

Study Session Meeting Minutes – June 25, 2018
Ivan “Ike” Ackerman Council Chambers

A Study Session Meeting of the Waverly City Council was held on June 25, 2018 at 7:00 P. M. at City Hall. Mayor Soash presided.

- A. Mayor Soash called the meeting to order.
- B. Roll Call
Council Members were present: Birgen, Drenkow, Kangas, McKenzie, Rathe, Sherer, and Waldstein. Absent: None.
- C. Moved by Kangas, seconded by Drenkow to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion passed. Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0
- D. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
 - There were none.
- E. Study Session Calendar.
 1. Library Board of Trustees Update to Council
 - Waverly Public Library Director Sarah Meyer-Reyerson presented an update for the Library Board of Trustees to Council. Ms. Meyer-Reyerson reviewed that there are currently 170 patrons registered for the various summer reading programs. Wednesdays are always busy days at the library since, during the school year, that is the day that school lets out early, and in the summer at 2:00 on Wednesdays there is always some type of entertainment. There are usually about 200 people that fill the room. Dogs from Retrieving Freedom visit to read with the children. Staff is hoping the weather cooperates again this summer so families can bring sack lunches and sit out on the front library lawn to listen to Sue Van Hemert read 3 or 4 children’s books, and she usually shares puppets too. One of the library staff, Kris Fagre, leads two (2) teen programs for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) for grades 1 - 4 and a STEAM Jr. for smaller children. The library just received an Iowa Government STEM Advisor Grant for \$2,000 that will be used for equipment such as blocks, spheres, and ramps. Some of the other special events that the library produces include: Blubber Glove, Smore Night, Network Nirvana (Gameworld in Minecraft), Escape Room, and Lyons Club sponsors a book club, to name a few. The Library Board of Trustees will be completing a strategic planning session this fall. They are hoping to tie it together with the City’s community input strategic planning session and the work that is being done by Amperage. The library is hoping to have the new strategic plan in place by July 1, 2019 in order to be re-accredited. Library board members are now required to achieve 3 to 5 hours of continuing education over the course of three (3) years which is the life of the accreditation. The library has many various resources and one of them is Bridges where you can download e-books and audio books with. This is available on the library’s web page and there is no charge to the patrons.
 2. Bremer Avenue 3-Lane vs. 4-Lane Discussion
 - The width size of Bremer Avenue will not change. The parking structure will not change. The only thing that will change is the way the street/highway is marked. This provides a good way to slow traffic down to make the downtown area safer and visitors will be able to get a better feel of what the downtown has to offer. A specific bike lane was not designed into the specifications; however, there will be more width in each of the outside lanes that should be able to accommodate bicyclists. It still needs to be determined which blocks of street on Bremer Avenue will be 3 lanes and which will be 4 lanes. There were thoughts of keeping a 4-lane street until traffic

patterns are established after the Cedar River Parkway bridge is completed. However, reconfiguring it now could save money in the end since the striping possibly would not have to be redone. Re-striping would cost approximately \$100,000. There has been only one town that has changed back to 4 lanes from 3 lanes. Traffic light configuration also needs to be looked at. How the center lane is marked will determine whether it is legal to pass slower traffic, such as slow-moving tractors, using the center lane. Bremer Avenue will still be able to physically move the same number of vehicles. Currently, parking is dangerous for people to get in and out of vehicles and with 3 lanes there will be more room for that to happen which will make it safer. Bremer Avenue is expected to be completed by late fall of this year and Downtown Streetscape will be completed in 2019. Cedar River Parkway is slated to be completed in the fall of 2019. Staff will get in touch with David Little at the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) to see if he is available to attend a public forum on July 16. Staff will also coordinate with him to set August 6 for a public hearing and a vote by Council to decide whether a 3 lane or a 4 lane is the right fit for Waverly.

F. Reports from Boards and Commissions

1. Library Board of Trustees Minutes; May 8, 2018; Received into record.
2. Bremer-Waverly Law Board Minutes; June 11, 2018; Received into record.
 - The age of the building continues to be an issue especially where the HVAC is concerned. It seems the HVAC will need to be replaced faster than originally anticipated. There is a surplus in the budget that will cover a portion of the costs; however, the City's cost share may have to go up as a result.

G. Staff Comments

- There were none.

H. City Council Comments

- There was discussion regarding the turn-around at the bottom of the hill of 12th Street SE and the purpose of the turn-around.

I. Mayor's Comments

- Mayor Soash thanked Guest Councilperson, Megan Hoing for her participation as Guest Councilperson. Mr. Soash also reminded Councilmembers to forward names and contact information of those who will be participating in Strategy Planning in August to the City Clerk, Carla Guyer, by July 9. Mayor noted the utilities payments would be moving to Waverly Utilities on July 1. Finally, he reminded the public that with the new ordinance passage it is lawful to use fireworks from June 25 through July 8 and the hours for doing so are: Sunday through Thursday - noon to 10:00 p.m., Friday through Saturday – noon to 11:00 p.m. and the 4th of July it is noon to 11:00 p.m. Mr. Soash also reminded citizens to be safe and clean up any debris.

J. Executive Session

1. Moved by Waldstein, seconded by Rathe to move into executive session to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session.

Motion passed. Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0

Moved by McKenzie, seconded by Birgen to enter back into Executive Session.

Motion passed. Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0

K. Moved by Birgen, seconded by Waldstein to adjourn. Motion passed and Council meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Dean Soash, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carla Guyer, City Clerk