

MAYER CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES 6 OCTOBER 11, 2010

Workshop called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Chris Capaul

PRESENT: Mayor Capaul, Council Members Taylor, Stieve-McPadden and Osborn

ABSENT: Council Member Oman

STAFF: Administrator Murphy and Clerk Maetzold

ALSO PRESENT: Don Wachholz, Jim McPadden, Rod Maetzold, Nikki Larson and Ivan Raconteur

1. **Discussion on Fire Dept Conferences and Trainings:** Council Member Osborn had wanted this topic to be part of a workshop. Fire Chief Maetzold reported that there are two conferences a year; the Minnesota State Fire Department Association (June) and the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association (Oct). He is the only one that attends the June conference, and for the last couple years, he and 1 ó 3 officers have attended the October conference. The October conference provides essential officer training. Conferences are held during the week and require each firefighter to take vacation to attend. Each State School holds trainings once a year. Members can sign up to attend, and since many schools are a distance, require a hotel room and mileage. The current members have not attended these state schools in the past few years. The Council would like to have expenses itemized per conference and training to get a feel for how much they cost to attend. This will be an ongoing budget discussion.
2. **Fire Department Pay:** The Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act of 2007 and its Exclusion for Firefighters and Emergency Responders was discussed. Several firefighters have asked why the City has not exercised this exclusion. After some discussion, the matter was tabled to the next meeting.
3. **Sheriff's Candidates** – Since both candidates cannot attend at the same time, it was decided to allow them to attend a meeting of their choice and address the Council for three minutes each at the Public Comment period.
4. **Dog Licenses** – Administrator Murphy reported that she has found out the Cities do not have to license dogs. The purpose of licensing is to collect information. Further discussion included not charging for the license but requiring them to collect the info. The matter was tabled.
5. **Fee for Rental of Community Center** – There has been an inquiry about renting the Community Center for a funeral. After some discussion, it was decided that the fee schedule would apply.
6. **Change in Legal Newspaper** – Administrator Murphy wanted the Council to think about whether the City should make a change in our Official Newspaper. The Council will set this appointment at the first meeting in January.
7. **Administrator Pay for Property Tax Working Group** – Administrator Murphy has signed up to be a member of the State Property Tax Working Group Committee. She asked the Council for guidance as to whether she should take vacation or be on the City payroll for the 4 hour per month commitment. She will not turn in mileage. The Council discussed and decided that since it will directly affect the City, Murphy will continue to be paid by the City for the time on the committee.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the work session ended at 7:30 p.m.

Chris Capaul, Mayor

Attest: _____
Lois A. Maetzold, City Clerk