

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION
Monday, June 19, 2017

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Worksession of the City Council of the City of Hastings, Nebraska was conducted in the Second Floor Conference Room of City Hall, 220 N. Hastings Avenue, on June 19, 2017.

The Worksession was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Council President, John Harrington, with the following members present: Ginny Skutnik, Jennifer Beahm, Sarah Hoops, Butch Eley, Mayor Corey Stutte. Absent: Paul Hamelink, Scott Snell, Phil Odom.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Notice posted on Friday, June 16, 2017. 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.

Review and discussion on the draft of the city's new Development Incentive Program

Dave Ptak, City Attorney, presented the Residential and Commercial Development Incentive Program draft. He stated the program is a work in progress and feedback is welcome. He explained there are limits to what a municipality can do, but our goal is to encourage development. The program started as residential only, but now includes commercial. Streets, sidewalks, storm water, electric, street lights, gas, sewer and water improvements are all included in the program. He discussed city versus developer cost and responsibilities. (Program draft is attached and made a part of these minutes.)

Discussion was held on the significant cost of storm water to developers, street light cost as a general obligation to the city, the subdivision approval process and infrastructure finance options.

Mayor Stutte stated that developer reactions to the draft have been positive.

The city would like to become a developer friendly place, showing positive momentum in Hastings development, and this program would assist in achieving that goal.

Councilmember Phil Odom entered the meeting at 5:39p.m.

Discussion of Development Review Committee

Don Threewitt, Development Service Director, stated the city is moving to improve efficiency and service to our customers. Development Services is now open through the noon hour and online permitting recently launched on the city's website.

The Development Review Committee is scheduled to meet every Wednesday morning at 9:30a.m., to assist citizens and developers with projects in a one-stop shop environment. This weekly meeting will involve the Utilities, Parks, Engineering, Fire, and Planning/Development Services departments. Property owners and developers are encouraged to engage with the

committee early in their project process to get timely answers to questions or concerns on both large and small projects.

A digital inspection and report process will be available in the near future.

Update on reorganization implementation

Joe Patterson, City Administrator, updated the group on meetings with supervisory staff, in regards to the reorganization implementation. He also met with a cross-section of employees from Hastings Utilities in order to answer questions and concerns.

The Utility Manager's job description was approved by the new Utility Board. The city will move forward with advertising for the position. Mayor Stutte's hiring committee is scheduled to meet Wednesday to discuss the need for outside assistance to recruit the best person.

Joe Patterson stated there is a need to do city-wide studies on efficiency, space and comparability. All departments need to update job descriptions, to ensure study accuracy.

Joe Patterson explained the differences in benefits, including insurance and holiday schedules and the need to make them similar.

Update on Information Technology (IT) Request for Proposal (RFP)

Kevin Schawang, IT Supervisor, updated the group on the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) process management software. There are multiple processes that could be more efficient with implementation of a modular software: Finance, Human Resource, Development Services.

Mayor Stutte created the IT Strategy Committee, which has met to gather software needs for all departments. They prioritized needs and started reaching out to vendors, narrowing it down to four companies.

Kevin is ready to write a Request for Proposal (RFP) to send to interested vendors. Implementation of the software will be in phases, starting with the Finance Department.

Moved by Ginny Skutnik seconded by Sarah Hoops there being no further discussion to adjourn worksession at 6:24p.m. Roll Call: Ayes: John Harrington, Phil Odom, Butch Eley, Ginny Skutnik, Jeniffer Beahm, Sarah Hoops. Nays: None. Absent: Scott Snell, Paul Hamelink. The motion carried.