

## Slater Special City Council Meeting April 13, 2016

The special meeting of the Slater City Council was called to order by Mayor Pro-tem Steve Ransom at 6:00 P.M. on April 13, 2016, at City Hall, 101 Story St., Slater, Iowa. The roll being called the following council members were present as follows: Ann, Sobiech-Munson, Susan Erickson, John Kahler, Ken May, and Steve Ransom. Absent: Mayor Gary Halverson

It was moved by Kahler and seconded by Erickson to approve the agenda. Motion was approved 5-0.

After looking at the alley between Main and 2<sup>nd</sup> running from Story to Main, it was determined that the edge of the right of way starts at the utility poles and goes north sixteen feet. There is grass and lilac hedges within the southernmost 4 feet but there is room to pave 12 feet. The grass area should help with water runoff. The sidewalk on Story street has fallen more than 6 inches and there is a hole in the gutter at the entrance to the alley. These could be replaced now or as a part of the road bonding project for next summer. The City would accept either concrete or asphalt as a surface for the alley, both have their merits. Significant discussion was had including available funds, other road projects and needs and supporting local businesses. This is a minor project and really has no effect on the major road surfacing and gutter replacement project that is being planned for next year. Kahler moved to replace the approach, curb & gutter and sidewalk on the Story Street side of the alley and that they city grant permission to the adjacent business owner to pave the alley on its north 12 feet in either asphalt or concrete. He also moves that the city will pay for 50% of 100 feet by 12 feet of the aforementioned paving within the alley not to exceed a cost of \$2500. Erickson seconded. Motion was approved 5 – 0.

The Council reviewed the pros and cons for the 2 business plans selected by the Revitalization Fund Committee. Both parties will be asked to attend the next regular meeting and answer questions that the council has specific to each proposal. Kahler moved to table any further decision until that time. Sobiech Munson seconded. Motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

Mayor Halverson arrived at 6:35.

The council listened to the presentation from the Iowa State Class that hosted the town meeting to discuss the potential for a community center. They reported that those attending chose to complete the phrase “Slater needs a community center because...”. The top five responses which received support from at least 20% of those in attendance were (in order of support):

- For recreation – basketball, walking, track and exercise room
- It would be a nice space for community gatherings, weddings and events
- A community room for 300 people with kitchen
- Daycare that is privately run
- Need a safe room for people without a basement

The group also reported that those who were opposed to the community center were concerned with funding both upfront and for operation, duplicating amenities in nearby towns and thought other needs in town should have a higher priority.

The City will continue to gather more information on this potential project through a survey. A complete write up of the findings from the Iowa State Class is available at City Hall.

Kahler moved to adjourn the meeting. Sobiech-Munson seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:20.

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Mary E Sprouse, City Clerk/Admin.

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Gary Halverson, Mayor