

MAYER CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES – FEBRUARY 27, 2017

Call Work Session to order at 7:39 p.m. by Mayor Dodge.

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

ABSENT: None

STAFF: City Administrator Ruch-Hammond, City Engineer Dave Martini, Greg Kluver of Kluver Consultants, Public Works Kyle Kuntz, and Deputy City Clerk Gildemeister

ALSO PRESENT: Don Wachholz and Ivan Raconteur

- 1. **Discussion with Carver County:** Carver County Commissioner Tim Lynch, County Administrator Dave Hemze, and Public Works Director/County Engineer, Lyndon Robjent, as part of a county wide informative dialogue with communities within Carver County, presented to the Council funding issues that Carver County will be facing within the next 20 year. County Engineer Robjent stated, that State and Metropolitan Council plans for highway expansion for the next 20 years do not include Carver County. Federal grant guidelines for highway projects virtually exclude Carver County. Yet, as the County Engineer, he has identified 22 road and bridge projects as “high priorities” for the next 24 years. Safety concerns elevated many of those projects. Without the Federal and State funds, the County faces a budget gap of \$128 Million to complete the high priority road and bridge projects. In order to win matching State and Federal funds, the County would have to raise its own contribution. To meet that budget gap and take care of those high priority roads and bridges, the County is considering an increase of \$10 per year per vehicle (Wheelage Tax), a Sales Tax of ½ percent, and a \$20 Excise Tax on vehicle purchases – all of which would be tied to the high priority road and bridge projects. The strategy is to fund those projects with the sales tax and wheelage tax, leverage state and federal funds, use traditional city funds, and get cities to share funds for aesthetics and local infrastructure. Mr. Lynch, Mr. Hemze, and Mr. Robjent welcomed feedback from the Council and asked if the County could obtain a Resolution of Support from the City of Mayer by March 15th, 2017. The Council agreed to discuss the Resolution of Support at a future Work Session and requested Carver County share with the Council input from other communities.

Council Member McNeilly leaves at 8:25pm

- 2. **Discussion on Sunscription:** US Solar offered the City of Mayer an opportunity to lock in savings with a Sunscription Agreement. US Solar requested a decision from the Council regarding entering into an agreement before the new rates take effect. After a brief discussion, Council instructed Staff to contact US Solar and let them know the City would like to continue discussions; however, the City is not ready to make a decision.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the work session was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Mike Dodge, Mayor

Attest: _____
Janell Gildemeister, Deputy City Clerk