

## MINUTES STREATOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

### **PROCEEDINGS OF THE STREATOR CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (WORKSHOP) MEETING OF JANUARY 10, 2012, HELD AT THE CITY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 1:30 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Jimmie D. Lansford presiding.

**TIME:** The Committee of the Whole (Workshop) began at 1:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Members present: Benner, Brozak, Hart, Williamson and Mayor Lansford.

**OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:** City Manager, Paul C. Nicholson; City Engineer & Director of Community Development, Jeremy Palm; City Attorney, Stephen C. Myers, Attorney Cara Luckey, Deputy City Clerk, Linda Underwood, Jeff Anderson, Police Chief, Tom Risley, Fire Chief, and David Fussell, Director of Public Works.

#### **CONSIDERATIONS:**

##### **1.) DISCUSSION REGARDING –Proposed Band Shell & City Park Improvements-Site Plan**

Paul C. Nicholson, reported on the proposed bank shell site plan which depicts two alternative locations.. Nicholson turned the floor over to Councilman Brozak. Brozak gave a summary of both locations stating the pros and cons to each spot. Brozak then questioned which location the Council preferred and talked regarding the timeline for the project. Nicholson stated that scenarios for financing the bandstand would be presented with the budget. Councilman Williamson stated that he thought that now would be the appropriate time to discuss financing prior to proceeding with the project.

Following further Council discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to proceed with the project and locate it at the north west corner of the parks building; identified as #1 location on the diagram attached to their agenda. Councilman Williamson stated he would like to see financing proposals for the project on the February Committee of the Whole agenda. Mayor Lansford summarized the discussion and authorized Nicholson to contact Jeff Bergfeld to proceed to with final presentation to the Council regarding the project.

##### **2.) DISCUSSION REGARDING – Vacant Building Program-Status & Next Steps**

Nicholson reported on the current status program and turned the floor over to David Fussell, Director of Public Works. Fussell handed out a list of properties with which there are no clear evidence of responsible parties or ownership. Steve Myers, City Attorney, explained different scenarios to deal with these types of problems and explained how tax sales of properties work. Myers suggested that the first step to dealing with these properties is to get tract searches to see all parties with interest in the property. It was the consensus of the Council to acquire tract searches on the properties in question.

##### **3) DISCUSSION REGARDING – Proposed Snow Route System & Ordinance**

This item was removed from the agenda.

##### **4.) DISCUSSION REGARDING – I-FIBER Letter of Intent-Staff Recommendation**

Nicholson updated City Council regarding the project. Brian Gift, NCICOG Community Outreach Coordinator, was in the audience and stated that they would need to just get them a letter of intent outlining which facilities the City proposes to install fiber optic capability. The cost for City Hall/Police, a primary facility would be \$600.00 per month. Mr. Gift estimated that the addition of the fire department and public works building would increase that by \$100.00 each per month. Councilman Williamson asked if the letter of intent could provide a blanket request for all City properties. Mr. Gift stated that they would rather have the specifics and commented he had not yet gotten a response from the library.

## **5.) DISCUSSION REGARDING – E-Waste Program & Agreement**

Nicholson updated the Council stating that two proposals were received for the recycling of the City's e-waste.

## **6.) DISCUSSION REGARDING – Required Permit Non-Compliance**

Nicholson stated that office staff had brought it to the Mayor's attention that the City has experienced problems with some contractors starting work for homeowner's without obtaining the proper permits prior to commencing work. Jeremy Palm, City Engineer reported to Council regarding the most recent incident which precipitated the staff's complaint. Palm asked whether Council thought that fines should be levied if work was started prior to obtaining necessary permits. It was the consensus of the Council that there should be fines imposed. Myers stated he would look at the ordinance to see if it was already in the municipal code or needed to be added.

### **SHORT SELECTED SUBJECTS:**

#### **a. Municipal Electric Aggregation.**

Updated Council regarding the item and stated that he was told that it might be possible to share expenses for a consultant to deal with this with Ottawa.

#### **b. Parking Issues-School Zones**

Nicholson reported to Council with regard to the ongoing parking problems around the schools. Council discussed the issue and thought that the City should contact in-coming School Superintendent, Matt Wilkinson, the upcoming school superintendent, to resolve these parking concerns.

#### **c. City Council Visioning/Goals Report**

The Mayor and City Manager announced that Thursday, January 26, 2012 at 8:45 a.m. Dr. Greg Kuhn would be presenting the report of the findings regarding the visioning/goal setting session of the Council.

#### **d. Annexation Policy Strategy**

The Mayor and City Manager announced that the Council would begin dialogue regarding strategies involving annexation.

Prior to adjourning to closed session Mayor Lansford questioned Council as to whether they were still desirous of enter entering into an agreement with Jenny Malnar regarding the use of the pool for conversion to a skate park facility. Brozak thought there were better options than her recent proposal. It was the consensus of the have the City Manager and Mayor meet with Ms. Malnar to look at other options for her.

Mayor Lansford also talked about the Frisbee golf proposal for Marilla Park. It was the consensus of the Council to have the Public Works Director work with the representatives approve the location within the park.

Nicholson stated that he had received a letter from Josh Biros, the new YMCA Director, requesting the City donate any equipment from the old City pool to the YMCA. It was the Council's consensus to donate any of the City's old equipment to them, not including pumps and related equipment.

Councilman Hart commented on the use of the new portable speed inductor and its positive effect on drivers speed. He also questioned the status of the appraisals of the vacant lots owned by the City.

Councilman Benner requested the City Engineer contact IDOT regarding the absence of two parking spaces in front of City Hall since the roadway improvements and restriping earlier this fall.

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION:** Mayor Lansford requested a motion and second to adjourn to closed session.

**MOTION:** Hart moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting, seconded by Brozak.

**TIME ADJOURNED:** 2:57 p.m.

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION:** 3:41 p.m.

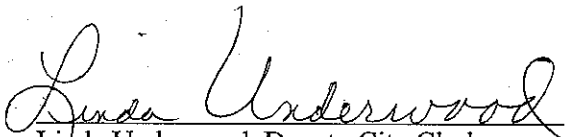
**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further items for discussion, Mayor Lansford called for a motion to adjourn.

**MOTION:** Benner moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting, seconded by Brozak.

**ROLL CALL:** Ayes: Benner, Brozak, Hart, Williamson, and Mayor Lansford.

The Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Lynda Underwood, Deputy City Clerk