

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 30, 2019**

The Wayne City Council met in special session at City Hall on Tuesday, April 30, 2019, at 5:00 o'clock P.M.

Mayor Cale Giese called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, with the following in attendance: Councilmembers Dwaine Spieker, Terri Buck, Jon Haase, Jennifer Sievers, Chris Woehler, Jason Karsky, Matt Eischeid and Jill Brodersen; City Attorney Amy Miller; City Administrator Wes Blecke; and City Clerk Betty McGuire.

Notice of the convening meeting was given in advance by posting in three places on April 25, 2019, and a copy of the meeting notice and agenda were simultaneously given to the Mayor and all members of the City Council. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the Council convened in open session.

Mayor Giese advised the public that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was located on the south wall of the Council Chambers and was available for public inspection. In addition, he advised the public that the Council may go into closed session to discuss certain agenda items to protect the public interest or to prevent the needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public hearing.

The following items were discussed:

- Virgil Kardell spoke to the Council on a proposed housing development he would like to undertake on property he owns north of Great Dane (approximately 75 acres). He is in the preliminary stages. He met with the County to talk about the possibility of having them pave the County road. Some of this road is in city limits. His hope is that the City would also consider working with the County on paving that road.
- Dr. Marysz Rames, President of Wayne State College, spoke about enrollment, student housing, and as an institution, where they would expand.
- Administrator Blecke and Street and Planning Director Hansen explained the purpose of the Problem Resolution Team and the process.
- Downtown Parking and Housing – Administrator Blecke stated that if the Council wants housing downtown, then the issue becomes parking – they looked at 2nd and Logan, the Riley's area, and the area behind the auditorium for potential parking.

Administrator Blecke explained the process for platting the area by the softball complex/lagoon/4th Street. The property has to be platted before the property can be sold. He noted that the community garden, for this year, can stay where it is at.

- Bressler Park Stage Renovation – Councilmember Brodersen distributed a couple of options/rough sketches of what the renovation of the stage could look like. She would visit more with staff in regard to what they can do to help alleviate some of the costs.
- Auditorium and auditorium apartment – Councilmember Brodersen advised the Council that the entryway is getting painted, as well as the entry corridor, and the ticket booth is getting refinished. Options are being looked at to renovate the apartment upstairs, which may spark interest for others in the downtown. It was noted that the auditorium, if kept, needs to be maintained. The concern was that this building is being underutilized.

Administrator Blecke stated the Fire Marshal looked at the apartment and was very supportive of it. Zach Heating was providing staff with an estimate of what it would take to move the heating and air conditioning system that is in there now.

- Proposed half-cent sales tax – Mayor Giese stated with the increased costs, he thinks it is in the best interest of Wayne residents to raise the sales tax an additional .5%. This would be a ballot initiative. Currently, we are at our max – 1.5%, but this can be increased by .5% with an interlocal agreement with the County, School, etc. The additional revenue could be used for park equipment, infrastructure, recreation, beautification, street maintenance, etc. Staff will research the matter for more details to bring back to Council.
- Water Update – Water Main and Controls – Staff updated the Council on the water line issues at the city auditorium. Staff was suggesting that with the Water Main Transmission project, that the “controls,” which would roll all system communications into one system be part of this project. This would be an additional \$115,000. If this were to be purchased, staff could run the entire water and sewer system from a tablet/computer from their home.
- City Engineer – Discussion took place on whether or not to appoint a city engineer. The last time Wayne appointed a city engineer was in 2007 and that was Olsson Associates.
- City Hall Study – Staff recommendation was to hire an engineer to come in and tell staff what the issues are in this building, whether or not it is structurally sound, etc. Administrator Blecke has contacted two construction companies to give a free estimate of what they think it would cost to upgrade the building.
- Electric Power Update - Administrator Blecke and Electric Distribution Superintendent Tim Sutton updated the Council on this matter.
- Luke Virgil, WAED Director, gave an update on economic development, housing, existing and new businesses, and employment concerns.

Councilmembers Buck and Brodersen left the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Councilmember Sievers made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Spieker, to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Giese stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, the Mayor declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.