

City of Harrington
MINUTES
City Council Workshop
January 4, 2016

A workshop with the Harrington City Council was held at Harrington City Hall, 106 Dorman Street, on January 4, 2016 and was attended by the following: Mayor Anthony R. Moyer; Vice Mayor Duane E. Bivans; Council Member Fonda Coleman; Council Member Eric Marquis; Council Member Amy Minner; Council Member Charles W. Porter; Council Member Kenneth W. Stubbs; Norman Barlow, Chief of Police; Noel Primos, Attorney; Teresa Tieman, City Manager; and Kelly Blanchies, Clerk of Council.

Also present: Jennifer Antonik and Barbara Bullock.

Mayor Moyer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Electronic message sign for special events

Vice Mayor Bivans stated that sometimes when events are cancelled, they are not removed from the City's electronic message sign and that on the day of events, the only message on the sign should be that event.

Mayor Moyer stated that the sign must be changed with a laptop at the sign, so it cannot be changed in bad weather.

Council Member Minner stated that there are business signs on the highway that could advertise events.

The Clerk of Council stated that there is a limited amount of space on the sign so messages must be short and that event cancellations are posted on the City's website and the Police and Parks and Recreation Facebook pages.

Council Member Marquis stated that posting an event that is currently happening is advertising to people that are already there.

Establishment of a tax abatement program for new businesses

The City Manager stated that the City currently has a downtown revitalization program, but there have been a few new businesses that have come to the highway that do not fit in that district but have asked if the City has a program.

Council Member Porter stated that the intention when the downtown revitalization program started was to have it citywide.

Mayor Moyer stated that he would like a program that offers property tax credits for businesses that hire employees from within city limits and for first time home buyers.

The City Manager stated that she will research a program and get back to the City Council.

Council Member Marquis stated that there should be incentives for builders to build houses on the empty lots.

Noel Primos stated that the time and cost of administering a program should also be considered.

Term limits for Mayor and Council Members

Mayor Moyer asked that term limits be discussed the next workshop.

Mayor Moyer asked that the City Council submit any changes to the Charter that they would like to Council Member Minner.

Public Comments

Council Member Porter stated that he would like an update on the capital projects.

Council Member Minner stated that she would like an update on the planning projects.

Vice Mayor Bivans stated that the people that write the monthly reports should attend a meeting at least once a quarter.

Mayor Moyer stated that he has received positive comments about Officer Klotz.

Council Member Minner asked that the temporary "no parking" signs stand out better.

There being no further business, the City Council Workshop adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kelly Blanchies
Clerk of Council