

Work Session
04-14-15

MINUTES OF WORK SESSION MEETING HELD BY MORGAN CITY COUNCIL IN REGULAR
SCHEDULED OPEN PUBLIC SESSION ON TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015 AT 5:00 P.M., IN THE COUNCIL
ROOM OF THE CITY OFFICE LOCATED AT 90 WEST YOUNG STREET

Present: Mayor, Ray W. Little.

Council Members: Tony London, Jeff Wardell, Shelly Betz, Mike Kendell and
Fran Hopkin.

City Staff: Gary Crane, Attorney.

Others present: none

This meeting was called to order by Mayor, Ray W. Little.

Items for Discussion

**Commercial Street
On-Site Visit**

The members met on Commercial Street to discuss improvements that are planned for this street along with a request from a business to install an awning over the existing sidewalk. This on-site visit started at 5:00 p.m. The members returned to the council chambers for meeting at 5:22 p.m.

Mayor Little summarized what occurred on Commercial Street during the on-site visit. The improvement project will probably be done in phases. The main water line is in the middle of the street; there may need to be some work done to this line so it needs to be considered. The water laterals and service lines into the buildings will also need to be upgraded. A decision will also need to be made on the sidewalks and parking issues. Other items such as landscaping, etc. need to be discussed in the future.

Mayor Little stated he will continue to work with Jeff on obtaining estimates for this project. He asked the members if they would like to have someone do an artist rendering of what the various improvements would look like. This does not have to be decided tonight, it can be determined at a later date. Mike asked the members if there would be any interest in having this street made into a one-way street. All of the items for this project will continue to be discussed at future meetings.

Budget Work Session

Mayor Little asked the members to review the salary information and the COLA projections that have been provided. He explained the health insurance will only go up slightly if they stay on the same plan; the total cost per year would be just under \$1,000.

MOTION: Tony London moved to recess the meeting.

SECOND: Shelly Betz. Vote: 5 ayes.

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This meeting reconvened at 6:35 p.m.

There was a short discussion about secondary water requirements and possible changes to water that is required.

The members reviewed the budgets that have been prepared. Mayor Little asked the members to review the new sheets that have been presented, and stated there are more budgets figures that need to be entered. The members need to make a decision on salaries and whether or not they want to consider giving a cost of living in increase. There was discussion about whether to give a percentage or a set amount for each employee.

Fran stated he feels it would be good to have a merit system in the future. This helps give increases based on performance. It cannot be done for this year, but would be a good idea to look at for the future.

Mayor Little asked if the members are willing to come to a consensus tonight so this can be input into the budgets. Shelly stated she would consider 3%, Tony and Jeff agreed. There was discussion about who would get the 3% - do they want to give this to part time and elected officials. The 3% will be given to everyone and included on all of the salary schedules.

Resolution #15-08
Open & Adjust 14-15 Budgets

The members reviewed the open and adjust budget amounts that have been prepared by Ryan Child, Auditor. Shelly explained the proposed entries adjust the budget line items that are either over or under the budgeted amounts to this date. There will be a public hearing tonight for this matter.

The members were asked to get all of their updated budgets for 2015-2016 to Julie so they can be discussed at the next meeting. Fran asked the members to think about the proposed sewer increases and give their input. Tony stated he is planning on a proposal to increase the sanitation rates back to where they were a year ago. The improvements that have occurred in the last few years have depleted the retained earnings in this account.

Mayor Little stated there will be a presentation that will start at 5:00 p.m. at the next meeting to present the rate study that was done for the electrical department. Julie will be e-mailing out the information on this study to the members to review before the next meeting.

Fran asked the members to consider the 12% increase for sewer rates, and consider anything further after the master plan is completed.

Federal Recreation Trails Program Grant

This item was not discussed.

Council Department Review

This item was not discussed.

Financial Statement Review

This item was not discussed.

Attorney Crane
Council Training

This item was not discussed.

This meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.


Julie A. Bloxham, Recorder

These minutes were approved at the 04-28-15 meeting.