

City of Harrington
MINUTES
City Council Workshop
May 29, 2013

A workshop with the Harrington City Council was held on May 29, 2013 and was attended by the following: Vice Mayor Cheryl Lahman; Council Member Amy Minner; Council Member Wayne Porter; Council Member Kenneth Stubbs; Norman Barlow, Chief of Police; Teresa Tieman, City Manager; Faye Smith, Finance Director; and Kelly Blanchies, Clerk of Council.

Also in attendance: Ruth Peterman, Police Resource Manager; and Anthony Moyer.

Mayor Robert E. Price, Jr.; Council Member Duane E. Bivans; and Council Member Fonda Coleman were absent.

Vice Mayor Lahman called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Budget & Finance Committee

Public Hearing on FY 2014 Budget

There were no comments from the public.

FY 2014 Budget Review

The Finance Director stated that the Public Works Supervisor agreed that the overtime for the Public Works, Water, and Wastewater Departments should probably be increased. The total increase was two thousand twenty-two dollars (\$2,022). In previous years, the budget has been about six thousand dollars (\$6,000). Last year the budgeted amount was four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500) but went over because of the water meter installation project.

The Finance Director stated that on the holiday expenses, two thousand two hundred dollars (\$2,200) was reinstated to cover the pole wraps, flags, etcetera under a miscellaneous line in general government. The Finance Director stated that when that line is used, she will provide a list of what it is used for.

The City Manager stated that she checked DeIDOT's Capital Improvement Plan through 2018, and there no plans for any major work on Route 13.

The City Manager stated that the City Engineer said that the lagoon closure plan is estimated to take about two years; it could be made into a three or four year project but that would involve additional costs for mobilization of about ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000).

The City Manager stated that she researched why the sewer line from Friendship Village was connected to the Dorman Street sewer line, but there was no conclusive information in the meeting minutes. There were times in 2003 when Friendship Village came in to discuss the pump station with Council and that there was an obvious issue with inflow and infiltration (I & I) in that area. They did not want to pay for a problem that already existed. Vice Mayor Lahman asked who was at the meetings from Friendship Village. The City Manager stated Bill DiMondi, Henry Mast, Roy Kline, and Greg Moore from Becker Morgan. Council Member Stubbs stated that Davis, Bowen, and Friedel were involved in the project as well. Friendship Village offered to pay their impact fees up front in order for the City to fix the I & I problems, but the City declined. The City Manager stated that she asked the City Solicitor if the City had any recourse and was told that the time has elapsed and lawsuit settled. Council Member Stubbs stated that with any developer, if there is an impact to a City's system, the developer is to make the upgrades. The City Manager stated that Greg Moore stated in the minutes that Friendship Village would pay for any impact to the system but did not want to pay to solve a problem that already existed. Vice Mayor Lahman stated that the problem will not surface until there is the impact of the development. The City Manager stated that the City Planner thought it might have had something to do with the building of the new school. The City will have to fix the line when the development is built out.

The City Manager stated that she received clarification from the City Planner that for most of the current projects, there is no movement on them because the banking industry has changed and there is no demand. Vice Mayor Lahman asked if there was anything the City could do. The City Manager stated no, it is out of the City's control. No one had any issues with the City's process. Vice Mayor Lahman stated that the applicants should only be pushed if the City has something additional to offer them.

Vice Mayor Lahman asked when the next budget meetings are scheduled. The Clerk of Council replied that there is one scheduled for May 30, 2013. Vice Mayor Lahman stated that one could be canceled. The Clerk of Council stated that there is a budget meeting scheduled for June 6, 2013. The City Manager stated that the City Planner will be making a presentation on the scope of rewriting Chapter 440 of the Code and rezoning at that meeting.

The City Manager stated that the City received the Comprehensive Plan PLUS review comments, and they were very good. The City has eighteen months to rezone after the Comprehensive Plan.

Vice Mayor Lahman asked what the original estimate was to rewrite Chapter 440. The Clerk of Council stated that she will research that information.

Vice Mayor Lahman asked when the final budget will be approved. The City Manager replied that the FY14 budget and revised FY13 budget will be approved by resolution at the June 17, 2013 City Council Meeting.

Anthony Moyer asked if there would be another public hearing. The City Manager replied no, there has never been a public hearing on the budget.

Council Member Minner asked if the yearly fees for monitoring of the proposed alarm system are included in the budget. The Finance Director stated no. The City Manager stated that it will have to be added.

The City Manager stated that the Source Water Protection Chapter will have to be rewritten as well.

Mr. Moyer asked if the SCADA system is proprietary or if the City will own it. The City Manager replied that the City will own it, and the County will install and support it. Mr. Moyer asked if it will be monitored by computer. The City Manager replied that it is manned monitoring in the County's communications center. There will not be a monitoring fee as long as the City has an on-call number, which we do.

Council Member Minner stated that the fire alarm system estimate requires two non-dedicated, hard copper phone lines and asked if the City has that. The City Manager replied yes; there is also a meeting with Comcast tomorrow to discuss the phone lines. Mr. Moyer asked if the SCADA system would require phone lines. The City Manager replied that it is radio technology. There is a system that uses cell phones that will probably be used to monitor the four wells. The environmental impact is more serious with the wastewater system.

Council Member Porter asked how much the City Planner charged to prepare the report update. The City Manager stated that she has not received a bill yet. Vice Mayor Lahman asked if there is a charge for the usual monthly City Planner's report. The City Manager stated that the City Planner charges for the monthly report only if it takes longer than fifteen minutes to prepare.

The City Manager stated that the water project on Clark Street will run under the sidewalk, but DeIDOT would like it done as soon as possible. It will not hold up the paving of Route 14, but if they use a vibratory roller, the line will break. It will also impact the streetscape project. Council Member Stubbs stated that the vibrations cause the old lead joint pipes to crack.

Mr. Moyer asked how it is possible to provide water to restaurants and hotels on Route 13 with a two inch line. The Chief of Police stated that the hotel probably uses the line that runs to Arby's. Council Member Stubbs stated that the two inch line serves two or three different parcels. It is where all the problems are, right in front of Rudy's.

There being no further business, the Council Workshop adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Blanchies
Clerk of Council