

**ELY CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
JULY 22, 2013
6:00 p.m.**

Mayor Jim Doyle called a workshop meeting of the Ely City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 22, 2013 in the Council Chambers at Ely City Hall. Council Members present: Bob Ballantyne, Dave Rasmussen, Kay Hale, Bill Grove and Dale Stanek. Also present Al Buck, Stephanie Mai, Jim Miller and City Administrator/Clerk Aaron Anderson.

The City Council met in special session, pursuant to notice as required by State Code, to conduct workshop sessions to hear a presentation re: preliminary design by Parks Commission of a restroom/concession building and playground plans for Ely City Park; workshop sessions regarding capital projects planning and the State Street Improvements Project, as set out in the posted agenda.

Stanek moved to approve the agenda, second by Hale; motion carried – 5 to 0.

Presentation re: Ely City Park Restroom Building and Playground Plans – Parks Commission. Al Buck, architect with Solum-Lang architects, distributed material regarding a proposed building with restrooms and concessions area for Ely City Park, and discussed the material with Mayor Doyle and the City Council members. Items discussed include, but are not limited to: the proposed structure would be a “three-season” building as it will not be heated, will include restrooms open for public use, concession area, would be split faced block, and that Parks Commission anticipates purchasing concessions equipment through their annual operations budget allocation. Mr. Buck noted the opinion of probable cost for the “base” schematic of the building, and noted the Parks Commission may seek to pursue alternates as part of the bidding process to include paving the area between the baseball diamonds, installing a standing seam metal roof instead of asphalt shingles, and installing a playground for kids ages 2 – 12 years.

Mayor and City Council discussed the matter further; including possibility of a ballot question regarding bonded debt needed to pay for the project, coordinating with Linn County Public Health re: kitchen design and commercial/non-commercial standards, and need for the structure to be structurally robust to withstand general use and possible vandalism. Parks Commission preferred time frame is to present proposed bid drawings and documents to the City Council and request authorization to solicit bids September 9, 2013, review and award bids October 14, 2013, with construction expected to take six to seven months. No action was taken on the matter.

Workshop Session re: Capital Projects Planning & Prioritization. Mayor Doyle and City Council members discussed a list of projects prepared by City Administrator Anderson as an attempt to identify, list and prioritize capital projects for planning purposes. The list included items previously discussed, including those discussed at the June 17, 2013 workshop meeting. Mayor and City Council discussed any items that were not included on the list Mr. Anderson presented but should be, any items which they believe should not be pursued as City projects; and then discussed whether the listed projects could and should be performed within two and five year time frames.

Council member Grove left the meeting, due to inclement weather.

Mayor and City Council members directed Mr. Anderson to revise the list of projects based on the evening's discussion; and present for further discussion including prioritization and forming into a Capital Improvements Plan at a workshop session Monday August 5, at 6:00 p.m.

No action was taken on any matter discussed above.

Workshop Session re: State Street Improvements Project. Mayor Doyle and the City Council discussed possible work on or upgrading of State Street, availability of TIF and expiration of most of Ely's "TIF capacity", and time frame to be able to design and plan for any work that would involve temporary closure of State Street. No action was taken on any matter discussed above.

Hale moved to adjourn, second by Stanek; motion carried – 4 to 0. Mayor Doyle declared the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

James E. Doyle Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Aaron Anderson, Clerk/Administrator