

MAYER CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES – JANUARY 23, 2017

Call Work Session to order at 7:11 p.m. by Mayor Dodge with 2 additions to the agenda.

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

ABSENT: Boder

STAFF: City Administrator Ruch-Hammond, Public Works Kyle Kuntz, Greg Kløver of Kløver Consulting, and Deputy Clerk Gildemeister

ALSO PRESENT: Don Wachholz

1. **Discussion on Solar for WWTF:** Michael Allen and Michael Thalhimer of All Energy Solar gave a presentation to the Council. All Energy Solar designs and builds in house, solar energy systems specialized for each individual customer. The City of Mayer is looking to the future and is considering options for renewable energy and its cost savings to the City. One option is to install solar panels at the Waste Water Treatment Facility. All Energy Solars' initial assessment of the Waste Water Treatment Facility found the site to be a viable location for solar panels. As part of the assessment a soil test would need to be conducted at the site. Mr. Allen and Mr. Thalhimer requested authorization to have RBI pull a soil test at no cost to the City. After further discussion, the Council approved authorization to test the soil at the WWTF. Council asked Staff to contact All Energy Solar for continued discussions at a future Work Session.
2. **Discussion on Drainage for 1109 Apple Circle:** Andrew Keppel of 1109 Apple Circle addressed the Council with drainage concerns on his property. Mr. Keppel is experiencing significant standing water and drainage problems, which is affecting the use of his back yard. He would like to solve the problem by installing an underground drain tile that would run from his property westerly between neighboring lot owners to an existing storm water storage pond. Mr. Keppel was not able to get the full agreement from his neighbors and is requesting the City's help to attain access to the City's storm water storage pond. Public Works will meet with property owner to assist in a solution.

The Council expressed their willingness to help where they can, however, stated that it would be at the homeowners expense. Council requested that the homeowner put together a plan for City review and asked Staff to acquire quotes from several contractors.

3. **Discussion on Public Works Position:** Public Works presented a list of duties the new Public Works employee would be responsible for and discussed with Council the benefits of adding a new employee. Public Works stated that the new employee would be in charge of the City parks, allowing him time to address tasks placed on hold. After much discussion, Council requested Staff to present a job description to them for approval in order to move forward.
4. **Discussion on Moving of Old Public Works Building:** Council reviewed various costs to relocate the old Public Works building with Staff. Council instructed Staff to request a bid for demolition and to continue discussion at a future work session.

5. **Voting on Boards:** Council discussed whether a Council Member who is also a Committee Member should be able to vote at a committee meeting. Council agreed that if Council Member is a Committee Member, than they should be a voting member. Mayor Dodge would like to ask the Committee Members for their input before making a decision.
6. **Discussion on Meeting Motions:** Mayor Dodge discussed with Council and Staff the use of Roberts Rules of Order for Council Meetings. Currently, Council follows Roberts Rules at times. In order to conduct a more effective meeting Mayor Dodge would like to follow Roberts Rules more closely. The Mayor pointed out that when there is a motion there should be a second before discussion. He asked for Councils cooperation on motions.
7. **Discussion on Town Cop Quarterly Updates:** The Council discussed the possibility of addressing questions directly to the town cop and agreed that an in person report would be beneficial to staying on top of the activities in Mayer and the surrounding area. Council asked Staff to speak with the town cop about giving a quarterly update to the Council.
8. **Discussion on Snowmobile Email:** A local business person sent an email to MNDOT about his displeasure of snow removal on a sidewalk. Some confusion about who he was representing in the email, the City or the snowmobile club. The conclusion was that he sent the email on behalf of the snowmobile club not the City.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the work session was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Mike Dodge, Mayor

Attest: _____
Janell Gildemeister, Deputy City Clerk