

**ELY CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
February 19, 2014
6:00 p.m.**

Mayor Jim Doyle called a workshop meeting of the Ely City Council to order at 6:05 p.m. on Wednesday February 19, 2014 in the Council Chambers at Ely City Hall. Council Members present: Bob Ballantyne, Dave Rasmussen, Kay Hale, Bill Grove and Stephanie Mehmen. Also present: Jeff Hilleman, Dave Schrock, Stephanie Mai, Mark Harapat, Terry Smith, and Administrator/Clerk Aaron Anderson.

The City Council met in special session, pursuant to notice as required by State Code, to conduct workshop sessions with the Parks Commission and regarding preparing the FY 2014-15 budget as set out in the posted agenda.

Mehmen moved to approve the agenda, second by Ballantyne; motion carried – 5 to 0.

Workshop Session with Parks Commission re: FY 2014-15 Budget. Parks Commission Chair Jeff Hilleman presented a summary of recent park and recreation related accomplishments including participation in kids' soccer and baseball programs, development of Ely City Park and the success of Fall Fest. Mr. Hilleman presented a list of the Parks Commission's goal for capital projects for FY 2014-15 which includes construction of a park restroom/concession stand building, installation of playground equipment and a walking trail all at Ely City Park, along with extending Hoover Nature Trail from City Park to the intersection of Rowley and State Streets. Mr. Hilleman reported the Parks Commission intends to add a flag football program in the fall and is considering expanding soccer to six through eight year-olds, and reported proposed concrete work includes a lot of volunteer labor and donated materials. Mayor and City Council discussed the matters with Mr. Hilleman and other members of the Parks Commission including level of baseball youth league Ely participates in.

City Council discussed status of grant to extend the Hoover Trail from City Park to the intersection of State and Rowley Streets; consensus of the City Council is to perform engineering work outside of the grant and apply the cost of engineering as local match for the grant. No action was taken on any matter discussed.

Workshop Session re: Preparation of FY 2014-15 Budget. City Administrator Anderson presented a comparison of salaries/wages for full time Ely employees, Mayor and City Council members discussed matters regarding preparing the FY 2014-15 budget with City Administrator Anderson. Items discussed include: general employee compensation, implementing the Library Board's proposed compensation increase over two years, increasing City Administrator salary \$5,000 for FY 14-15 and possibly again for FY 15-16; purchase of a new dump/plow truck and "Gator" for public works use. Mayor and City Council also discussed capital project to include in the FY 14-15 budget; with consensus being to include the following in the budget and determine which specifically to undertake later:

- Parks: Restroom/Concession stand, playground and walking trail - \$310,000
- Hoover Trail Extension from City Park to State/Rowley Streets with grant funding

- Highland Rd Resurface - \$210,000
- Northgate Drive/Edellen Meadows Extension & State Street White Topping- \$102,000
- Parking Lots: Downtown Dows Street - \$107,000 and Ely City Park - \$121,000.

No action was taken on any matter discussed.

Ballantyne moved to schedule a public hearing regarding the proposed budget and property tax rate for FY 2014-15 for 7:00 p.m. Monday March 10, 2014; second by Hale. Motion carried – 5 to 0.

Hale moved to adjourn at 8:31p.m., second by Grove; motion carried – 5 to 0. Mayor Doyle declared the meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

James E. Doyle Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Aaron Anderson, Clerk/Administrator