

## CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 22, 2020

Call Work Session to order at 6:48 p.m. by Mayor Dodge.

PRESENT: Mayor Dodge, Council Members Boder, Butterfield, McNeilly, and Stieve-McPadden.

ABSENT:

STAFF: City Administrator McCallum, Fire Chief Andy Maetzold, Fire Chief II Rod Maetzold, Public Works Kuntz, and Deputy Clerk Gildemeister

ALSO PRESENT: Ivan Raconteur, Don Wachholz

- 1. Discussion on Fire Department Tanker:** At the April 27, 2020 Council Workshop Meeting, Fire Chief Any Maetzold gave an update on the Fire Department's 1989 International Tanker and proposed replacing the old tanker with a new one. At that meeting, Council directed Staff to set up a meeting with the townships and directed Fire Chief Maetzold to research how often the City tankers are used along with (township) cost sharing numbers for the purchase of a new tanker. Since then, a meeting with the townships was held. Fire Chief Any Maetzold stated that the repairs to the old tanker are more substantial than expected and felt it is not feasible to repair. Council Member Boder asked what the cost to repair the 1989 tanker is and Fire Chief Andy Maetzold said the repair company would not give a quote. Council Member Stieve-McPadden asked if the 1989 tanker goes out on calls. Fire Chief stated that it only goes out on rural calls not City calls. City Administrator McCallum reviewed financials on how the City would pay for a new tanker truck. The current updated quote for a new tanker is \$263,479.00. She recommended pulling 150,000 from Fire Department Capital funds and levying 85,000. Council questioned why the City must pay the majority of costs for new tanker when it used for the townships. Mayor Dodge voiced his concern on how the Fire Department is handling contracts. He asked Council if they are comfortable with paying for the tanker with multiple assets. Council continued discussion of the financials and budget and agreed they would like to see interest rates and detailed figures. Council Member Boder directed Fire Chief to provide inspection reports and documentation to back the numbers for future discussion.
- 2. Fire Station Update:** City Administrator McCallum provided Council with a new quote from Brunton Architects, for the proposed Fire Station. She stated the quote is significantly higher than proposed and asked Council for guidance. Up until these new numbers came in, the projected amount for the project was approximately \$3,068,060.00. The new quote is \$4,026,523.00. Council addressed the issue as to why this is the first time they are hearing about the new numbers and asked Fire Chief Any Maetzold if he communicated these changes to the City Administrator. City Administrator McCallum was visibly upset that she was not told and stated there needs to be better communication from the Fire Station Committee. Fire Chief Andy Maetzold addressed the changes and explained what the additional costs are for. Council questioned why these changes were not brought before them earlier. Mayor Dodge voiced his disappointment and stated that the whole process is very wrong. He stated that "it doesn't seem right how they are doing it". Council discussed at length how the City will finance this project. City Administrator McCallum said she needs more time update the numbers and re-evaluate the debt assessment. Council Member Boder voiced that he is frustrated as a taxpayer that this project is now "four million dollars" and residents do not even know about it. Council Member Stieve-McPadden voiced that Brunton Architects should have known these changes would be costly and questioned why they did not address them with Council during previous meetings. She stated that "the extra million is a deal-breaker". She also stated that there needs to be experts

in this type of project on the Fire Station Committee and not hand-picked members. Council Member McNeilly asked Fire Chief Any Maetzold is he was shocked when he saw the new quote. Mayor Dodge stated that the “Open House” to take place tomorrow, Tuesday, June 23, 2020, should be cancelled because of the new information presented tonight. He stated he has been giving residents the information based on the previous quote of \$3,068,060.00. Fire Chief Andy Maetzold informed Council that the new information has been updated on the Fire Department website and is being communicated to the residents. Mayor Dodge voiced that Council has not agreed to the new costs. Mayor Dodge restated that this is very wrong and stated for the record he disagrees with having the open house. Council Member Butterfield, Council Member McNeilly, and City Administrator McCallum shared that they would like to see the “Open House” happen to educate residents and get the information out there. Council Member McNeilly stressed that the information needs to show the whole picture and the Fire Chiefs should be prepared to answer questions. Mayor Dodge stressed to the Fire Station Committee Members that the open houses are to educate the public on the conditions of the existing Fire Station and Proposed Fire Station, not to inform residents that the City is going to build a new station. Council agreed they would like to see new financials to better understand what the residential impact will be.

After further back and forth discussion, Council decided to continue to move forward with the “Open House” with the understanding that City Administrator McCallum is the project manager.

3. **Discussion on Water Towner Renderings:** Public Works Kuntz presented Council with color scheme renderings for the Water Tower Project. He recommended and shared a rendering with the top portion white, bottom portion of the bowl dark grey, and the stem a lighter grey. Council stated they really like the color scheme and look forward to seeing the actual renderings. Public Works Kuntz asked Council’s opinion on whether to have two logos painted on the tower or three. Council was indifferent and stated they would like to see “MAYER” in a larger type. He stated that Bolton & Menk will be providing detailed renderings at a future meeting. Council was pleased with the new look for the water tower.
4. **Discussion on Rental Ordinance** – City Administrator presented a Housing Ordinance for Rental Property to Council. The City of Mayer currently does not have a rental license. Staff and Council recognize the need to adopt an ordinance. Council discussed how to educate the property owners, license fees, and who would have to enforce the ordinance. Council agreed that a rental license ordinance would benefit the City and help maintain property values. Council directed Staff to acquire a list of rentals in the City and reach out to surrounding communities on how they manage rentals. Council would like to have a rental ordinance and license ready by January 1, 2021.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the work session was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

---

Mike Dodge, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Janell Gildemeister, Deputy Clerk MCMC