

Minutes of the 10-6-14 Hampton City Council Workshop

The Hampton City Council held a workshop at 6:00 pm in city council chambers. Members present; Freie, Hickman, Harms, Pralle, Davies and Lukensmeyer. Also present were City Manager Ron Dunt and PWD Doug Tarr. Mayor Boehmler called the meeting to order.

Pledge of allegiance was cited. Public Comment; none.

Bill Grabe, CGA, updated the council on the 2015 Airport Improvement Project which includes the rehabilitation of the orange hangar. He indicated the city received the go letter from the FAA. He then presented information regarding the Airport CIP which needs to be submitted to the FAA by November 7th. After much discussion the council asked Bill to present a couple of CIP options for review at the October 20th council workshop. Ron will complete some research on easement needs and project priorities.

Karen Mitchell, FCDA Director requested the council consider approving a resolution to participate in the Home Base Iowa Initiative which welcomes returning veterans to our community and offers local support. The consensus was to place the resolution on the October 9th council agenda for consideration.

Ron and Karen Mitchell then explained that the city should consider approving an ordinance allowing property tax exemption status for the Spec 4 building. Ron will have a draft ordinance prepared for council consideration at a future meeting.

Ron provided some information on electronic devices to be used by elected officials and staff during council meetings as an effort to reduce the amount of paper utilized for council packets. Ron will continue to research and he encouraged the council and mayor to provide input as well during the process.

Ron explained that upon receiving a letter from a candidate for elected office regarding our 30 day time limit on political signs, he did some research and contacted the Iowa League of Cities. The League attorney recommends that we amend our ordinance and remove time limitations due to an attorney general's opinion that the limitations present a freedom of speech issue. Ron will draft an amendment for council consideration at a future meeting.

Ron sought further council input on planning for the replacement of the 3 streets surrounding Band Shell Park. This project planning was identified as a priority by the council during its goal setting session in April 2014. Ron will invite Jeff Geerts, IEDA to attend a council workshop to discuss some options from a Main Street Iowa perspective.

With no further items for discussion, the meeting concluded at 7:13p.m.