



Minutes

City Council Work Session

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

August 08, 2022 - 6:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Discussions

1. Black Hawk Waste Contract Discussion

Blaine with Black Hawk Waste discussed the option of the city negotiating a new contract and not going out for bid with the single hauler program. Blaine stated things were going well and complaints have been minimal. Blaine felt that Black Hawk goes above and beyond for Oelwein and has a great reputation with the community. Blaine stated prices could potentially remain the same or even lower should the city negotiate, as the cans have been bought and paid for since the start of the program.

Seeders asked how they handle items they cannot pickup. Blaine discussed bulk items with council.

Blaine told Council even with raising fuel prices and high labor cost, the company has been able to provide a steady service.

Mayor DeVore questioned if reports were coming into the city. Blaine stated they have been working with the City on reports. Mulfinger informed the council reports were steady now for tonnage, but not for complaints.

Mulfinger questioned how Black Hawk was doing on their workmen's compensation insurance. Blaine stated they apply each year and look for pricing.

Blaine thanked Council for their time.

Council did not provide direction to Mulfinger whether to negotiate or go out for bid.

2. Fee Discussion

Council reviewed the fees with Mulfinger.

Mayor DeVore questioned the pool and wanted to see comparable fees.

Council questioned the airport hangar rental fees. Council did not believe Mulfinger raised them enough and wanted to see the airport board provide a recommendation. Mulfinger said he would inform the airport board.

Mayor DeVore questioned the Williams Wellness Center fees and wanted to see the center break even. Payne and Seeders stated the city should explore better sharing ideas with the school and Mercy One.

Mulfinger said this item comes up each year and Council needs to vote on a direction to take, so staff can plan for a change. Mulfinger wants Council to have a clear and concise goal and work toward that goal. Mulfinger reminded Council this task would take significant time and would have to be approved by Council.

Garrigus stated he did not believe the wellness center was a priority.

Weber stated the wellness center was not a priority, but staff should look into the fees and see if they are comparable.

Mulfinger said he would evaluate the fees.

3. Wastewater Staffing Discussion

Mulfinger presented a plan to Council on bringing back a retired grade IV operator. Mulfinger reported his city offer was already countered.

Weber stated options were limited, and the plan looked like it would work for the City. Weber requested some comparable wages if possible.

Mulfinger wanted to move on this item and would work to provide data showing what other cities are paying. A job description will also be created for the position.

Adjournment