

JAMESTOWN CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING, FEBRUARY 10, 2009
OFFICIAL MINUTES

The special meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Liechty at 4:00 P.M.

Roll Call showed the following members present: Mayor Liechty, Council Members Kourajian, Nygaard, Parisien and Schulz, City Attorney Dalsted, City Engineer Schwartzkopf and City Administrator Fuchs.

The purpose of the meeting was to meet with the Stutsman County Commission members relative to the draft Memorandum of Understanding regarding a joint library board.

Mayor Liechty inquired whether 90 days was a sufficient amount of time for the new joint library board to prepare themselves for assuming library responsibility. It was determined that 90 days appeared to be sufficient and should the board feel additional time is needed, they could request so from the City Council and the County Commission.

Consensus was to replace the requirement for an audit of the City Library and the County Library effective the same date as the effective date of the MOA, to a requirement for procuring a review based on agreed upon procedures.

Discussion was held regarding whether the member to be appointed jointly by the City Council and the County Commission should be the designated chairman of the joint board. Consensus was to have the person to be appointed by the two boards as the first appointment and to not have this individual designated as chairman, but to allow the board to select its own chairman.

Consensus was to have the member jointly appointed by the two boards subject to removal by a majority vote of each of the two boards based on total membership on the board rather than a majority vote of a quorum of the two boards.

Consensus was to place the revised draft of the Memorandum of Understanding on the February 17, 2009, Finance & Legal Committee meeting.

City staff updated the City Council and provided information relative to the many concerns expressed by area residents with the condition of the alleys throughout the city as a result of the recent warm temperatures and the receipt of approximately 0.6 inches of abnormal winter rainfall.

City staff have been concentrating on elimination of standing water on streets by clearing storm drains as well as dealing with severe icing problems on roadways in an attempt to reduce property damage caused by the water as well as keeping streets as safe as possible for the motoring and pedestrian traffic.

A possible plan for attempting to improve alley conditions was presented; however, concerns were expressed relative to heavy equipment creating situations worse than currently exist. In addition, a number of concerns were expressed relative to potential property damage, utility damage and operator safety as a result of efforts to remedy current alley situations.

Council Members Parisien and Nygaard expressed concerns with potential efforts being proposed for the alleys and felt that the crews should concentrate efforts on the streets and storm drains as that was more important than alleys. Mayor Liechty and Council Member Kourajian indicated that at least an attempt should be made on a number of alleys to see if something could be done to improve their condition. Council Member Schulz also indicated that he would like to see something done with at least the entrances to the alleys; however, he understood that this may not be feasible until such time as storm drains were cleared.

City Engineer Schwartzkopf indicated that he would meet with staff and determine the best course of action to implement including the possibility of waiting for

temperatures to drop for several days prior to attempting partial cleanup of alleys.

Council Member Nygaard moved to adjourn. Seconded by Council Member Schulz. Unanimous aye vote. Carried.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

JEFF FUCHS, City Administrator

CLARICE LIECHTY, Mayor