

City of Harrington
MINUTES
City Council Workshop
August 4, 2014

A workshop with the Harrington City Council was held at Harrington City Hall, 106 Dorman Street, on August 4, 2014 and was attended by the following: Mayor Anthony R. Moyer; Vice Mayor Cheryl J. Lahman; Council Member Duane E. Bivans; Council Member Fonda Coleman; Council Member Charles W. Porter; Council Member Kenneth W. Stubbs; Sergeant Adam Gillespie, Police Department; William Pepper, City Solicitor; Teresa Tieman, City Manager; Dean Gary, Accountant; and Kelly Blanchies, Clerk of Council.

Also present: Tom Wilkes, Remington, Vernick, and Beach, City Engineer; Barbara Bullock, Charles Carr; Kathryn Blanchette; Richard Niehorster; and Linda Niehorster.

Council Member Amy L. Minner was absent.

Public Comments

Barbara Bullock asked about the Public Works take home vehicles, the part time Code Enforcement Officer, and the vacant building fees. The City Manager stated that no decision has been made on the take home vehicles, it was determined not to hire a part time Code Enforcement Officer, and the vacant building fee is seventy-five dollars (\$75) annually.

Mayor Moyer called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Discussion of USDA grants

The City Manager stated that the application is still being worked on for the USDA loan for seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000) with four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) in grant money. More information should be available soon.

Utility bill for 8 Clark Street

Council Member Porter recommended that the City Manager be instructed to resolve the billing issue.

Mayor Moyer stated that he met with Richard Niehorster on Saturday at the property. There was no indication of any plumbing repairs.

Vice Mayor Lahman stated that she would like to see the City work with the owners in order to be business friendly.

Council Member Stubbs asked about the temperatures during the period of high usage. Mr. Niehorster stated that the building was vacant but heated.

Council Member Stubbs stated that the meter was tested as accurate.

Council Member Porter recommended that the City Manager handle the issue at her discretion, and it not be placed on the next agenda. Council Member Bivans asked for the City Manager to share the resolution of the issue with the City Council.

Quadrant I inflow and infiltration remediation project

The City Engineer stated that meters were used to measure the flow at different manholes during wet and dry weather to determine the areas where inflow and infiltration (I & I) are the worst.

Council Member Stubbs asked if the inflow at the manholes results in an instant impact to the flow at the pump station. The City Engineer replied yes.

Discussion occurred regarding the guarantees for pipe lining and grouting.

The City Manager asked if periodic testing should be done on the lines. The City Engineer replied that is not necessary unless there are indications of a problem.

Mayor Moyer asked if pressurizing the line would blow out the traps in people's homes. The City Engineer stated that just the joints will be sectioned off. Council Member Stubbs stated that the laterals can be plugged.

Mayor Moyer asked for an estimate of how much the I & I will be reduced. The City Engineer stated that it should be reduced by at least half in this quadrant.

Council Member Porter asked about the cost of the project. The City Manager stated that phase one is approximately five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000). The USDA is trying to use up fiscal year 2014 money.

Council Member Porter asked how long phase one would take. The City Engineer stated that it would take approximately two to three months.

Council Member Porter asked if it was possible to front the money to start the project. The City Engineer stated that the USDA will not reimburse the City. The

City Manager stated that the USDA is willing to give the City four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) in grants if the City spends two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) more than we originally intended to.

Discussion occurred regarding the effect of weather on the work.

Mayor Moyer asked that the City receive a copy of the video from the lines.

Council Member Bivans asked how much pressure is normally in the lines. The City Engineer replied none; it is gravity fed.

The City Manager stated that the lines will be fixed as the problems are found. The City Engineer stated that instead of doing a study then going back to fix the lines, this will save time and money.

Council Member Bivans stated that he is concerned about getting the project done in a timely fashion. Discussion occurred regarding bonds and logistics of the project.

Mayor Moyer asked about starting the bid process now.

City Council Chambers

Council Member Bivans stated that he does not think the layout of the Council chambers promotes safety or serves the people. A differently shaped table and a podium for people to stand to speak out may be needed.

Discussion occurred regarding possible layouts.

Public Comments

Kathryn Blanchette agreed that the layout of Council Chambers should change.

City Council Comments

There were no City Council Comments.

There being no further business, the City Council Workshop adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Blanchies
Clerk of Council