

JOHNSTON CITY COUNCIL

Worksession No. 08-18

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

September 15, 2008

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, Hibbs, Kallen, Culbert, Tingley

Absent: None

3. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED CELLULAR TELEPHONE ASSIGNMENT AND STIPEND ELIGIBILITY POLICY.

Assistant City Administrator Stephanie Reynolds reviewed the proposed plan, which is in response to the IRS ruling that cellular telephones and service are considered taxable benefits.

She noted that those employees opting to use their own cell phone and service would receive a monthly stipend, while employees using city owned cell phones would not. Further, the city issued cell phone bill will be audited by each employee and department director before being submitted for payment.

Reynolds noted that the plan was on the regular agenda for approval this evening.

4. DISCUSSION REGARDING CITY COUNCIL HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE'S COMPENSATION PLAN RECOMMENDATION FOR PROFESSIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES.

Reynolds noted that the Human Resources Committee had been meeting over the past few months in an effort to revise the compensation plan for non-union staff to remain competitive with other metro area communities.

She noted that during the course of the Committee's meeting it was determined that the closure pay program was still an effective process to use with some additional guidelines such as the implementation of a cost of living increase, and an increase of the percentage paid through the closure program. She also noted that the Committee had recommended making the compensation package part of the budget.

Reynolds answered questions from the Council regarding the proposed compensation plan.

Council members noted their approval of proposed plan and commented that they felt the compensation plan would help maintain the professional staff in place now as well as attract quality applicants for vacancies that may occur in the future.

5. DISCUSSION AND GUIDANCE ON PROPOSED SCHOOL CROSSWALK ALONG NW 86TH STREET NEAR BEAVER CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

Public Works Director Dave Cubit noted that the school district had inquired about the possibility of the installation of a crosswalk along NW 86th Street near Beaver Creek Elementary School.

Cubit advised that the location proposed by the school district was not supported by staff as it would create a mid-block crossing.

After discussions with the school district, staff was recommending that the crosswalk be placed at Lyndhurst and NW 86th Street. This proposal was acceptable to the school district as well.

The school district will be responsible for all costs related to the installation of the crosswalk.

The school district is also planning to install a new sidewalk from the walk at NW 86th Street west to the east entrance of the school. This sidewalk will be a school district initiative.

Council members noted their support of the crosswalk at Lyndhurst and NW 86th Street.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Paula S. Dierenfeld, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cyndee D. Rhames, City Clerk