

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL RETREAT WORKSESSION
Sunday, June 26, 2022

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Retreat Worksession of the City Council of the City of Hastings, Nebraska was conducted at Lochland Country Club, 601 West Lochland Road, Hastings, NE, on June 26, 2022.

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. in Session by Council President Ginny Skutnik with the following members present: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Chuck Rosenberg, Joy Huffaker, Jeniffer Beahm, Ted Schroeder, Corey Stutte. Absent: Butch Eley.

The following City Officials were present: Interim City Administrator, Kevin Johnson; Police Chief, Adam Story; Fire Chief, Brad Starling; Finance Director, Roger Nash; Development Services, Kevin Kubo; Director of Engineering, Lee Vrooman; Director of Human Resources, Lori Hartman; Environmental Engineering, Marty Stange; Public Information Manager, LeAnne Doose.

Council President Ginny Skutnik led the group in recital of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Moved by Matt Fong seconded by Chuck Rosenberg to adopt current agenda for Council Retreat on June 26, 2022. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Chuck Rosenberg, Joy Huffaker, Ted Schroeder, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: Butch Eley. The motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Official Notice of the Retreat Worksession was published in the Hastings Tribune on Friday, June 24, 2022. 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 ITEMS

Budget

Roger Nash discussed anticipated revenues and expenditures for operating and existing personnel budgets. Lee Vrooman gave an update on the large capital expenditures.

City Hall

Marty Stange gave an overview on the leaks, asbestos and mold issues found in City Hall. Lee Vrooman discussed security equipment and asked what steps are next, what do we or don't spend money on? Mayor Stutte suggested creating a committee of council, board members and citizens to get an idea how far to go with the building, not just Band-Aid solutions.

Reorganizations

Kevin Johnson discussed the two committees in progress looking at combining facility and fleet maintenance staff. Department heads looking at the potential of merging of the departments by completing a quality review.

Staffing Needs

Department heads gave an update on the additional staff that is needed.

Quiet Crossing

Lee Vrooman discussed the Hastings Avenue and Pine Avenue crossings that are being sent out for bid this week with expectation of getting the bids back in July. The next two crossings Denver Avenue and California Avenue will hopefully be sent out for bid this fall. Then next Elm Avenue, Lincoln Avenue and Colorado Avenue will be looked at next year.

ERP Status

Roger Nash gave an update of the ERP system. Making process and heading in the right direction.

East Side BLVD Planning

Discussed putting in drainage feature to alleviate the flooding in the area.

Citizens Request for Public Records

Mayor Stutte discussed the records request process and state statutes.

Delegated Authority (Fire Department)

Brad Starling gave an overview of delegated authority. Delegation allows single point of contact and less confusion on whose code it is. Council members discussed concerns.

Additional Reporting from Development Services

Council requested reporting from development services as they are being asked in meetings of what is being built in locations. Kevin Kubo offered to send reports or attend meetings to provide updates. Agreed to provide updates at the 2nd meeting every month.

Concerns dealing with staff regarding permits, codes and compliance issues

Council and Kevin Kubo discussed feedback from contractors and developers.

ARPA Funds

Roger Nash gave overview of what ARPA funds could be used for. Discussed category that could be used and the timing to obligate the funds.

Moved by Matt Fong seconded by Chuck Rosenberg there being no further business, to adjourn at 4:49 P.M. Roll Call: Ayes: Matt Fong, Shawn Hartmann, Chuck Rosenberg, Joy Huffaker, Butch Eley, Ted Schroeder, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm. Nays: None. Absent: Butch Eley. The motion carried.