

JOHNSTON CITY COUNCIL

Worksession No. 17-07

Johnston City Hall, 6221 Merle Hay Road

March 20, 2017

6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dierenfeld called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Clabaugh, Lindeman, Brown,

Absent: Cope, Temple

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, which was seconded by Lindeman to enter into Closed Session

ROLL CALL: Aye: Lindeman, Brown, Clabaugh

Nay: None

Motion Approved: 3-0

The meeting entered into Closed Session at 6:04 p.m.

The meeting entered into Open Session at 6:20 p.m.

4. CLOSED SESSION

Per *Iowa Code* §21.5(1)(k) – To discuss Security Assessments and Emergency Preparedness

Motion by Lindeman, which was seconded by Clabaugh to enter into Closed Session

ROLL CALL: Aye: Brown, Clabaugh, Lindeman

Nay: None

Motion Approved: 3-0

The meeting entered into Closed Session at 6:20 p.m.

The meeting entered into Open Session at 6:45 p.m.

Fire Chief Jim Clark discussed severe weather week (March 27th - March 31st) and reviewed the topics for each day. Chief Clark stated he would work with Emily Price to communicate the tests and put out severe weather awareness information. Clark mentioned the annual tornado test watch / warning and the times to expect them on Wednesday, March 29th with the immediately following Thursday and Friday being back-up dates in case of actual severe weather on Wednesday. Chief Clark also discussed updating emergency plans for all buildings and getting full complete sets in each building. Chief Clark mentioned planning for business continuity in case of a long term need to vacate City Hall, and certain table top exercises for department heads and key personnel to participate in during upcoming training sessions.

City Administrator Jim Sanders mentioned / reminded staff and elected officials where individuals present at City Hall will go in case of a tornado – the primary area is the restrooms, with secondary areas being the kitchen and break room. Sanders also mentioned that the south parking lot is the area to congregate in case of a complete evacuation of the City Hall building for any reason.

5. DEBRIS MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION

Director of Public Works Matt Greiner introduced this topic and provided an update on the City's policy. Greiner stated that the City has a regional policy which meets FEMA requirements for eligibility of funds.

Greiner discussed the tree / vegetation right-of-way policy and responsibilities of the abutting homeowner and the City. Typically it is the responsibility of the abutting homeowner, but in the case of a non-viable tree from a wind storm or if the tree poses an immediate health or safety threat, the City will come in and remove the tree. Greiner mentioned that public works and parks staff complete the analysis of damage evaluation (damage assessment team). A damage assessment report is completed, which is then vetted through the Public Works Director and submitted to the City Administrator with a recommendation, who then relays information and final course of action to the Council prior to releasing information for general public.

Greiner discussed the classifications of damage types: for minor damage, the City will utilize the normal Compost It program; major damage event would also utilize the normal program, but at no cost to the residents, along with the City coming in and picking up the larger items with a 4-6" circumference and greater. Residents would still need to bundle the larger items. For large scale damage events, there will be drop off sites and pick-up at no cost to the property owner along with the normal Compost It program.

6. MERLE HAY ROAD REDEVELOPMENT PLAN CONCEPTUAL DESIGN

Economic Development Manager Adam Plagge introduced the Merle Hay Road Development Plan Concept Design. Plagge mentioned working with Confluence on some preliminary conceptual designs for the City Hall area. Plagge mentioned that they were still working through the concepts with some of the developers and brokers but that they would be shared at the next Johnston Economic Development Corporation (JEDCO) meeting. Plagge mentioned looking for any feedback prior to sharing at JEDCO. Plagge stated that the concepts would entail a 5-10 year program through completion with each concept having a different approach, timeline, and layout.

7. WEBSITE REVEAL

Communications Analyst Emily Price mentioned the website redesign and that the go live date will be Wednesday, March 22nd. Price mentioned it was very similar to what we have now, but more updated, more conveniences and user friendly. Price then went over the new aspects of the website and how it was organized based on most commonly utilized functionality.

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Paula S. Dierenfeld, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cyndee Rhames, City Clerk