

(Subject to Approval)
CITY OF SWISHER, IOWA
COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 1, 2021

In order to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus, this meeting was also held electronically. Anyone could dial in or connect electronically to hear the actual meeting.

Call to Order: Mayor Christopher Taylor called Council Work Session Meeting to order at 6:29 p.m. on March 1, 2021 at Swisher Community Library, Swisher, IA.

Council Present: Council present were Mary Gudenkauf, James Rowe, Michael Stagg. Via conference call were Jerry Hightshoe and Rebekah Neuendorf.

Also present: City Clerk Tawnia Kakacek and Public Works Superintendent Carl Spoerl. Via conference call were HR Green Representative Tim Cutsforth, Nathan Cooper, Kim Grier, and Cline.

Agenda: Motion by Gudenkauf, seconded by Neuendorf to approve the agenda. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Establish Rules/Set Topics for Work Session: Mayor asked Council what rules and future topics for the quarterly work sessions. It was recommended time limit on meetings and have a goal for each item with series of steps to consider at regular meeting. Gudenkauf stated that discussion of shop building should be done first. Gudenkauf moved, seconded by Stagg to discuss 3rd Street shop building before establishing the rules and setting topics for work sessions. Roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

3rd Street Shop Building: Rowe presented pictures of existing city buildings locations. He noted a larger shop building could be built on the current lot to store all city equipment and be more efficient. Rowe noted the shop buildings by city hall could be taken down and allow for more downtown parking once a shop building was built. Gudenkauf and Neuendorf expressed concern of having shop building in the middle of residential area on 3rd Street. Stagg recommended adding a hoop shed for now. Hightshoe noted he would like to have all maintenance equipment in one space, possibly sell part of the 3rd Street shop building lot by the creek and have the shop building at the sewer plant. Rowe noted if the city erects shop building on the existing lot on 3rd Street, there could be sizeable setback and wouldn't recommend the building at sewer plant in case the sewer plant needs to expand. Cutsforth recommended the city do a facilities assessment to cover all these concerns. Spoerl presented sketch of 100' x 50' building with 30' x 30' hoop shed with blocks beside it for all city equipment storage. Cutsforth recommended he meet with Spoerl and draft rough footprint to establish size of building to be for storage and office space. Hightshoe recommended they also list all what will be stored in the proposed building. Council agreed with Cutsforth and Hightshoe to get footprint of proposed city shop building and its contents.

Establish Rules/Set Topics for Work Session: Mayor asked Council what rules and future topics for the quarterly work sessions. After discussion, the following was decided: have 2 topic limit with 3rd topic open that may be filled with item that comes up after last work session or topic that wasn't finished from last work session; meeting no longer than 2.5 hours; goal of each topic work session is to get proposed solution/action at future council meetings; after 30 minutes on topic to pause and ask for residents feedback; topics considered were: work with businesses/parking downtown, sidewalks/streets/gutters-curbs, land purchase policy, council/mayor pay, review/edit revolving loan program, policy on health insurance coverage; June work session topics are shop building and community outreach/engagement; September work session topics are mayor/council pay, health insurance, and revolving loan program as these are shorter topic discussions.

No discussion was done on agenda item community outreach/engagement as will be discussed at next work session.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Gudenkauf, seconded by Neuendorf. Call for vote. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Tawnia Kakacek, City Clerk/Finance Officer

Christopher Taylor, Mayor