

Study Session Meeting Minutes

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

A. CALL TO ORDER.

A Study Session of the Waverly City Council was held on November 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, Gary Grace, Gary Boorum, Connie Rasmussen, Fred Ribich and Duane Liddle. Absent: none.

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

Moved By: Ecker

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

Yes: 7

No: 0

Absent: 0

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

C. VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Members of the public only.

D. TABLED ITEMS.

1. Approve Change Order to Engineering Services for 4th Street SW Drainage, Grading and Sidewalk Improvements.

Not ready for action.

2. Resolution 07-102, A Resolution Amending City Administrator's Employment Agreement.

Not ready for action.

E. CONSENT AGENDA.

F. REGULAR BUSINESS.

G. STUDY SESSION.

1. Ball Diamond Presentation.

Dan McKenzie stated that the Task Force is concerned with safety, undersized and landlocked fields, and poor drainage. It is the determination of the Task Force that the most feasible solution to address all existing shortcomings is to develop a single ball diamond facility that would meet both current and future adult and youth needs. Roy Petersen informed the Council that the lease with the City at the Fairgrounds will expire within a couple of years. Mr. Petersen asked if the Council would consider buying additional land next to the new Public Works site with the Landowner's permission for a joint Ball Diamond/Fairground facility with Bremer County Fair participation. The Task Force recommended that the City authorize the hiring of a designer/architect to develop a "master plan" that clearly establishes a Ball Diamond and Fair site plan with shared parking, playground and restroom facilities. Members felt that it would be easier to fundraise with an end product design. Mr. McKenzie contacted Paragon Associates in La Crosse, Wisconsin who offer landscape and architectural services and their design work and fees would range from approximately \$3,500 - \$5,000. The design work would take six to nine months with a partial construction completion of the diamonds within 2-3

years and full project completion 5-7 years depending on fundraising efforts. Mr. Petersen stated that there is potential if the City would extend the Fair Board's lease in exchange for a suitable cash contribution to the project and if the Fair Board could relocate on the same property as the ball diamond complex so infrastructure, maintenance and structure costs could be shared. Mr. Petersen has also had conversations with the Central Iowa Rural Water Board about their property and if there is collaboration between the City, Fair Board and Civic groups the project may qualify for funding mechanisms or grants. For future growth each group would need approximately 50 acres. The Task Force has determined that the deficiencies of the current ball diamonds are accurate and that the solution would be addressed by development of youth to adult diamond complex. It is the fear of the Task Force that project funding may hinder any forward progress. Mr. McKenzie again petitioned the Council to authorize the hiring of a designer/architect to develop a "master plan" to maintain valuable civic group partnerships as the project progresses. Mayor Ackerman informed the Task Force members that the Ball Diamonds are a Strategic Planning priority. After further discussion the Council agreed that the Task Force recommendation should be reviewed in depth during Strategic Planning in January. At a Council Meeting in December the Council will take formal action to accept the Task Force recommendation. Discussion followed on developing partnership agreements between the City, Fair Board and other Civic groups and Hotel/Motel Tax funding for the project. Staff will have to appraise current ball diamond land. Mr. McKenzie again stressed the importance of moving forward with a "master site plan" so that the new ball diamond complex will not fall to the backburner.

2. **The Wartburg-Waverly Wellness Center (The "W") Advisory Board will Update Council on Construction and Programming.**

Jim Langel informed Council that "The W" is still scheduled to open on January 2nd. Mr. Langel reviewed construction progress. The pool will be the last to be completed.

Allison Graening of the Wartburg-Waverly Wellness Center Advisory Board stated that the Leisure Services Commission was concerned that "The W" would maintain the same quality programming. Ms. Graening also informed Council that "The W" is providing quality programming and more. "The W" is offering a new spinning class, new child care facilities for families, fitness assessment, family changing areas for non-members and an additional adult volleyball league. The Advisory Board has received positive feedback. Gary Nelson affirmed the Advisory Committee's role of keeping the City's best interest a priority. Mr. Nelson assured the Council that that the City could have never had a facility of equal stature if it had constructed one on its own. The Board also wanted to protect the City's recreation programming and citizens will be getting value for their dollar by becoming members. Corporate Waverly has shown interest in membership. Waverly residents will be pleased with the end product. Jim Langel advised interested parties to register at the City's Leisure Services Department or at "The W" temporary offices. All Registrations will be accepted at "The W" after January 2nd. The Help Desk will open December 10th.

3. **Review of Snow Removal Policy.**

The Sidewalk Removal Policy was established by Council in 1998. Recently a Highway 3 East resident has challenged said policy. The current policy for the wide sidewalk on Highway 3 East is that the property owner is responsible for clearing snow in front of their property except in the case of significant snows where City staff would assist if time allows. The property owner with a wide sidewalk would only be expected to clear a 3-4' path. There are similar areas in Waverly where sidewalks

are close to streets and snowplows cover sidewalks with snow. Snow should be removed with a 24 hour period.

H. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

1. Boards and Commissions.
2. Reports.
3. Communication.

I. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS ON POLICY ISSUES.

Councilmember Liddle requested clarity and definition of turning lanes for the 218 South corridor.

Council requested an update from Mr. Lindner on his project and discussion of hiring someone to finish said project and collect costs. Building permits have a 6 month expiration but as long as contractor is making progress the permit is still valid.

Staff will check on project not completed on 1st Ave and 6th St. NW.

J. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved By: Boorum

That the City Council Meeting be adjourned.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Absent: 0

Council adjourned at 8:05 P. M.

Ivan J. Ackerman, Mayor

Attest:

Jo-Ellen Raap, City Clerk