

MAYER SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – JULY 27, 2020

Call Work Session to order at 7:43 p.m. by Mayor Dodge.

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

ABSENT:

STAFF: City Administrator McCallum, City Engineer Martini, and Deputy Clerk Gildemeister

FIRE STATION COMMITTEE: Fire Chief Andy Maetzold, Fire Chief II Rod Maetzold, Gerry Thomas,

ALSO PRESENT: Corey Brunton, Tom McCome

- 1. Discussion on Fire Station Project:** City Administrator opened discussion by informing Council that the Fire Station Committee met last week for the purpose of discussing how to reduce costs on the proposed Fire Station. She presented the list of alternate items that the Fire Station Committee recommended could be removed from project to cut costs. Council Member Boder, directing his questions to Fire Chiefs Rod and Andy Maetzold, asked how the Fire Station Concept began and when did the planning of the station start. Fire Chief Rod Maetzold stated that back in 2012 the Fire Department applied for a grant which was supposed to cover the fire station architectural costs, but the Fire Department was not awarded the grant. Corey Brunton, Brunton Architects, interjected by stating his firm applied for an Agstar Grant which covered all costs of the feasibility study. Tom McCome, Brunton Architects, addressed Council and reviewed the elements in their presentation materials and recommended options to reduce the financial cost. Corey Brunton answered Council questions and reassured Council that he anticipates the cost of the project to come in under the four million estimates once bids are received. After a lengthy discussion, Mayor Dodge asked Corey Brunton to provide his original document with changes red-lined. He stated that it is too hard to follow all the cost changes and the inconsistent figures are confusing. Council Member McNeilly reassured Corey Brunton that Council is willing to get to a certain point having invested a lot of money so far. She stated that she is not o.k. with the four million dollar proposal. Council asked Corey Brunton to explain each phase of the project and what the City has paid for. Corey Brunton stated his fees include design development and construction drawings. Council asked Corey Brunton to review the project schedule; in turn he stated that a decision from Council needs to be made promptly for his firm to move forward. He stressed the urgency to get going on the bidding process in order to receive the best bids to start construction in the spring of 2021. With continued back and forth discussion, Council agreed that the cost for the proposed fire station is too high. Council stated they are not comfortable with how close this project will bring the City to its debt maximum. Mayor Dodge asked, “how come we can’t build a good building that meets our needs at the price of two to two and a half million.” Council restated they are all in agreement the Fire Department needs a new station but still need to come to agreement on how much to spend. Council informed the audience that they need to see the budget with the street projects, tower rehabilitation, water treatment improvement projects, and pond maintenance project numbers and directed City Administrator to bring budget numbers back for discussion at the next Council Meeting. Corey Brunton stated that he will work on eliminating approximately 1700 sf from the original plans and bring new architectural plans to the next Council Meeting.

2. **Discussion on CARES Act Funds:** City Administrator McCallum informed Council that the City received \$172,906.00 in funding as part of an economic relief package. On March 27, 2020, United States Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. City Administrator asked Council for direction on where to spend the funds. Council recommended Staff create a list of items needed for each Department and investigate upgrading technology. Council suggested setting funds aside for City employees in case a second wave of coronavirus hits. City Administrator proposed working with Carver County CDA to set up a small business fund. She stated that some of the funds can be set aside to help the local small businesses through the pandemic environment. Council liked the City Administrators proposal and asked her to pursue this option and bring back details to a future Council Meeting. Mayor Dodge asked City Administrator to find out if the City can get the funds back from Carver County if they are not used.
3. **Discussion on Streets Project Plan:** Tabled

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the work session was adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Mike Dodge, Mayor

Attest: _____
Janell Gildemeister, Deputy Clerk MCMC