



Minutes

City Council Work Session Meeting

Oelwein City Hall, 20 Second Avenue SW, Oelwein, Iowa

May 12, 2025 - 6:30 PM

Roll Call

Present: Weber, Lenz, Cantrell (via speaker phone), Seeders, Ricchio

Also Present: Mayor DeVore, City Administrator Mulfinger, City Clerk/Treasurer Rigdon

Absent: Payne

Pledge of Allegiance

Discussions

1. Discussion on the Utility Assistance Program.

Mulfinger presented a program which would be funded through donations and the city utility fund. Residents could elect to pay \$1.00 on their water bill to help fund each program.

Weber requested the maximum award for each program be \$2,500 with the leak assistance staying at \$350 to ensure multiple people could get relief.

Mulfinger advised he would work out more details with the city attorney and he would bring a complete program back to the city council for approval.

Council requested a pamphlet be made to encourage homeowners to sign up for additional backup coverage.

Weber said the city council should evaluate the program with staff after a year.

2. Discussion on Budget Cuts.

Mulfinger walked the city council through \$390,000. Mulfinger emphasized taking away funding must be strategic and follow the goals and priorities of the council and the community.

Seeders requested the cuts be compared to the overall percentage of each department's budget.

DeVore asked the city council to evaluate the number of parks the city has.

Weber was concerned eliminating the code enforcement officer would hurt the progress that has been made in the community in the last four years. Mayor DeVore shared his concerns.

Seeders stated she could not support a shift away from road funds as the condition of most roads in town needs to be addressed.

3. Discussion on the Wellness Center Budget.

Mulfinger opened the topic with a presentation from Superintendent Josh Ehn. Mulfinger advised the annual loss of the Wellness Center will be closer to \$100,000. Mulfinger stated a plan will come to the city council May 27 to show what it will take to bring the loss to \$20,000.