

MINUTES
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE WORK SESSION
September 18, 2023
City Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor King. Council Members Paul Fischer, Laura Helle, Michael Postma, Jason Baskin, Joyce Poshusta and Council Member-at-Large Jeff Austin

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert and Police Chief David McKichan
Public Works Director Steven Lang, Fire Chief Jim McCoy, Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace, Park and Rec Director Dave Merrill, Human Resources Director Trish Wiechmann and City Clerk Ann Kasel

APPEARING IN PERSON: Austin Daily Herald, KAUS Radio

Mayor King opened the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Item No. 1 – Waste Water Treatment Plant Update

Public Works Director Steven Lang provided an update for the change orders on the Waste Water Treatment Plant project. He reviewed specific items noting some change orders were not approved or City staff completed themselves.

Council Member Baker stated he would be supportive of automation of the future plant.

For Council information only, no Council action needed at this time.

Item No. 2 - Administrative Report

None

Item No. 3 – Open Discussion

Council Member Helle stated she would like to propose term limits on boards and commissions.

City Administrator Craig Clark stated staff would look into it.

She also stated the pickle ball and cane ball groups in town are currently raising money for their respective sports in town and will be coming back to the Council in 2024 for some kind of City support for additional playing courts. She noted there is nothing in the CIP for 2024 for those activities.

She also suggested the formation of a wellness committee and better utilization of the health insurance.

Mayor King agreed with Council Member Helle's statements.

Council Member-at-Large Austin stated the Park and Recreation Director job posting closed last Friday and he inquired where the City is in the hiring process.

Council Member Helle stated the City received 20 applications. The interview team will be Ed Schmitt, Trish Wiechmann, Craig Clark, herself and possibly Freshno Boko.

Council Member-at-Large Austin noted the employee survey meeting the prior week and asked if there will be additional discussion at the next work session.

Moved by Council Member Baskin, seconded by Council Member Baker, adjourning the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann M. Kasel
City Clerk