

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, July 18, 2023 at 5:30 PM Court Room/Council Chambers (2nd floor) and Online

MINUTES

Mayor Olson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilors present included Councilors Adcock, Hathaway, Mecham, Montoya, and Siddoway

Others present included City Recorder Amalie Ottley, City Manager Norm Beagley, Legal Counsel Brett Rich, Community Services Director John Bradley.

Assistant City Manager Bond was excused from the meeting.

No members of the public attended the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Mecham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION/INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT

Community Services Director John Bradley offered an invocation.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Juneteenth Holiday Policy Discussion

Mayor Olson introduced previous conversations the City Council has had regarding the Juneteenth Holiday. He asked that council members carefully consider what policy should be put in place regarding the holiday. Mayor Olson discussed what holidays are currently available to city employees as well as two additional floating personal days throughout the year. Members of the council discussed how holidays affect the city's budget and what it costs in wages and missed work. Councilor Adcock stated he believes, in good conscious, and at this time, it is not financially responsible for the City to offer another holiday. He suggested that if employees wish to use a floating personal day for any holiday observance they may do so. Councilor Mecham expressed his opinion on both sides of the matter stating he believes more cities will offer Juneteenth as a paid holiday in the future and the City should prepare the budgets accordingly. He also agreed that using a floating holiday or trading an existing holiday on the calendar would allow for the City to afford the holiday. He asked that the mayor and city staff keep employees informed and the discussion continue until a solid decision is made and policy is written. Councilor Siddoway agreed that employees using a floating day off would make sense if they choose to observe the holiday. Councilor Hathaway agreed that the City needs to remain fiscally responsible as well as treat

employees well. He added that discussing the holiday year by year, the Council can keep up with the times and make sure that budgets are considered in the conversation. Mayor Olson expressed the importance of treating all employees of different races and religions fairly. He added that after the proposed tax increase is decided upon, the budgets need to be carefully considered in 2024 so that future decisions made be made. Councilor Montoya added her thoughts on the importance of the holiday being recognized by everyone in our country, not just of African American descent, to express gratitude to those who were and are affected by Juneteenth personally. She asked that council members and staff introspectively consider how to commemorate a national event and how to appropriately observe it. She expressed her approval of employees having a floating personal day and using it for any holiday observance if they choose to do so.

2. City Hall Rental Fees

Community Services Director John Bradley discussed a proposal for City Hall Rental Fees and past discussions he had with the City Council. He explained that rates will be split between residents and non-residents and weekday versus weekend rates. Councilor Adcock asked Director Bradley to clarify what time of day rentals would be available to the community. Councilor Montoya asked how much of a rental fee will be dedicated to employee fees as an employee will be present at the building during all events and rental times. Director Bradley added that the current Recreation building may be prepared for rental as well. Manager Beagley discussed guidelines for rentals, such as times the building will or won't be open as well as cleaning and maintenance of the rooms. Mayor Olson expressed his concern about pricing for rentals in comparison to other venues in the area and asked that Director Bradley reach out to local business owners.

3. Orchard Days Update

Community Services Director John Bradley updated the Council on the upcoming Orchard Days events. He discussed the significant savings by printing postcards rather than magazines for all households. Director Bradley informed the Council that the sign discussed at the last work session for the rodeo grounds is complete and will be installed by the time the rodeo commences.

4. Upcoming Agenda Items

Mayor Olson, staff, and council members discussed items on the upcoming Regular City Council meeting agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Mecham motioned to adjourn the Work Session Meeting. Councilor Siddoway seconded the motion.

Councilor Adcock Yes
Councilor Hathaway Yes
Councilor Mecham Yes
Councilor Montoya Yes
Councilor Siddoway Yes

Motion passed unanimously in the affirmative. The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Mecham, Mayor Pro Tem

Amalie R. Ottley, City Recorder