

Study Session Meeting Minutes – August 27, 2018
Ivan “Ike” Ackerman Council Chambers

A Study Session Meeting of the Waverly City Council was held on August 27, 2018 at 7:00 P. M. at City Hall. Mayor Soash presided.

- A. Mayor Soash called the meeting to order.
- B. Roll Call
Council Members were present: Birgen, Drenkow, Kangas, McKenzie, Rathe, and Sherer
Absent: Waldstein
- C. Moved by McKenzie, seconded by Rathe to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion passed. Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1
- D. Moved by Drenkow, seconded by Sherer to approve the August 6, 2018 regular meeting minutes.
Motion passed. Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1
- E. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
 - Matthew Schneider commented that he agreed with Heidi Solheim about opening up discussions without fear of speaking opinions. Mr. Schneider spoke of the Waverly Iowa Online Townhall page that is closed to the public and is available for verified Waverly residents only. Citizens are invited to join. Schneider requested that the WHKS traffic study be reviewed again at a future Study Session.
- F. Study Session Calendar.
 1. Update from the Planning and Zoning Commission
 - Planning and Zoning Commission Co-Chair Kathryn Payne reviewed the commission’s activity over the past 12 months. The commission held 12 meetings that all had quorums and experienced a 70.4% attendance rate. The commission’s year was busy with much work on Planned Development Districts and reviewing many various issues as they were brought to the commission for review. The commission also looked at municipal code revisions. Most of the commission’s work is driven by outside requests. There is more commercial re-zoning needing to be done.
 - It seems like it would be worth looking at more commercial development on the east side of town. In 2017, an update to the land use plan was completed. The next comprehensive plan update will be in 2020. It seems like there has not been communication between the City and Bremer County regarding the 2-Mile Agreement. The commission seems to take a more reactive approach due to reacting to re-zoning requests. They may need to take a look at becoming more proactive and try to do more planning for the future uses. The planned development changes that were done this year would be an example of planning. Council expressed appreciation for the commission and the work they do.
- G. Reports from Boards and Commissions
 1. Bremer-Waverly Law Board Minutes; July 9, 2018; Received into record.
 2. Library Board of Trustees Minutes; July 10, 2018; Received into record.
 3. Airport Commission Minutes; July 12, 2018; Received into record.
 4. Leisure Services Commission Minutes; July 19, 2018; Received into record.

H. Staff Comments

- There were none.

I. City Council Comments

- Councilmember Birgen invited citizens to join him after Council meetings for a drink and conversation in the spirit of a communication item brought up at Strategic Planning. He will rotate between the Pour House, the Wooden Foot and Beach House. Please feel free to join him (everyone will personally be expected to pay for what they purchase).
- Councilmember Rathe commented that another item brought up at Strategic Planning is to create townhall meetings and possibly having quarterly listening sessions at the library with the Council. City Engineer Mike Cherry informed Council of street repairs progress. Paving began on the north portion of East Bremer Avenue. The 4-foot gap will be filled in. The lane will switch over to the north portion of East Bremer Avenue the week of September 10. 5th Avenue NW is open. 20th Street NW traffic control has switched; last Friday, access from the north was closed and you had to come in from the south. A storm sewer crossing needed to be installed just north of Knight Avenue. Storm sewer, pavement removal and grading will continue south of Knight Avenue. Cedar River Parkway bridge beams are due to come in the week of September 3. Dryer conditions are needed since the beams are very long and very big and the ground needs to be stable. Each beam is over 130 feet in length. They will start with the middle span (number 3) and then, come back west to complete span 2 and then 1. There are six spans and six beams per span. It will take two to three weeks to complete the 36 beams once they get started. This will possibly be the longest bridge in Bremer County. The beams are originating from Omaha.
- Staff informed Councilmember Kangas that the 3-lane striping will be completed when the west end is paved curb to curb. They will look at doing the pavement markings and opening that section of roadway up and still have the parking lanes closed as they are doing the sidewalk, side streets, back-fill and restoration work. It will be permanently striped to 3-lane before they open it to traffic and possibly look at doing sections west and east of that on West Bremer Avenue. The east side would again be after they have it paved curb to curb. Staff further informed Kangas that the study completed by WHKS was commissioned by the D.O.T. to complete the study. The D.O.T. reviews and signs off on it.

The City will have a traffic study done in 2020. City Administrator Bronner assured Council that he would check into what the intent is for traffic signals once the project is complete.

J. Mayor's Comments

- Mayor Soash encouraged members of the public to use social media for the use it was intended and not for the use of attacking Mayor, Council, or City staff. He continued to say that change is inevitable. He upheld the decision of having a 3-lane Bremer Avenue. It is the right of everyone to be vocal, but let's leave the personal attacks towards anyone in local government or anyone else in the community out of the equation. Mr. Soash hopes that visitors for the Iowa Fire Association Convention and any other visitors coming to Waverly are welcomed by all.

K. Moved by Kangas, seconded by McKenzie to adjourn. Motion passed and Council meeting adjourned at 8:28 P.M.

Dean Soash, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carla Guyer, City Clerk