



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Council Session

Item G-2

Approving Minutes of May 17, 2016 City Council Study Session

Staff Contact: RaNae Edwards

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

May 17, 2016

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Study Session of the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska was conducted in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 100 East First Street, on May 17, 2016. Notice of the meeting was given in the *Grand Island Independent* on May 11, 2016.

Mayor Jeremy L. Jensen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following Councilmembers were present: Mitch Nickerson, Mark Stelk, Jeremy Jones, Chuck Haase, Julie Hehnke, Linna Dee Donaldson, Michelle Fitzke, Roger Steele, and Mike Paulick. Councilmember Vaughn Minton was absent. The following City Officials were present: City Administrator Marlan Ferguson, City Clerk RaNae Edwards, Finance Director Renae Griffiths, City Attorney Jerry Janulewicz, and Public Works Director John Collins.

Mayor Jensen introduced Community Youth Council member Perla Alarcon.

INVOCATION was given by Community Youth Council member Perla Alarcon followed by the PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

SPECIAL ITEMS:

Alternate 911 Discussion. Emergency Management Director Jon Rosenlund stated the Emergency Management Department had been investigating options to solve the need for an alternate 911 center. Improved designs for an alternate had been received and recent options were presented to the Interlocal Committee for their review. Options included the construction of a full scale center with proximity to the City's fiber optic network, as well as an alternate facility at Fire Station #1 that could also serve as a Fire Training Room facility. Additional opportunities were presented by private businesses and property owners regarding the sale/lease of current space.

Reviewed were the following cost and design of full scale construction: West Faidley - \$3.4 million and West 13th Street - \$3.2 million. An alternate 911 Center at Fire Station #1 was \$1.7 million. Cost of a leased Alternate 911 was \$562,000. Presented was renovating City Hall basement to expand the Emergency Management and 911 offices to match capabilities in a full scale center. This would expand 911 into one wing and the Emergency Management offices into the Community Meeting Room wing. The estimated costs for the City Hall renovations were \$485,000.

Discussion was held regarding the future use of the Community Meeting Room (CMR) after the possible renovation of the basement. Mr. Rosenlund stated the CMR would still be used as it was today. FEMA and NEMA would still have use of CMR and would have to approve the changes proposed.

The following CYC students spoke in support of the Fire Station 1 alternative:

- Melissa Cuellar, 424 Path Avenue

- Brandies Jensen, 1140 Pleasant View Drive
- Ronald Dvorak, 2014 No. Custer Avenue
- Sarah Salaman, 208 Ponderosa Drive

Buzz Douthit, 1608 Anna Street presented another option at Fonner Court, 1512 South Locust Street currently rented by Viaero Wireless.

Comments were made about this being the fourth time this issue came before Council over the last four years. Explained was the Interlocal Committee which was made up of City and County elected officials. It was requested this committee submit their recommendation to the Council. Mentioned was that the costs would be split with the County. There was currently \$857,000 in cash reserves and a yearly \$365,000 collected from landline and wireless phones. Mr. Rosenlund stated the cost of a new building would be the responsibility of the City and not shared by the County as per the Interlocal Agreement.

Discussion was held regarding the size needed for an alternate site. Mr. Rosenlund stated at least 5,400 square feet. Councilmember Nickerson stated he serves on the Interlocal Committee and updated the Council on those discussions. When asked what the best scenario was for him, Mr. Rosenlund stated he thought the alternate at Fire Station 1 was the best choice for him and the Fire Department.

Comments were made regarding building a new full 911 center and having the alternate 911 in the basement at City Hall. Mayor Jensen stated it would be a good idea to put together an amortization schedule if the Council would decide to bond this project. Mentioned was that if the City leased a property the County would be responsible for 50% of the cost of which the citizens of the City would pay approximately 80% since they pay both City and County taxes. Lease purchase was talked about as well as fiber optic challenges at certain sites.

Roundabout Education. Public Works Director John Collins introduced Public Works Engineer Tim Golka who reported that the Engineering Division of the Public Works Department was always looking for ways to improve traffic flow and provide safe roadways for the public. The introduction of roundabouts to the City roadways had been brought up in the past.

Reviewed were types of intersections, what a modern roundabout was, key features, and a video for driving roundabouts. Mentioned was roundabouts were safer than traditional intersections. Public Works was recommending a roundabout on Adams Street between the new Starr Elementary School and Barr Middle School. Discussion was held regarding pedestrian crossings.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

RaNae Edwards
City Clerk