

AD HOC PERMITTING PROCESS REVIEW COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 1, 2018
LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM CITY HALL – 12:00 P.M.
MINUTES

This meeting was called to order by Councilmember Brackett at 12:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 1, 2018.

Those present included: Councilmembers Brackett, Brockert, Saucedo and Muscatine Chamber of Commerce President Greg Jenkins, also in attendance was former Community Development Director Steve Boka.

There was discussion regarding the letter received from Muscatine County and speculation into why they no longer wished to use our inspectors for services.

Councilmember Saucedo stated that the purpose of this committee was to ensure the citizens of the City of Muscatine were getting good customer service in regards to inspections and the permit process and the County Issue should not be pursued any further. He stated we should ask the questions are we making the process too difficult and are we requiring more than other towns require.

Mr. Boka explained the permit fee process and how the fees are calculated. He stated that Muscatine is on the low end for these rates. He stated that the fees have not changed since 2005. Mr. Boka also stated that contractors have always liked Muscatine because they can get all the permits in one spot as opposed to other towns where they have to go to multiple locations. He stated he does not feel the process has caused contractors and developers to leave Muscatine, but rather they go where the work is and right now is a slow development time here.

There was discussion in contacting the citizens that had filed complaints to gain more insight into what the actual complaints were and why they feel it is specific to Muscatine.

Councilmember Brackett stated he would like to request as a committee to have access to QA Gov to be able to access inspection data and fees for evaluation.

There was discussion on educating local developers and contractors on why each permit is required and not giving the answer “because it is in the code”.

Information to be discussed at next meeting included a list of Data Information from QA Gov and Individual feedback from the complaints received.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Diana Broderson, Mayor

Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator