CITY OF SWISHER, IOWA
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 18, 2016

Call to Order: Mayor Christopher Taylor called the Special Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Swisher American Legion, Swisher, Iowa on July 18, 2016. Mayor called moment of silence for the killings at Baton Rouge.

Council Present: Mary Gudenkauf, Angie Hinrichs, Rebekah Neuendorf, Mike Stagg, Larry Svec.


Agenda: Motion by Stagg, seconded by Neuendorf to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

Strategic Planning for Renovation of Division Street/120th Street and City Development: Mayor Taylor noted this meeting was not about annexing property into Swisher. He briefly went over city projects in process of purchasing county shed, completed Pavement Management Plan, new Fisher’s addition, sewer plant capacity is at 55% usage, and Division Street improvements, possible sewer connection to proposed reception hall north of Cedar Ridge Winery. Shane Schrader noted they are proposing to build a reception hall north of Cedar Ridge Winery on 20 acres and would like to tie into city sewer. Schrader answered questions about the reception hall and possible sewer connection to city sewer. Jeff Quint from Cedar Ridge Winery noted they would like to hook up to city sewer. Mayor noted the sewer line connection has two options: single sewer line where only to Schrader with him paying all the cost or do public sewer line where other landowners can hook up to city sewer as well with city paying partial cost of the sewer line.

Mayor noted Johnson County was scheduled to improve 120th Street in 2019 and city wants to improve Division Street/120th at the same time. This would be good time to know of proposed growth and developments for the next 5-20 years to consider when improving Division/120th Street. Svec recommended to completely replace road instead of overlay for long time usage. Neuendorf noted there are different options to include bike trails and/or sidewalks along Division Street. Stagg noted a Steering Committee for Division Street Improvements has been created and will review different options. Stagg and rest of Council/Mayor welcome questions and ideas for this project. Svec inquired if City Rapids annexes further south would land owners want to be annexed into Cedar Rapids or Swisher. Hamilton’s preferred Swisher. Gudenkauf noted 120th/Division Street impacts everyone around here and city is trying to strategically plan for growth. Gudenkauf reiterated the City is not looking into involuntary annexation.

It was recommended to have another meeting like this in 6 months to a year to keep area land owners informed. Mayor inquired how residents want to be made aware of these projects, etc. Emails and city website were suggested. Mayor welcomed landowners to come to city council meetings as well. Stagg recommended landowners to contact City Clerk Kakacek if they would like information or give feedback. Mayor requested people to verify with the city what they have heard instead of listening to rumors.

Adjournment: Motion by Stagg, seconded by Gudenkauf to adjourn. Call for vote. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:05p.m.

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Tawnia Kakacek, City Clerk                     Christopher Taylor, Mayor