworn in by Magistrate John Wunder. Bark will then swear in the two new council members along with councilmembers John Jindrich and Peggy Gordon who won reelection last November.

The swearing in ceremony is held on the final meeting of the calendar year since the new council will not officially meet until January 4, 2024, and the term of the present council expires at 11:59 p.m. on December 31, 2023. The early swearing in ceremony allows for the continuity of city business, should the council need to meet prior to the first official meeting of the new year.

Among the items on the City Council agenda for Thursday is the third and final reading of an amended ordinance regarding animal regulations. The Council will also be asked to set a public hearing for January 4, 2024, on the recently completed Wayfinding Master Plan, and approve a contract with McClure Engineering to design a sidewalk on Devitt Avenue.

Information on the other agenda items can be found by clicking [AGENDA](#) to download a PDF version of the City Council agenda and/or attachments.

Several options are available for those who cannot attend in person but would like to watch the proceedings. The City Council meeting will be broadcast live on the City of Muscatine [YouTube channel](#) and on Civic-TV (Muscatine Power & Water Cable Channel 2). A virtual option is also available for those who want to watch the proceedings on their desktop, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Information on joining the virtual session is listed below.



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**Muscatine City Council Meeting | Thursday, Dec. 21, 2023**  
**6:00 PM – 8:00 PM (CDT)**

Join the virtual Zoom meeting from your computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone by clicking the following link: [Muscatine City Council Meeting.](#)

Meeting ID: 825 5169 1259

Passcode: 927879

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