

**ELY CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 26, 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, August 26, 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: Brent Kiper, Dave & Kim Schrock, Terry & Diane Smith, Dave Netolicky, Dan Netolicky, Jeff Simmons, Debbie Cleppe, Jody Rudd, Stephanie Mai, Josh Baker, Butch & Annette Wieneke, Steph Mehmen, Greg Vlasek, Heidi Kiser, Robert Cleppe, Mark Banowetz, Tammy Cleppe, Nancy Kainz, Candy Gardner, Jim Hoyt, Robert Sion, City Engineer Scott Pottorff and Administrator/Clerk Aaron Anderson.

The City Council met in special session, pursuant to notice as required by State Code, to conduct a workshop regarding capital projects planning and a workshop session re: State Street Improvements as set out in the posted agenda.

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

Workshop Session re: Capital Projects Planning & Prioritization.

Discuss/Consider Park or Other Projects to Add or Revise for Draft Two & Five Year Capital Improvements Plan. Dave Rasmussen presented and summarized information re: park buildings in the area that include restrooms, concessions facilities and/or shelters, and a revised cost estimate from Solum Lang Architects for a restroom/concession building that is 80 square feet smaller than originally presented. Mr. Rasmussen noted the estimated cost of a restroom only building is \$155,112. Mayor Doyle and City Council members discussed the matter, topics include cost estimates, use of other building materials and confirmation that the Solum Lang cost estimates reflect donation by Croell Concrete of the concrete brick backing.

Financial Issues/Constraints. City Administrator Anderson discussed options to create a fiscally constrained Capital Improvements plan by establishing an upper limit on the dollar amount of capital projects. Mayor Doyle and City Council members discussed the options presented and related topic with others attending the meeting; topics include retaining general obligation capacity to meet emergency needs, that increasing property taxes may retard growth due to market forces, and suggestions to emphasize facilities in parks and recreational opportunities for kids.

Prioritize & Schedule Projects for Two & Five Year Capital Improvements Plan. Mayor and City Council discussed options to list and prioritize segments of State Street. They also discussed options for State Street including, but not limited to, resurfacing the entire run, resurfacing and installation of lower culverts with good outlet to creek and whether to install sidewalks in conjunction with resurfacing the street. Mayor and City Council discussed other topics with those attending including the reason the option of resurfacing was not included in the State Street Corridor Report, Linn County's plan to

“white-top” Ely Road (State Street) from 76th Avenue to Ely city limits in 2014, financial uncertainty due to recent commercial/industrial property tax reform and effect of the outcome of the Cedar Rapids metro-area sales tax extension vote on Ely. City Council members discussed that no decisions regarding capital projects could be made until the impact of property tax reform and the outcome of the November 5, 2013 Cedar Rapids metro sales tax election are known.

Several other topics were discussed among Mayor Doyle, City Council members and people attending; including that Ely’s standard for drainage pipe design is a five-year capacity with a safe overland route for 100-year rain events, pursuing a drainage and storm water management study for the “original” area of Ely, scheduling a City Council and Parks Commission workshop meeting regarding park restroom building, cost of various engineering studies, and installation of cameras and microphones for City Council meetings. No action was taken on any matter; there was general consensus that:

- o City Engineer should prepare a cost estimate to mill off and resurface State Street based on the same segments identified in the State Street Corridor Study.
- o No further action or discussion re: Capital Improvements Plan until property valuations are released for FY 2014-15 and the outcome of the November 5, 2013 Cedar Rapids metro-area sales tax vote is known.
- o A City Council and Parks Commission workshop meeting should be scheduled after Fall Fest.

No action was taken on any matter discussed above.

Stanek moved to adjourn, second by Grove; motion carried – 5 to 0. Mayor Doyle declared the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

James E. Doyle Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Aaron Anderson, Clerk/Administrator