

OTTUMWA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES Item No. B.-1.

SPECIAL MEETING NO. 4
Council Chambers, City Hall

January 29, 2019
5:30 O'Clock P.M.

The meeting convened at 5:30 P.M.

Present were Council Member Dalbey, Roe, Stevens, Berg and Mayor Lazio. Council Member Streeby was absent.

Roe moved, seconded by Dalbey to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes.

Roe moved, seconded by Dalbey to Set February 5, 2019 as the date of a Public Hearing on Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract, and Est. Cost for the Jefferson St. Reconstruction Proj. All ayes.

Discussion on Replacement of Beach Sound System as presented under Beach Ph. 3 – Sound System 2018 RFP 4X.

- Mr. Dohlman presented a detailed timeline/chronological chain of events for the audio system at the Beach from 8/11/15 to present.
- Mr. Seals presented State and Local laws for competitive bidding and the process that needs followed for projects.
- Council approved plans and specifications to obtain bids during the public hearing held 11/20/18. Two bids received, with staff recommending the award on 12/18/18. Contract award “failed” by Council vote 3-2. This project must be redesigned and rebid.
- Since the bidding process is public knowledge, the design and scope of the project must be re-worked by a consultant. This can result in different equipment and scope for bidders.
- Mr. Dohlman stated neither he nor Mr. Seals could guarantee that this project would be completed prior to the Beach season opening (5/17/19), and a lot of variables can push this project back even more. We may need to hire someone to limp the system along for another season which would be an additional cost.
- Direction from Council is to pursue this project. Staff recommendation when new scope is developed and ready for bid.

Discussion on Repair and/or Replacement of the Beach Wave Generating System.

- Mr. Dohlman stated that the wave generating system was not included in the original assessment of the Beach from several years back for repair or replacement, but it’s now at the point that it needs to be addressed.
- The Beach wave generation equipment is 25 years old and proprietary in nature. The City hired Aquatic Development Group (ADG) to assess the condition of the equipment and present recommendations. ADG is the original supplier of the equipment. Their assessment indicated the equipment has outlived its useful life and recommend complete replacement.
- Engineering staff has evaluated the deficiencies as outlined by the assessment of ADG and determined the feasibility of ongoing maintenance of the wave generation equipment in lieu of complete replacement. There are pros and cons for each consideration to be discussed. Engineering hopes a direction from the Council can be established so the needed repairs can be accomplished by the coming swim season.
- Original quote from ADG around \$191,000 – down to \$115,000. The equipment must be purchased through ADG, but the installation of the equipment can be done through the competitive bid process.
- Mr. Dohlman recommends an aggressive maintenance program for this new equipment, in addition to budgeting up to \$25,000 annually to address the concrete in the pools.

- We want to avoid any down time from the wave generating system – this can cause individuals to become angry and not return. The waves are the most important feature of the Beach.
- The new equipment can make 8 different types of waves – focus on this as a new attraction for the Beach when re-open for 2019 season.
- Council direction is to move forward with replacement of the wave generation system.

Continued Budget Discussions for FY 2019/2020.

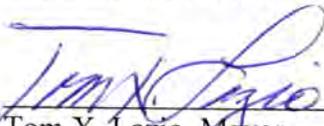
- Finance Dir. Jay asked if anyone has questions pertaining to the budget as presented. What does Council think of the proposed increase of 51 cents to the levy?
- Roe asked what makes up the increase to the employee benefits fund, because we don't have insurance rates yet in place for this fiscal year. – This includes extra pension that will be paid out.
- City Admin. Morris brings up Franchise Fees that was original presented back in spring 2016.
- City Attorney Keith stated there is a provision within our franchise agt. with Alliant to have the option of implementing a franchise fee. Local effect on residents (if implementing a 1% increase) would be next to nothing, but industries would feel the effects. The County would see a shift of approximately \$140,000 over to the City. There are limitations on what this money can be used for – it cannot go towards general fund or employee salaries/benefits.
- A special election would be held for citizens to vote on what the funds are used for – street improvements, public safety are examples.
- The County needs to be made aware of this discussion and where this could potentially go.
- The fiscal year 2019/2020 budget is based upon what is requested from dept. heads to continue operations for the fiscal year. This does not correlate to what is presented within the Strategic Planning / Comprehensive Plan. This is still in process and will align with CIP.
- Mr. Jay stated if Council is comfortable with what has been presented thus far, he will continue on the timeline presented: On 2/19/19, Council will set the PH for 3/5/19 to adopt the FY 19/20 budget. The proposed budget will be published on 2/21/19, and ready for certification from the County Auditor by March 15, 2019.

Mayor Lazio inquired if there was anyone from the audience who wished to address an item on the agenda. There were none.

Chief Miller wanted to inform the public that the Salvation Army will have a warming station open 24/7 during this winter chill. Some local churches are also staying open to provide shelter/warmth. 10-15 Transit is also providing free transportation to the warming stations.

Roe moved, seconded by Berg that the meeting adjourn. All ayes. Adjournment was at 6:44 P.M.

CITY OF OTTUMWA, IOWA


 Tom X. Lazio, Mayor

ATTEST:


 Christina Reinhard, City Clerk