

JOINT MEETING:
JOHNSTON CITY COUNCIL
JOHNSTON SCHOOL BOARD

Johnston City Hall, City Council Chamber
6221 Merle Hay Road,
Tuesday, February 16, 2016
6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Clabaugh, Brown, Cope, Temple

Absent: Lindeman

Council Member Cope arrived at 6:19 p.m.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND UPDATES

a. Update on High School Construction Project

Johnston Community School District Superintendent Corey Lunn provided an update on the project, noting that it was on budget and was on schedule to open in 2017.

b. Update on Transportation Planning

Laura Kacer, Executive Director of Human Resources for JCSD, reviewed the work being done on the transportation issue ahead of making a final decision. She noted that the district was working on how eligibility would be determined, the possibility of privatization, and safety concerns. She stated that maps for impacted families were available. She also noted that issues related to parent drop off and pick up were being looked at in relation to the possible transportation changes.

c. Report on the status and timing of improvements to the roads (NW 70th Avenue, NW 100th Street, the intersection of NW 100th Street and NW 54th Avenue, the NW 100th Street bridge over Interstate 35/80 and the NW Beaver Drive bridge over Interstate 35/80)

City of Johnston Public Works Director Dave Cubit provided a brief update on the roadway projects and timelines, and noted that NW 100th Street work was slated to be completed prior to the opening of the new high school.

d. Traffic control and crossing guards near school sites

Kacer reviewed the need for crossing guards as well as the district's research into the funding of the program, noting that in Urbandale crossing guards are city employees. Further discussion ensued regarding the responsibility that other cities with students in the district would bear. Council and Board members agreed to continue to look into the issue.

e. Long term plan for Lawson School Area sidewalks and trails

Cubit provided a handout which identified proposed improvements and timelines for sidewalks and trails. He also advised that a number of these were dependent on road improvement projects throughout the city.

- f. Review school district actions to address student mental health and suicide prevention; possible city partnerships and actions
Lunn provided information on current resources and programs in place as well as those being implemented in the near future. The Council and the Board discussed the impact that suicides have on the community and noted their desire to continue the conversation and to continue to explore partnerships and resources available.
- g. Discuss joint fiber optic project
Cubit provided an update on the project, specifically noting those areas impacting the school district. He advised that Phase III was currently underway and was scheduled for an August 1, 2016 completion date.
- h. Update on the School Resource Officer Program
Chief of Police Bill Vaughn provided an update on the program, noting that it continues to be a valuable partnership for both parties. The Board also noted their appreciation for the Police Department's Adopt-a-School program, and were finding it to be beneficial.
- i. Review Community Development Report
Community Development Director David Wilwerding noted that the Development Guide had been distributed to the Council and Board. Wilwerding highlighted pertinent information including the special census underway, the fourth highest commercial development year in 2015, and the demolition of the hotel in the Gateway area.
- j. Report on the Tax Increment Financing program
City Administrator Jim Sanders noted that he had provided information on the TIF program to the Council and the Board. He also noted that there were a few TIF districts that would be sunsetting and the Council would be looking at those districts.
- k. Other discussion items
The Council and the Board agreed that the joint sessions are helpful and that they would continue to work together on issues that impact the community.

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Paula S. Dierenfeld, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cyndee D. Rhames, City Clerk