

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019 COLD SPRING CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dave Heinen at 3:00 p.m. The following City Council members were found to be present: Mayor Dave Heinen, and Council Members Jayme Knapp, Shannon Miller, Doug Schmitz and Gary Theisen. Others present: Brigid Murphy, Jason Blum, Sarah Mueller, Chrissy Gaetke, Julia Konop, Ron Altmann, Jason Kirchoff, Brandi Canter, Vicky Fall, Marv Soldner, and Chuck Krebsbach.

REVIEW OF THE SPACE STUDY DOCUMENTS

City Administrator Murphy ran through the history of the project starting with the February 14, 2017 report and recommendation of HMA Architects and how the Council had requested an update to that report with the request to design a proposal that would allow for the police, library and administration office to stay in the current city hall.

DISCUSSION ABOUT THE VARIOUS PROPOSALS

As a preliminary issue, Murphy asked if the whole Council was in agreement that the Fire Department was going to be moved out of the fire hall into some other location. All council members agreed that the fire department should move. Council reviewed HMA's new proposals as they related to the request to keep all the remaining three departments here. Murphy provided feedback that the proposal labelled A1 is her preferred favorite. Council member Knapp stated that the proposal to keep the library on Red River is consistent with the EDA goal of upgrading and improving the beautification of downtown. This design gives the library the size requirement that would better meet the demand of the library usage numbers. Council member Miller also supported the A1 proposal. Murphy stated that she spoke with the Chief of Police that the plan would provide a shorter-term capacity for the police versus library and administration. She stated that she and the chief requested that the design of the fire hall, wherever located, be designed to allow for expansion of the police to the site for the fire department. Council member Theisen asked if there was anything that a member did not like about the A1 proposal. Member Knapp did ask about the PD locker and restroom located in two spots. Murphy explained that there are two options for the location of those locker rooms. Council member Schmitz agreed with the layout and had reservations about the total size.

NEXT STEPS

Fire Hall is the primary focus of the next steps. Murphy stated that the next steps is to locate a spot for it, a closed hearing on the offer price for the location and while that is happening look at the potential for financial assistance with all of it. Member Schmitz discussed whether the fire chief and administrator have talked about the plan for the fire department. Murphy stated they have not since the determination on whether or not the fire department is leaving had not been fully approved.

Locations were discussed for the fire department. Murphy stated that the council can discuss location potentials at this meeting. The only discussion that can be closed is the offer price discussion when a location is determined. Council member Knapp suggested Fran Ramler's property. Member Schmitz stated that would be a better location for plant expansion. Mayor Heinen suggested the empty lots at the business park, but that had drawbacks with only one exit area and having to go out of town to come back into town. Other locations in and around the city were discussed as potential locations.

Council requested that within 2 months, a list of potential locations be identified for discussion and once a priority list is put together an offer be developed within the next month. The final step would be for a purchase of land within 6 months. Other steps to be completed throughout this process is to get an architect and design plan going, a discussion of needs with the fire department and research of financing options available for assistance with the development. Council member Schmitz asked if there is sufficient money in the fire hall account for purchase of land without any additional financing. Murphy stated that the fund can be used for land purchase.

ADJOURN

MOTION WAS MADE BY KNAPP, SECONDED BY MILLER, TO ADJOURN AT 3:37 P.M., SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

Dave Heinen, Mayor

Brigid Murphy, City Administrator