

JOHNSTON CITY COUNCIL

Worksession No. 08-16

Johnston City Hall, 6221 Merle Hay Road, Johnston, Iowa 50131

August 18, 2008

6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dierenfeld called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Clabaugh, Hibbs, Kallen

Absent: Culbert, Tingley

3. CLOSED SESSION

Per *Iowa Code* §21.5.1 (j): To discuss the purchase of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the governmental body would have to pay for that property. The minutes and the tape recording of a session closed under this paragraph shall be available for public examination when the transaction discussed is completed.

Motion by Clabaugh second by Kallen to enter into Closed Session.

ROLL CALL: Aye: Hibbs, Kallen, Clabaugh

Nay: None

Motion Approved: 3-0

Entered into closed session at 6:04 p.m.

Entered into open session at 6:21 p.m.

4. DISCUSS SPACE NEEDS STUDY

Management Analyst Lucas Casey reviewed the results of the study and noted that staff was recommending the creation of a Council sub-committee to follow up on the suggestions made in the report.

Council members Hibbs and Clabaugh volunteered to serve on the sub-committee.

5. DISCUSS ISSUES CONCERNING TREES LOCATED IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY.

Parks Director Ron Ward advised the Council that there was an issue with the maintenance of trees in the right-of-way throughout the city. He noted that although City Code required property owners to maintain the trees in the right-of-way, the Code lacked an enforcement mechanism.

Council members had questions regarding the policies of other metro communities and recommended that further discussion occur on the subject.

6. DISCUSS CHANGES TO THE JOHNSTON TREE ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 150 IN THE JOHNSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES.

Ward noted that some of the issues discussed in the previous item could be eliminated by making changes in the Tree Ordinance that would require application for a right-of-way permit as well as clearly defining which trees are suitable for planting in the right-of-way. These changes would also address the potential threat from the Emerald Ash borer.

Ward noted that he would continue to work with the City Attorney in drafting the proposed changes and these changes would come back before the Council for approval.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

---

Gerd Clabaugh, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

---

Cyndee D. Rhames, City Clerk