

**Waverly City Council  
Study Session Meeting Minutes  
June 24, 2013 ~ 7:00 p.m.**

**A. CALL TO ORDER.**

A Study Session of the Waverly City Council was held on June 24, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Ivan "Ike" Ackerman Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Pro-Tem Boorum presided. Council members present were: Wes Gade, Gene Lieb, Dan McKenzie, Kathy Olson, Chris Neuendorf, Gary Boorum and Tim Kangas. Absent: Bob Brunkhorst

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

**Moved By: Olson**

That the agenda for this Council meeting as prepared is hereby approved.

**Yes: 7**

**No: 0**

**Absent: 0**

**B. VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

Merlyn Kasemeier and other Eisenach Village residents were present to voice safety concerns with 20<sup>th</sup> Street NW. In 2010 Arnie Waldstein came before Council with the same concerns. Mr. Kasemeier stated that the road, the bridge and railroad all need replacement on 20<sup>th</sup> St. NW. Administrator Jones stated that road repairs are funded through the Road Use Tax fund from State fuel taxes and vehicle registration. Property from Eisenach Village to Hickory Heights is owned by Wartburg College and could provide for another access for Eisenach residents.

Jeremy Everett informed the Council that the Skate Park is 14 years old and the average skate park lasts 10 years. The Skate Park group wants to revamp the facility and make it safer and more fun for the community. On June 21, National Skate Day, a competition was held and Mr. Everett talked to Skaters about keeping the park clean and appealing for all. The Skate Group wants to fundraise and build the equipment with volunteers. They will conduct more competitions and work at Pizza Ranch to fundraise dollars for the project. The Group found construction plans on-line from a certified engineer and plan to purchase those plans. Project costs are \$5,000 for materials. Their facebook page is Waverly Skate Park Project.

The Council viewed a 5 minute video showcasing the City of Waverly. The video was put together by Wartburg Communication Arts' Students. Beth McAtee, one of the producers of the video stated that the Waverly Economic Development requested that Wartburg College create a presentation of what Waverly has to offer as a community to live and work. The Council thanked Beth McAtee for her work on said video.

**C. STUDY SESSION.**

1. **Review of the April, 2013 Citizens Random Survey.**

Jeff Schott will reviewed with Council the results of the Citizens Random Survey. The response rate was 44.7%. 95.3% of citizens agree that Waverly is a desirable place to live and they feel safe in their neighborhood. Over half of citizens surveyed want more code enforcement and 60% want policies on inspection of rental units. 50.9% agreed that the outdoor pool should be improved. 50.4% feel they receive a good value for City taxes and 62% are pleased with overall direction the City is taking. 52% of citizens agree that Mayor/Council meet their expectations. Mr. Schott stated that if the survey reveals a 20% having no opinion it may mean they have never used the service and do not know about the service. There were high marks for ambulance services and 53% were satisfied with animal control. About half of citizens are

satisfied with building inspection and code enforcement. Over 60% are satisfied with Economic Development. Library, Electric Service, Fire Department and Garbage Collection had very high ratings. Again, because not all citizens use the Golf Course or Pro Shop there was 53% that had no opinion. Library, Parks, Police, Recycling/Yard Waste and snow removal operations scored very high. 64% of residents were satisfied with recreation programming. Planning & Zoning, Sanitary Sewer and Stormwater/drainage operations came in at a good level. Utility billing and water ranked high also. 64% approved of City Administration operations. Residential and major street repair did not have good ratings. Major street Improvements are a very high priority with citizens. 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW Improvements from Dairy Queen to Burger King are rated high also. 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Extension/Cedar River Parkway had a 45% priority rating. Sanitary Sewer and Sidewalk Repairs are at a medium priority level. Dry Run Improvements rate at 62%. Improvements to existing parks, hiking/biking trails and Riverfront improvements are a low priority because citizens must think that improvements are not needed. Outdoor pool is rated as a medium priority. The Top 5 neighborhood concerns are cars parked on street, speeding, animals at large, property appearance and pedestrian connection to trails. Top 10 likes are schools, safety, friendly people, small town atmosphere, clean surroundings, Wartburg, convenience of shopping, trails, quality of life and parks. Least liked issues are high property tax, street conditions, City spending, utility rates too high and "The W" contribution. Highest priority needs are street repair, flood protection, Economic development/jobs, Downtown/Main Street and safety and security. Mr. Schott reviewed the demographics of the survey.

2. **Review Methodology and Preliminary Site Plan of Fairground/Memorial (Central) Park.**

Leisure Services Director Ray informed Council that he and Mr. James Carver, a retired urban planner have developed a site plan for the uses of the Fairgrounds/Memorial Park area after relocation of the Fair. Mr. Carver did some surveying and walked the whole park and drew up a plan. When the Fair moves some of the buildings may not be functional. A trail connector goes along 5<sup>th</sup> Ave and north on 8<sup>th</sup> Street. The park is 28 acres. The poles would be removed if there are no field sports in the park. The park is better served by creating open spaces that have a flexible usage. Parking would be on the outside of the park and no vehicle traffic in the middle of the park. Mr. Carver reviewed the site plan. There would be parking for 500 cars. The lower left corner of the park could connect with the Golf Course pond for winter sports. Extensive landscape design with water features and fountains could provide a lovely place for walking and enjoyment for the public. Mr. Carver also stated that trees could be planted to possibly create an arboretum. At one time there was horseracing in the park with grandstands and exhibition halls. Leisure Services Commission set up goals to create this as the Central Park of Waverly, diversity of the park for all ages, ADA and transportation accessibility, incorporate sustainable construction methods, use natural features when possible, adaptable for all seasons and provide public input. Mr. Ray and Council thanked Mr. Carver for his help on the site plan. Discussion followed on more parking for golf carts and for an amphitheater. Heritage Days could still be at the Park. After the Fair moves in 2018 or before there is still an evolution, planning and design stage, public input and will take a number of years to build

the park. It could start with sidewalks and trees and the City could keep adding to it over years.

**D. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.**

1. **Boards and Commissions.**

Economic Development Commission Minutes- discussion on what the County wants to do with Economic Development. City Staff will work with the County on fulfilling all needs of the County.

2. **Reports.**

3. **Communication.**

**E. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS ON POLICY ISSUES.**

Council discussed the Governor's veto of RECAT grant funding. The Concert in Kohlmann Park is Thursday night.

City Engineer Cherry informed Council that the City's flood levels should remain good. Mr. Cherry also informed Council that there were four notices that were sent to property owners with homes on them in more modern subdivisions.

Their sidewalk was supposed to be installed but there was no enforcement mechanism at that time and now there is. The Council made the decision to require residents to complete their sidewalk as they were supposed to in years past. There has been a lot of discussion about connectivity with schools with other neighborhoods. .

Council thanked Jon Tehven for his service as guest councilperson. Mr. Tehven reviewed all the amenities of Waverly. Mr. Tehven also thanked the Council and staff for their time and dedication.

**F. ADJOURNMENT.**

**Moved By: Neuendorf**

That the City Council Meeting be adjourned.

**Yes: 7**

**No: 0**

**Absent: 0**

**Council adjourned at 8:47 P. M.**

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**Bob Brunkhorst, Mayor**

**Attest:**

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**Jo-Ellen Raap, City Clerk**