

MAYER CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES 6 MAY 23, 2011

Work Session called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Mayor Chris Capaul

PRESENT: Mayor Capaul, Council Members, Stieve-McPadden, Osborn, Boder and Lueth.

ABSENT:

STAFF: Administrator Murphy, Public Works Jeff Frost and Clerk Maetzold

ALSO PRESENT: Don Wachholz, Nikki Larson, John Douville, Rod Maetzold and Ivan Raconteur

- 1. Wireless Option City of Cologne:** John Douville, City Administrator for the City of Cologne appeared before the Council to discuss providing wireless internet service to the City of Mayer. The City of Cologne has had poor service in the past. They felt they could save their residents money so has decided to start an internet service enterprise fund. They are looking to expand and have already spoken with and signed on the cities of Norwood Young America, Hamburg and New Germany. Their service is internet high speed broadband, 3 megabytes and will be offered at \$24.95 per month. A small antenna mounted to the roof is needed to bring in the service. The City would need to provide space on their tower to house 3 -5 small antennas for the service. The City of Cologne is taking all the risk and there would be no additional risk to the City. We would be giving our residents another option for internet service. There was discussion about the County's new fiber optic line. It would not be available until fall of 2012 at the earliest, and was felt that the more options the better for competition. The Council was asked to review the documents and will revisit again at the next Council meeting. They were also asked to speak to residents between now and then to get a feel for their reactions to this proposal.
- 2. Liquor Ordinance:** The Council reviewed the City Attorney's changes to the Ordinance. Administrator Murphy will look into options for violations and will bring back the revised draft to the next meeting.
- 3. Training Dogs in the City Park:** It has been reported and observed that residents are training their dogs off leash in City parks. Our ordinance does not allow for this and it is unwise to allow the training to continue even though the animals may be under control. The Council discussed options and decided not to change things at this time. No dog will be allowed off leash in City parks.
- 4. Speed Limits within the City:** There has been an inquiry from a resident about speed limits within the City. Administrator Murphy has the Council review MN Statutes 19.14 which establishes statutory speed limits on most typical roadways under ideal conditions. 30 mph on streets is the normal with the City of Mayer. Even though it was felt too fast, there is not much the City can do to change it. It was brought up to discuss stop signs at a future work session and to develop a stop sign policy.
- 5. Goal Setting** –The Council was asked to compile goals for this work session. They are as follows:

- **Boder** – Council Member Boder feels that the critical issues in Mayer are the loss of business base and residents, our City's high taxes and high debt. He would like to see more comprehensive planning in all departments and that more information should come up from the advisory boards.
- **Osborn** – Council Member Osborn would like to review essential services on an ongoing basis. He would like to see the City form a Finance Committee. He thinks that we need to develop criteria that triggers the next big purchase and develop a growth plan. The City should review the Personnel Policy to discuss Paid Time Off versus vacation/sick time and think about including a CDL Policy. Also, would like the City to adopt a Tree Preservation plan. The City should be reviewing the Sheriff's Policing plan.
- **Stieve-McPadden** – Council Member Stieve-McPadden's greatest concern is the loss of LGA – what will the City do? She knows the City must get businesses into our city to increase the tax base. She would like to see the Parks finished.
- **Lueth** – Council Member Lueth agrees with many of the goals already given. He would also like to see a regular review of services, including vendors used – such as City Engineer and City Attorney as well as the Sheriff's Department Contract.

6. **Organizational Chart** – Administrator Murphy reviewed the Organization Chart with the Council.

7. **Other Issues:**

- Council Member Lueth asked Administrator Murphy to look into No-fault insurance as related to sewer backups.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the work session ended at 8:35 p.m.

Chris Capaul, Mayor

Attest: _____
Lois A. Maetzold, City Clerk