

Minutes of the 8-25-14 Hampton City Council Workshop

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

Pledge of allegiance was cited. Public Comment; none.

Ron reviewed information relating to potential street reconstruction for 3 blocks surrounding Band Shell Park. This project planning was identified as a priority by the council during its goal setting session in April 2014. Some preliminary budget numbers for the council to consider were as follows: Asphalt replacement at 7" deep \$450,000., Concrete replacement at 6" deep \$530,000. and street paver replacement at \$1,130,000.00. Ron also reviewed funding options for the reconstruction which included GO Bond paid back by a debt service property tax levy, TIF Bond paid back by TIF Revenues or a GO/Special Assessment paid back by a combination of debt service levy and special assessment to benefited property owners. The council discussed potential design features that may include some paver components. Doug suggested the council consider some maintenance related issues related to paver construction and encouraged them to visit with other communities regarding maintenance of pavers. Other discussion focused on looking into the possibility of greater grant eligibility by combining the street reconstruction with the library wall project, contacting some other cities which have paver components to their streets and consulting with Main Street Hampton for input.

Ron sought further council input regarding the upcoming Sponsored Project and identifying improvements such as stream bank stabilization along Squaw Creek running through the cemetery and East Park, Spring Creek in Harriman Park and Memorial Park surface water swale improvements, Hwy 3 flooding, school properties, Beed's Lake silt dam renovation etc. After much discussion the consensus was to narrow down the options to projects on Squaw Creek through the cemetery and East Park and if there are any remaining available funds the Hwy 3 related storm water projects could be considered for funding. This would by default eliminate other projects such as school and Beed's Lake projects. Further discussion will take place at the September 8th workshop. Final decision should be made by October 1st.

Jim Davies brought forth a citizen suggestion of future planning for a road on the east side of Hampton that would connect Hwy 3 with 12th Avenue NE. The consensus was that this could be considered in the future in partnership with Franklin County since it may be located on the border of Hampton City limits. Given the substantial cost of such a road, the consensus was focus on maintenance and replacement of our current streets.

The council continued their discussion of alternative revenue sources such as franchise fees and a storm water utility. Mayor Boehmler reminded the council that the reason this topic was deemed a priority by the city council at the April 2014 Goal Setting session was due to the State Legislature passing commercial property tax reform and creating a new 'multi-residential' property class that will have an unknown negative impact of future city revenues. The legislation necessitates researching all alternative revenue possibilities to provide funding for maintaining public services. Council discussed numerous considerations surrounding franchise fees and storm water utilities.

Ron then indicated that after staff consulted with the city attorney they recommend no change to code Chapter 50. Chapter 50 currently specifies incremental increased penalties for second, third, fourth and subsequent nuisance offenses. The council consensus was to continue with current code language and re-assess in the future if necessary.

Jim gave an update on library grant ideas and indicated he was attempting to contact Renaissance Renovations of Galena, Ill for a project assessment. He also was looking into potential grants for the library curved wall project and hopes to partner with Hampton Library Board of Trustees and Foundation members in grant and fundraising efforts. He plans to have an application ready to submit to the state for a historic preservation grant similar to the one received for the G.A.R. Memorial Hall.

Jim presented the city with a plaque designating the G.A.R. Civil War Memorial Hall renovation project as a recipient of Honorable Mention Award from Preservation Iowa Summit he attended recently in Cedar Rapids.

With no further items for discussion, the meeting concluded at 7:17 p.m.