

City of Muscatine
In-Depth City Council Minutes
7:00 p.m. – January 14, 2021

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, January 14, 2021, to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmembers present were: Froelich, Malcolm, Gordon, Brockert, Jindrich, Brackett and Hopkins.

Kelsie Stafford, Parks and Recreation Program Supervisor gave a presentation on how the department has managed to change their programs to be able to keep the public active and involved in the community. Ms. Stafford stated some of the popular programs implemented in 2020 included Muscatine Mystery Mail, Virtual Fishing Derby, Treasure on the Trails and Trunk or Treat under the lights. Ms. Stafford also stated that she had developed a Virtual Recreation Resource Center to give citizens new ideas and to help them stay active under the COVID restrictions. Ms. Stafford stated that Muscatine had received National Recognition due to the programs created by the Muscatine Parks and Recreation Staff.

Kate Schoemaker, Sr. Account Executive, Global Expansion was present to give a brief demonstration regarding bringing bird scooters to Muscatine. Ms. Schoemaker shared stories from other cities regarding the use of the scooters and encouraged Muscatine to consider them as well. There were questions and discussion regarding the changes that would need to be made within the City Code in order to comply with regulations. Other concerns raised by City Councilmembers included permits, rule enforcement, rider training and city liability.

Staff concluded with the decision to have further discussion with staff before making a decision on moving forward with this proposal.

Stephanie Romagnoli, Human Resources Director, was present to give an overview of the City's current Insurance Program. Ms. Romagnoli stated the action plan was to go out to the market and see what other potential options were available and then bring the recommendation back to City Council at a later date for approval.

Councilmember Gordon, stated that she would like to see a committee formed to review and renew pet policies and licensing prior to having a public meeting regarding the ban on pit bull dogs.

Mayor Broderson stated there would need to be a consensus from City Council to create a sub-committee and a consensus was given.

Staff and Council stated the following members should be on said committee: Assistant Police Chief Snyder, Animal Control Officer Ashby, Chris McGinnis from the Humane Society, members of the community and a City Council Member. Mayor Broderson asked that Councilmember Gordon head up this committee.

Mayor Broderson asked Council if the budget meeting on Jan 28th could be moved to 4:30 to accommodate a conflict and all councilmembers agreed.

Councilmember Gordon motioned for meeting to be adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Diana Broderson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carol Webb, City Administrator