



Minutes

City Council Work Session Meeting

Oelwein Community Plaza, 25 West Charles, Oelwein, Iowa

June 15, 2020 - 5:30 PM

Present DeVore, Stewart, Gerdts, Weber, Cantrell, Seeders, Fisk
Also Present Mulfinger, Rigdon, Dillon
Absent None

Discussion on providing a city cleanup for flash flood related damages

Council discussed several different options for a cleanup following a flash flood on June 9, 2020. Mayor Devore would like to see the city participate in a clean up for flooded properties. Weber felt that a cleanup for flooded properties would turn into a cleanup for all properties. He stated that it would be difficult for the city to determine who was flooded and who was not.

Fisk inquired if a bin could be set out and watched by staff. Mulfinger said placing a bin anywhere would result in abuse and people would leave trash that was not storm damage. Weber stated that unless it was a city wide clean up bins would not be a good option.

Mulfinger let council know one possibility was to reduce the ticket price of large items and work with Black Hawk Waste.

Council discussed the reduced ticket item and asked it to be placed on the next agenda for action.

Discussion on City infrastructure in relation to the flash flood June 9, 2020.

Council discussed the impact the flood had on the city's infrastructure. Mulfinger presented the latest project list. Utility Superintendent Kane talked about each project and what caused the sewer backups during flash floods.

Mulfinger spoke of the need for rate increased to do projects in water and sewer. Stewart felt large users should pay a larger fee as they use wastewater more than residential customers. Fisk agreed that a plan should be created to address heavy users of the wastewater treatment plant.

Discussion on City Hall Opening

Mulfinger presented ideas on re-opening City Hall and what was needed. Council discussed if City Hall needed to be open and when it should open.

Mayor Devore expressed that City Hall should open sooner than later to serve the public. Seeders felt that residents were waiting for City Hall to open.

Mulfinger expressed that while it has been inconvenient, service has still occurred for residents. He presented a writeup from Deputy Clerk Rigdon concerning the importance of keeping everyone socially distanced at city hall and safe. Rigdon explained the importance of city hall for city operations and the need to ensure employees do not get exposed.

Weber felt that if people can access online and use the drop box then City Hall could do improvements before it opened. Gerdts did not see an issue with waiting to open. Fisk did not see a reason to open until improvements were made.

Mulfinger said he would bring an improvement plan to council June 22nd.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.