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CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES

JUNE 4, 2018

Members of the City Council of the City of Crawford, Nebraska, met in a workshop in the old Crawford Fire Hall, 220 Elm Street, Crawford, Nebraska on the 4th day of June, 2018, at 6:30 o'clock p.m. The following individuals were present: Mayor David Nixon, Council Member Ed Kuhnel, Council Member Roy Norgard, and Council Member Connie Shell. Absent: Attorney Adam Edmund and Council Member Larry Olson.

Notice of the workshop was given in advance thereof by publishing in The Crawford Clipper/Harrison Sun as shown by the affidavit of publication filed in the City Clerk's office at City Hall and by posting at three locations: City Hall, D & S Market and the US Post Office, as certified and filed in the City Clerk's office at City Hall. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice of the Mayor and City Council of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened workshop was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Nixon called the workshop to order and declared a quorum present at 6:33 p.m. and announced to the public that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the wall in the old Fire Hall. It is also available in pamphlet form.

The discussion on the possible adaptive uses of the old Fire Hall were discussed. Mayor Nixon has visited with Daniel Bennett of Panhandle Area Development District. Ideas for use of the old Fire Hall include a Chamber Information Center, office space for RSVP and public bathrooms. The west wall is not attached to the Bowling Alley. There are also people interested in buying the old Fire Hall, and could be done by sealed bid. Selling it would likely result in producing another city utility account, property tax and any sales tax associated with that business. Daniel suggested we consider a place that draws people to downtown and to meet needs that are not being met. The Greater Good grants are a one-to-one match and the match can be at least partly assets and in-kind. Tyler Irvine is the contact for Greater Good. We would need to make sure that anyone bidding on it had a permitted use in mind. If sold, there could be a condition that the work would need to start within six months (or whatever time is chosen) and the City could do an RFP (request for proposal) that would require the bidder to submit a business plan along with their bid. If sold, the proceeds would likely go to the general fund and could later be transferred to a different department. Existing buildings and potential uses to satisfy City needs were also discussed, including the balloon building, the street shop and the granary building at the entrance to the park.

Cemetery policies were discussed. There were initial comments to let the families decide on placement of monuments, which way to face, etc. Other issues regarded the planting of trees and bushes and the City reserving the right to trim and remove them when needed, how many markers to allow per burial space such as one stone and one military marker per space, allowing benches and whether they need to be placed on a separate space.

Reviewing the opinions of those present regarding the use of the old Fire Hall: do an RFP for bid and intended use, keep in mind the overall needs of the community, get a list of current buildings, have a stipulation in the bid and sell it, the City doesn't currently have enough people to do everything so why take on more, sell off some of the City's smaller properties and use the money to fix up the balloon building to


use as a street shop, preferences that it not be used just for storage. Rachel Johnson expressed appreciation to the City for their current space and she continues to look for a solution for both RSVP and the museum. A committee of Roy Norgard, Mike Reynoldson, Creighton Grant and Carl Burrous could look into a cost analysis of all the City's buildings – to look at all these buildings and what we should do with them. Mayor Nixon summarized the issue to include looking at all the City's properties, consider the Greater Good, RSVP and museum, not to be used as a warehouse, the Community Conference Area (least popular idea), look at adaptive uses of all the surplus City's buildings and using the balloon building as a street shop; and get the community involved; and supported the idea of a bid with a business plan.

The Street Plan is to paint the lines and crosswalks before July 4th. The entrance to the Park should just get patched for now with hot/cold patch (not just red rock), until we know what the plans are for the bridge – will seek a statement from Street Superintendent Tony Krajewski on his letterhead. We should round the corner on the back road to the Park.


Council Member Shell made a motion to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. There was a comment that if the weight limit is increased on the bridge we should do a hot-mix on the Park entrance. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kuhnel. The following Council Members voted AYE: Shell, Kuhnel and Norgard. Council Members voted NAY: None. Motion carried.

The June 4th workshop of the City Council concluded at 8:38 p.m.

Minutes by:


Jane Dailey
City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved by:


David Nixon
Mayor