

City of Muscatine
In-Depth City Council Minutes
7:00 p.m. – May 14, 2020

This meeting was held electronically due to meeting regulations regarding the spread of COVID-19.

Mayor Broderson called the City Council In-Depth meeting for Thursday, May 14, 2020, to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmembers present were: Hopkins, Froelich, Malcolm, Gordon, Brockert, and Brackett. Councilmember Jindrich was not present.

Mayor Broderson stated the first item on the agenda would be an overview of Major Revenue Sources Impacted by COVID-19.

Finance Director, Nancy Lueck stated the Major Revenue Sources impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic include Road Use Tax, Local Option Sales Tax and Hotel Motel Tax. Ms. Lueck provided a spreadsheet showing the preliminary impact estimates in each of these areas for the current year as well as next year. Ms. Lueck shared proposed changes in projects that could help offset lost revenue.

Ms. Lueck then shared information regarding the General Fund Revenues that have been impacted by COVID-19 to include: Permit fees, parking fees, facility rental fees, concession fees as well as others.

Ms. Lueck shared that the City has received several grants related to the COVID-19 and could possibly receive more. She stated that additional funding would have an impact on the ability for certain City projects to be completed.

There was discussion among City Council members regarding options to reduce spending to help offset the loss of revenue due to COVID-19.

Community Development Director Jodi-Royal Goodwin presented an update on the Economic Assistance for Muscatine Small Business program” for those businesses impacted by COVID-19. She stated that 89 applications had been received with 75 of those being approved. Ms. Royal-Goodwin stated that if approved by City Council the contracts would be sent out to the businesses and payments could be sent out as early as next week.

Councilmember Gordon moved to approve a Resolution approving the applicants and amounts to be distributed for the Economic Assistance Small Business Loans Program. Seconded by Councilmember Brackett.
Vote: Ayes 6, Nays 0, Motion carried.

Interim City Administrator, Greg Jenkins, stated the agenda item regarding Sidewalk Café Ordinance, needs to be brought back as an approval of a moratorium on next weeks agenda.

Assistant Community Development Director Andrew Fangman stated that this would need to be done by Resolution and local businesses would need to be notified. Mr. Fangman stated the City would like to see this be available City wide throughout the Pandemic to allow for businesses to be able to use City Property to help with social distancing.

Mayor Broderson stated she would like have someone contact Public Health to make sure this would comply with their recommendations.

There was discussion among City Council regarding safety issues with construction site on 2nd Street and suggestions to make the sidewalk area safer for residents using the sidewalks to access local businesses, including traffic cones over protruding object and more lighting. City Council also requested more signs showing access to the local businesses.

Public Works Director Brian Stineman stated that as a construction site the contractor is responsible for any accidents that happen and the City would not be responsible for accidents on the site.

Mayor Broderson stated she had received calls regarding the construction being done on 8th Street that were addressed by PW Director Brian Stineman, as well as speeding vehicles in the detour area that were addressed by Police Chief Talkington.

Mayor Broderson stated with the Governor lifting restrictions that citizens continue social distancing and wearing masks when around other people.

Councilmember Gordon motioned for meeting to be adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Diana Broderson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Greg Jenkins, Interim City Administrator