CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION
Monday, August 20, 2018

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Worksession of the City Council of the City of Hastings, Nebraska was conducted in the Utility Board Room, 1228 N. Denver Avenue, on August 20, 2018.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in Worksession by Council President John Harrington with the following members present: Paul Hamelink, Phil Odom, Scott Snell, Butch Eley, Sarah Hoops, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm, Corey Stutte. Absent: None.

Moved by Ginny Skutnik seconded by Sarah Hoops to adopt current agenda for August 20, 2018 Worksession. Roll Call: Ayes: John Harrington, Paul Hamelink, Phil Odom, Scott Snell, Butch Eley, Sarah Hoops, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: None.
The motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Worksession was published in the Hastings Tribune on Friday, August 17, 2018. Pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute Section 84-1412, the public is advised that a copy of today's agenda and all reproducible written material which will be discussed at today's meeting is available. Also, a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted and accessible to members of the public.

Discussion of proposed 2018-2019 City Budget.

Joe Patterson, City Administrator, explained the personnel compensation study, with the goal of the study being consistent pay. A committee worked on employee benefits and adopted what made the most sense. Councilmember Odom asked for policy to be set on how often to do future compensation studies. Joe Patterson stated the Norfolk study might be a less expensive way to do the study. Minimal changes were made to the Fee Resolution: changes in fees for water park and group rates for rentals at the museum. There is less money available from KENO funds for projects. Councilmember Skutnik stated there were no funds in the street sales tax set aside for railroad quiet zones. Dave Wacker, City Engineer, stated nothing is listed specifically. Council discussed a possible percentage or dollar amount to be set aside for professional services on the railroad quiet crossing project. There is $1 million in the contingency fund, budgeted for the unknowns. The Assistant City Administrator position was eliminated. Some personnel were moved from Utilities to the General budget: IT, Finance, and Human Resource. Salaries will be shared with the Utility Department. Library continues adding to the bookmobile's sinking fund. The certified evaluation was received today and was more than expected. The Police Department will be more active in reporting property issues. Fire Department training increased, with three personnel attending paramedic training in McCook. An Environmental Coordinator is being hired by Utilities. Multiple EPA subsites were discussed. Possibilities for uses of the parks sales tax were discussed. Fire Equipment Sinking Fund is a new fund in the budget. Landfill fund is preparing to construct the last below grade cell. Self insured health fund is merging funds from the utility and general budgets.

Kevin Johnson, Utility Manager, presented the Utility Department's budget. Marty Stange, Engineer, presented on the Aquifer Storage and Restoration project. Brian Strom, Finance, presented the plan for renovation of the front office, customer service area at the main utility building. (Presentations attached and made part of these minutes.)

Dave Ptak, City Attorney, stated Windstream pole settlement is confidential. Rates for water, sewer, and electric were discussed. Kevin Johnson mentioned continuing interest in renewables. Opportunities for looking at wind/solar/battery storage were discussed.

Mayor Stutte thanked staff for working hard preparing budget numbers.

Moved by Butch Eley seconded by Ginny Skutnik there being no further business adjourned at 7:35p.m. Roll Call: Ayes: John Harrington, Paul Hamelink, Phil Odom, Scott Snell, Butch Eley, Sarah Hoops, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: None. The motion carried.