

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION
Monday, September 19, 2016

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Worksession of the City Council of the City of Hastings, Nebraska was conducted in the 2nd Floor Conference Room of City Hall, 220 N. Hastings Avenue, on September 19, 2016.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Council President Duval with the following members present: Phil Odom, Michael Krings, Sarah Hoops, Ginny Skutnik, Everett Goebel. Absent: Chuck Niemeyer, John Harrington, Vern Powers.

Moved by Ginny Skutnik seconded by Everett Goebel to adopt current agenda for September 19, 2016 Worksession. Roll Call: Ayes: Kathy Duval, Michael Krings, Phil Odom, Sarah Hoops, Ginny Skutnik, Everett Goebel. Nays: None. Absent: Chuck Niemeyer, John Harrington. The motion carried.

Council President Duval read the Public Notice - Notice posted on Friday, September 16, 2016. Pursuant to the 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 Highway 6 Project

Discussion was held regarding the U.S. Highway 6 project, which is planned for construction in 2019 and 2020. Removal of the U.S. Highway 6 roadway curve that connects Highway 6 to Elm Avenue was brought up as a concern because of turning radius for larger trucks. Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) has reviewed traffic studies in the area, considering current truck bypass traffic volume, and felt that a 5-lane design was needed along this roadway with current traffic volume. NDOR also looked at the possibility of a roundabout, but quickly discounted that concept. (NDOR Drawing attached and made a part of these minutes.)

Improvements such as decorative lighting, welcome sign, and hike/bike trails for the area were also discussed.

Nebraska Department of Roads will meet with property owners September 20th at City Hall to discuss concerns and answer questions.

Discussion of hike/bike trail system

Discussion was held concerning a trail/sidewalk connection getting built simultaneously with roadway construction and the potential to save money. NDOR would not fund the trail portion of the project, so it would be built at 100% city cost. Location of the trail/sidewalk was discussed.

Discussion of auditor contracts

The Novak study recommended going out for bids nationally for audit services. McDermott & Miller, P.C. is currently being used for audit services. It is a reasonable time to look into change, as their contract runs out October 1, 2017. The City Administrator met with Al Meyer, Mark Barfknecht, Barb Adler, and Roger Nash to discuss the issue.

Joe Patterson stated there should be one firm doing both City and Hastings Utilities, with a breakdown of cost for each.

Moved by Ginny Skutnik seconded by Sarah Hoops to adjourn meeting at 6:14p.m.

Roll Call: Ayes: Kathy Duval, Michael Krings, Phil Odom, Sarah Hoops, Ginny Skutnik, Everett Goebel. Nays: None. Absent: Chuck Niemeyer, John Harrington. The motion carried.