

Study Session Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2007 ~ 7:00 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER.

A Study Session of the Waverly City Council was held on

March 26, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Mayor Ackerman presided. Council members present were: Cyndi Ecker, Gene Lieb, Fred Ribich, Gary Boorum, Connie Rasmussen, and Duane Liddle. Absent: Gary Grace

1. **Approve Agenda as Printed or Add Items for Discussion Only.**

Moved By: Rasmussen

That the agenda for this Council Meeting as prepared is hereby approved/
amended as follows:

Yes: 6

No: 0

Absent: 1

2. **Council will Recognize Alan Ellwanger for His 31+ years of Service with the City of Waverly and Wish Him Well on His Future Endeavors as he Retires.**

Public Services Superintendent Brian Sullivan thanked Al Ellwanger for his service to the City of Waverly and presented him with a watch commemorating his retirement. The Mayor and City Council also thanked Al Ellwanger for his service to Waverly residents.

B. TABLED ITEMS.

C. CONSENT AGENDA.

1. Pay Request from Cleary Building Corp. in the amount of \$5,000.00 for Excavation for Ground Preparation for the New Golf Course Cold Storage Building.
2. Class C Liquor License for the Waverly Golf & Country Club.

Moved By: Ribich

Items 1-2 on the Consent Agenda is hereby approved.

Yes: 6

No: 0

Absent: 1

D. STUDY SESSION.

1. **Review Proposed 2007 & 2008 Solid Waste Rate Increases.**

The proposed rate increases reflect a 50 cent increase in the residential base monthly fee effective June 2007 and again in June 2008. A 50 cent per cubic yard increase for commercial dumpsters is proposed for June 2007 and again in June 2008. The increases are billed in June for July and were included in the approved 2007/08 budget. The rate increases require an ordinance change with approval of three readings. The additional revenues are needed to compensate for increased landfill, fuel and personnel costs. City Engineer Cherry stated that if the ordinance did not pass, staff would have to consider discontinuing yard waste and recycling services. Staff informed Council that there would be more garbage in ditches and garbage in business and personal dumpsters if garbage sticker prices increase. The 2008 increases were proposed to give businesses time to plan ahead. Other comments expressed:

- Businesses charge a fuel surcharge
- The City doesn't create inflation
- The City is clean and administration not wasteful – they want to keep things improved
- Be aware of additional burdens

- Maintain and can't do it at last year's fees
- Citizens demand the same level of service – no extras
- Water department went from four employees to three

Public Services Superintendent stated that he reviews each line item in each budget with his staff and with City Engineer Cherry. City Administrator Crayne reviews each line item to see if it has increased or decreased and makes the determination of what will be cut. If you decrease interdepartmental charges then it will increase expenditures in the General Fund.

2. **Review of Citizen Inquiry Process.**

City Administrator Crayne reviewed citizen inquiry process with Council. He stated that Council asked during Strategic Planning if there was a process used and a consistency of enforcement. Police enforce laws. Parking enforcement is stepped up during snow removal. Parks & Recreation send out a notice if they receive a weeds or grass complaint. The City will mow and charge when property owner does not act on the complaint. The City website has an "Ask the City" link if citizens do not know who to contact. The e-mail is sent to the right department and senders are asked to e-mail back if there questions are not answered. Public Services Superintendent Sullivan contacts citizens and asks them to call him back in a week if their complaints are not satisfied. Most Departments are receptive and do try to address citizen complaints and service questions.

3. **Review Council / Commission / Board Attendance Policy.**

Council reviewed the Attendance Policy. Concerns were expressed when the Airport Commission met and a number of board members were not present. One Airport Commissioner voted by telephone on an agenda item. The present policy allows an elected or appointed official to attend public meetings by communication through telephone speaker phone on an occasional basis due to unusual circumstances. Council felt that the person casting a vote on any issue needs to face the public with his decision. If Council or Commission does not have quorum then they should not be doing business. After further discussion staff will amend the language in the policy as follows:

A Council Member, Commissioner or Board Member who is not physically present at a meeting of a public body, may communicate with other members of the public body by phone or other electronic means at said public meeting. The presence of the individual by phone or other electronic means shall not be considered attendance at a public meeting and shall not be counted in determining a quorum. Said individual shall not be eligible to vote on any issue to come before the public body at said meeting.

E. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

1. **Boards and Commissions.**

2. **Reports.**

Project Status Report – Curb & Gutter repair program will start this fiscal year.

3. **Communication.**

F. VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Public Services Superintendent Sullivan introduced the new Senior Water Operator Shane Pothast to Council.

Sarah Meyer-Ryerson stated there will be a "Global Warming Presentation" at the Library on Sunday at 3:00 P. M.

Administrator Crayne informed Council that funds are allocated from the Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste to the Public Works Building Project. Reserve funds cannot be moved to different projects without Council approval.

G. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved By: Boorum

That the City Council Meeting be adjourned.

Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1

Council adjourned at 8:00 P. M.