

JOHNSTON CITY COUNCIL
Worksession No. 16-14
Johnston City Hall, 6221 Merle Hay Road
TUESDAY, July 5, 2016
6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dierenfeld called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Clabaugh, Lindeman, Cope, Temple
Absent: Brown

3. PRESENTATION FROM THE DES MOINES METROPOLITAN AREA MPO REGARDING THE WATER TRAILS PROJECT

Community Development Director David Wilwerding noted that the MPO had been working on the Water Trails project for over a year. He also noted that he was the city's representative on the project. Wilwerding introduced Todd Ashby, Executive Director of the MPO. Ashby noted that the Water Trails project included nearly 150 miles of waterways in central Iowa, including six and a half miles along Beaver Creek. Ashby introduced Teva Dawson, Lead Planner at the MPO. Dawson reviewed the vision of the Beaver Creek area and discussed potential areas for improvements. Dawson also talked about the downtown Des Moines portion of the project. Rick Tollackson, President and CEO of Hubbell Realty Co. and chair of the Water Trails Steering Committee, also addressed the Council regarding the Water Trails project. Tollackson noted that he had been on the Beaver Creek waterway and explained some of the issues encountered, including ingress and egress points and log jams. Tollackson advised that the committee was continuing to receive public input and that the Master Plan was slated for MPO approval in the fall of 2016. He also advised that member communities would be asked to contribute to the project, with Johnston's share estimated at approximately \$20,000.

Resident Mark Scherer, 6916 Tenacity Lane, also addressed the Council, advising that he saw the potential in the proposed plan, and would encourage the MPO to look at adding chutes along the NW 62nd Avenue and Merle Hay Road areas of Beaver Creek, to encourage enthusiasm among the public. He also encouraged the MPO to take into consideration the potential for high water volumes along the Des Moines River and plan accordingly to avoid having structures washed out.

As there was time remaining in the Worksession the following items were moved from the regular meeting agenda:

10a. CITY ADMINISTRATOR STAFF COMMENTS

Update on Water Quality Sampling Program

Wilwerding noted that the full sampling results were available in the materials provided to the Council. He noted that now that the Greenwood Hills improvements are online, it would be interesting to see the impact on the areas downstream.

Council Member Clabaugh asked if it was now time to begin addressing communication and education of the public. Wilwerding noted that efforts were underway as part of the Stormwater Homeowner Grant program.

Parks Director John Schmitz also provided an update on the DNR's review of the fish and vegetation in Terra Lake, noting that they were impressed by the quality of vegetation and the growth of the fish. He also noted that fishing was still on track to open in July of 2017. Schmitz also updated the Council on construction progress at Terra Park.

10b. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Cope noted that he had attended a meeting hosted by Public Works and Foth Infrastructure for the residents impacted by the NW 54th Avenue/East of Merle Hay Road project. He advised that the meeting went well and the neighbors in attendance seemed to be embracing the project.

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Paula S. Dierenfeld, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cyndee Rhames, City Clerk