

**CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MINUTES
MARCH 24, 2015**

Present were Mayor Charles D. Jessup, IV, Mayor Pro Tempore Terry J. Henley, and Aldermen Steven H. Bezner, John F. Isbell, Kelle K. Mills, and Rick J. Staigle. Also present was City Secretary Janice M. Moore and Chris Hill of Imagination Monkey.

1. Call To Order

Mayor Jessup called the workshop to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. Discussion

a. Roll Out Presentation on Kirkwood Road

Chris Hill, Imagination Monkey, presented a marketing development update. A digital copy was filed with City records. He answered questions posed by the Council Members. Alderman Mills arrived at 5:47 p.m. Alderman Staigle inquired about the HGAC survey. Mayor Pro Tempore Henley reported HDR Engineering was waiting for the bid to return.

b. Revisit Discussion on the Purchase of an Additional Police Vehicle

Mayor Jessup reported \$13,000 set aside for the expenditure. He said the police chief's automobile was showing repairs, and the Tahoes were starting to edge up.

c. Emergency Medical Services Options for Meadows Place

Mayor Jessup reported attending two (2) private meetings with the judge and two (2) other meetings. He was told the County was hiring a new EMS Director who would be making the decision. He added the City of Stafford was reviewing its options.

b. Revisit Discussion on the Purchase of an Additional Police Vehicle

The Council continued to finish this discussion at this time. Alderman Staigle reviewed the City's sales tax and revenues. Mayor Jessup recommended the purchase of a Tahoe as a patrol vehicle \$58,000 with equipment installed. It was agreed the police chief would gather up the cost and present it.

d. Concealed Handgun License Classes for Meadows Place

Mayor Jessup reported that a Captain John Ashton was interested in offering a concealed weapons class for our citizens as a contractor. Alderman Staigle and Mayor Pro Tempore Henley both agreed they would like to see some of those fees coming to the City.

e. Economic Development Corporation

1. Activity Overview

Mayor Jessup provided the following overview of the March 12th EDC meeting:

- EDC was now meeting every other month and was starting to become more productive.
- EDC has agreed to fund up to \$80,000 for an overlay on Dorrance.
- EDC has agreed to fund up to \$250,000 for a new EMS station.
- EDC has deliberated, discovered, secured and are funding the services of Chris Hill and Imagination Monkey.
- EDC now have official shirts and a professional group photo was being taken for its website page.

He also provided the following brief overview of each director's involvement in EDC:

- Bob Graf – increased commercial activity
- Margaret Sandlin – working with realtors for improvement ideas
- Harry Hamilton – creating several videos for the City's website and prosing floorplan ideas.
- Clyde Little – supported Harry's proposal to buy homes and renovate them and instrumental in supporting the two (2) new domains.
- David Lantz – secured the two (2) new domains and working on several EDC website pages.
- Kurt Kopchinski – supported Harry's floorplan proposal and looking into ways to bring new business to Meadows Place.

2. Removal of Board Director Harry Hamilton

Mayor Jessup spoke against any action taken against EDC Director Harry Hamilton and provided the following reasons: it looks bad for the City; this type of action should be discussed and decided well in advance of making a proposal for such action to be taken; Council has the right to ask if we are getting our money's worth from EDC as a whole and from individuals; the right to expect our EDC to be productive; and productivity and expectations of our EDC should be discussed at the upcoming joint meeting.

Alderman Isbell expressed Mr. Hamilton was not good for the City and not functioning well on EDC. He noted the video for the website was not completed after three (3) years and also noted Mr. Hamilton's negativity on EDC.

Alderman Isbell said he had not received any information on EDC meetings and that he asked for it several times in the past. Mayor Jessup noted the meetings were posted on the website, but directed City Secretary Moore to distribute notice to the Council. Alderman Staigle said he heard about Mr. Hamilton not producing and going against either what the City or what the other EDC members want. He requested to hear from Mr. Hamilton about the delay with the video and what he would do moving forward.

EDC Director Harry Hamilton spoke about his involvement with Meadows Place, showed idea renovations and played a video on Meadows Place. Council Members posed questions as he was presenting.

EDC Board Director Terry Henley reported a cohesiveness within EDC. He said it was the best he has seen since its inception. Mayor Jessup urged the Council to postpone action. Board Director Bob Graf spoke about the EDC now meeting more often and expanding ideas for the video.

Alderman Bezner expressed he was not in support of the item and noted he had not heard any reasons or evidence of any misconduct or illegal issues or fiduciary irresponsibility. He recognized the need for more transparency, more visibility and more joint meetings with EDC.

3. Formal Policy Regarding the Appointment Process

Mayor Jessup noted City Secretary Moore drafted the process for the Council to consider. Alderman Bezner noted there was some improvement needed. It was a step in the right direction, but there was more that the Council can do with EDC. Then he said he supported the process.

Mayor Pro Tempore Henley recommended this process apply to all boards and commissions for the City. Mayor Jessup noted the process was for EDC only and could be used as a model for the other boards and commissions. He asked the Council to send any comments or changes to City Secretary Moore. The Council agreed to table this item until the April Council Meeting.

4. Set Date for Joint Council/EDC Meeting

The Council agreed to schedule a Council/EDC Joint meeting on Monday, April 20th at 7:00 p.m. at the TTC.

3. Upcoming Council Agenda Items

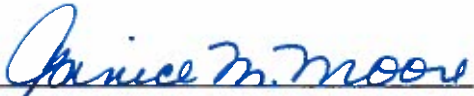
Mayor Jessup provided an overview of the upcoming items being presented on the regular meeting agenda.


4. Adjournment

Alderman Bezner moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Alderman Mills seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**These minutes were approved by the
City Council on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.**

ATTEST:


Janice M. Moore, City Secretary


Charles D. Jessup, IV, Mayor

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