

Minutes

City Council Work Session Oelwein Community Plaza, 25 West Charles, Oelwein, Iowa

December 14, 2020 - 6:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Discussions

1. Discussion on Criminal Justice Reform Proposal

Chief Jeremy Logan announced a plan to work toward Criminal Justice Reform. Logan wanted to present an item Monday to gather support from City Council. Logan said that the current system of arresting minor criminals is not working and new ideas must be explored. Logan will provide a motion of support at the next council meeting.

2. Discussion on Community Development

Dylan Mulfinger presented with Jay Shekleton on the goals for community development. Mulfinger asked for feedback if council wanted an additional code enforcement officer. Council discussed the option of hiring or bringing in a private company to do rental inspections. Council wanted to see both options explored. Mulfinger said that current budget request exceeds the projected budget, but he would work on the numbers. A long conversation took place about code enforcement, and council directed staff to continue to push and work toward a cleaner community.

The council focused on building permits, rental inspection, vacant building, and code enforcement. Staff wants to make changes to the vacant building code and bring it back to city council in the summer of 2021. Staff discussed the main areas of code enforcement; trash, structural, grass (Fire Department), snow, vehicle (transitioning back to police department).

A new code enforcement officer would cost the city all in \$70,257 each year.

Dylan Mulfinger, City Administrator