

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
OCTOBER 10, 2018

Charles City city council met in a planning session on October 10, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in council chambers. Mayor Dean Andrews presided and the following council members were present: Keith Starr, Jerry Joerger (arrived at 6:02), DeLaine Freeseaman, Michael Hammond and Dan Mallaro.

Mayor Andrews reported that he was present in Mason City recently for a grant awards presentation and was informed that Charles City did not receive a REAP grant, state grant or a Federal grant they had applied for. However, our South Main and Jackson Street street projects received extra funding. (Jerry Joerger arrived). There is still some money owed to us from previous awards and we are hoping that the Charley Western trail bridge will be receiving some of those funds.

City engineer John Fallis outlined Floyd County supervisors' request for items at the future new law enforcement center. The houses and car wash property purchased by the county for this project will require re-zoning in order to be used for the building. A portion of South Jackson will also need to be vacated and deeded to the county for the center. They have requested diagonal on street parking to be implemented near this project as well. Off street parking on South Jackson leading to the boat dock will also be requested. Discussion on safety concerns over the diagonal parking on Court Street and if the current county parking lot could be reconfigured to add more parking spaces. Some concern also raised over the users of the boat ramp being able to have good access if parking is added along that section of South Jackson. Police chief Hugh Anderson commented that maybe the "no parking" are on Jackson could be eliminated and thus add some additional parking spots. Council member Freeseaman asked if anything would be paid by the county to purchase the vacated street and reply was that there has been no mention made of that in any of the discussions held thus far. These items will need to be referred to planning and zoning for their consideration and recommendation to the council before any action can be taken by the city council. Public hearings will need to be held by both groups.

City engineer Fallis discussed the sanitary sewer lining projects that are completed and ready for acceptance by the city. The 2017 and 2018 Sanitary Sewer Lining projects were done by HydroKlean. The final cost of the 2017 project was \$161,940.01 The bid came in really low for this project so an additional 2,000 lineal feet was done. The final cost of the 2018 project was \$181,604.00 which was about \$9,600 higher than the bid. The overrun was caused by additional spot repairs needed. These two projects will be on the next regular council agenda for consideration.

It has been two years since the last goal setting was done for the city and council would like to participate in this again. This service through the Iowa Institute of Public Affairs has been discontinued, so we will be looking for another firm for this. Pat Callahan has been providing this service and he has given us a quote of \$1350 to do this. He is available quite a bit in November and December, so staff will find a date that works for everyone. We may also ask him about working through a capital improvement plan with us as well.

City engineer Fallis discussed the formation of an ADA sidewalk transition plan for the city. The department of justice has really been more active in enforcing these rules and all cities with over 50 employees must comply with them. The plan must show an inventory of all the sidewalks in town and a sidewalk inspection program will need to be developed to look for defects in the sidewalks. John has divided the list into 15 zones and would like to inspect one each year and monitor the repair/replacement of those found defective. If any residents are asked to replace/repair their sidewalks by a certain time and do not, the city could hire it done and then assess the respective costs to each property owner involved. Discussion has included possibly lowering the requirements for sidewalk bonds to allow homeowners to possibly do their own sidewalk repairs. But they would still be subject to inspection to be sure repairs are done to city code. Mayor Andrews commented that he would like to see this program completed quicker than 15 years. City engineer Fallis stated that with the more strict guidelines for acceptance, this will mean a much larger number of sidewalks that will be found defective. It would be difficult to do too many zones in a year if the number of defects is too high. John has prioritized the zones so that the areas with more public access, such as schools, parks, etc. would be done first with the retail area being next on the list. Missing sidewalk sections would also be identified and filled in to complete a section if needed.

City administrator Diers reported that our street superintendent has been counting trees that are violating our tree ordinance for the heights above streets and sidewalks. The north side of the river in town has about 2,000 trees that need trimming, this is about 40% of the total trees in the city. This would be quite costly if the city would initiate a program where they would hire a tree trimmer to trim to the required heights and then assess the cost to each homeowner involved. We will continue to research this issue. He also reported that the Cedar River is now expected to crest at 11.1, which is down from earlier predictions. City staff will be touring the city next week to identify possible nuisance properties to update our list of properties to focus on for nuisance abatement. There is a meeting this Friday between the McQuillen developers and the banks involved.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

Dean Andrews, Mayor

Attest:

Trudy O'Donnell, City Clerk