

Minutes of the 11-10-14 Hampton City Council Workshop

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

Pledge of allegiance was cited. Public Comment; Sandee Brouwer, 621 7th Ave NE requested the council consider allowing bow hunting of deer in Hampton due to the large number of deer being a nuisance to property owners. The council will have staff look into the matter further.

Ron then reviewed a draft ordinance which would remove the time limitations for placing political signs on private property. The amendment would retain the requirement to have the signs removed within 3 days after the election. Ron will have a draft ordinance for council consideration at the November 13, 2014 meeting.

Chief Schaefer showed photos of a 2011 used Crown Victoria he is proposing the city purchase as was approved for the current budget. The consensus of the council was to place the matter on the November 13th agenda for approval.

Council member Dyanne Pralle suggested a change in the Image of Pride Award nomination process. The committee currently assigned with handling nominations proposes that each city council member be assigned a month whereby they would take nominations from the public and provide nominations for each of their respective Wards/At Large areas. The consensus of the council was favorable. No action necessary. Dick Lukensmeyer volunteered to be assigned the May 2015 nominations.

Ron reviewed the 2014 Tax Increment Financing Annual Report with the council. The consensus of the council was to place the report on the November 13th agenda for approval.

Brian Borcharding, IT consultant for the City, presented some information for the council to consider related to utilizing electronic devices for future council meetings. Jim Davies suggested the council utilize Google Docs as a document host for packet information. Brian will research more about a transition and report back to Ron.

Mayor Boehmler then encouraged the council to discuss the 2014 Council Goal Setting priorities. After much discussion, the consensus of the council was that the city can enforce stronger penalties for repeat offenders using the current code so no further action is needed; Band Shell Park street reconstruction remains a priority with further planning discussions to take place in December and during the budget process; alternative revenue source options remain under consideration and staff will investigate some further details of a franchise fee. Although franchise fees would enable the city to make infrastructure improvements such as streets reconstruction, the council discussions focused on the need to be cognizant of how any new fees would impact citizens and business owners. Ron also provided the council with updated data on statewide property tax comparisons.

Dick requested Ron check with the City of Perry on their progress of becoming more energy efficient through the use of solar and wind technologies.

Mayor Boehmler proposed the council consider doing a “mobile” council meeting in the spring of 2015 to tour the city for an infrastructure review.

With no further items for discussion, the meeting concluded at 7:49p.m.