

Slater City Council Work Session September 22, 2014

A work session of the Slater City Council was held on September 22, 2014, at City Hall, 101 Story St., Slater, Iowa. Mayor Gary Halverson called the council to order at 7:30 PM. The roll being called the following council members were present as follows: Ann Sobiech-Munson, John Kahler, Steve Ransom, Ken May and Susan Erickson.

It was moved by Kahler and seconded by May to approve the consent agenda, minutes from the September 8, 2014 meeting and bills totaling \$4,371.24 presented as follows:

MIDWEST TECHNOLOGIES	CAMERA INSTALLATION	324.99
XENIA	WATER	4,046.25

GENERAL	324.99
WATER	4,046.25

The council held a work session to discuss capital improvement projects for the city, possible funding sources. Storm water and sewer improvements in the Northwest section of town were discussed as a priority. It may be possible to combine this project with a street repaving project. Water lines may potentially be moved into the right-of-way and out from under this repaved area as a part of this project. If a storm main could be placed, then homeowners could reroute sump lines and relieve excess water from the sewer mains as well as surface water.

A resident expressed his concern that the boards and commissions weren't doing more of the initial work of thinking up projects and bringing them to the council. The council responded that they have had capital improvement plans before that have never been implemented. They feel that in order to make these projects happen in an efficient manner, that the council should select several projects and then delegate them to the appropriate board. The boards can then do the research and planning phases and present their ideas back to the council for approval and implementation.

The library served 28,000 users in the last year and the summer reading program is growing each year. The building is too small for some of the programming activities so the fire station was used this summer on several occasions. More open space is needed if programs continue to grow. It would also be beneficial to have more space so that there could be separate areas that could always be quiet and other areas for activities then tend to be louder. Possible library options are expand at the current location, move to another or build a new building. A new building could potentially house the library as well as a safe room or other city facilities.

Growth is critical to the future of Slater. Development of the donated park land located in the Northwest corner of the city is likely to bring significant residential expansion. The council discussed pursuing the basic creating of the park in within the next couple years as a priority.

Other items on the capital improvement list include replacement of equipment, expansion of the public works shop, resurfacing the tennis courts, expanding the cemetery, renovation and economic development of several buildings on Main Street, etc. The list of projects is constantly evolving and city staff is always looking for funding opportunities for all projects. Non-priority projects may be considered sooner should a grant or other funds become available.

City staff will collect some basic information on the priority projects and report back at the next regular meeting. No special presentation of capital improvement projects will be scheduled until more information regarding these potential projects has been gathered.

May moved to adjourn. Ransom seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

Mary E Sprouse, City Clerk/Admin.

Gary Halverson, Mayor