

**ELY CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
September 27, 2010
7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Jim Doyle called a workshop meeting of the Ely City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday September 27, 2010 in the Council Chambers at Ely City Hall. Council Members present: Bob Ballantyne, Stephanie Mai, Bill Grove, Kay Hale and Dale Stanek. Also present Aaron Anderson, City Administrator/Clerk.

The City Council met in special session, pursuant to notice as required by State Code, to conduct a consider an offer to purchase former railroad right of way, and to conduct workshop sessions regarding strategic, comprehensive and other planning initiatives; and storm water management policies as set out in the posted agenda.

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

Hoover Nature Trail Extension Through Ely. City Administrator Anderson reported a verbal offer from Hawkeye Land to sell two parcels of former railroad right of way between Ely City Park and Dows Street totalling 2.5+/- acres for \$40,000. Mr. Anderson reported there is still disagreement regarding Hawkeye Land intent to reserve the right to grant utility easements for the property and to transfer title via quit-claim deed.

Resolution No. 10-0927-34, Accepting Offer to Purchase Agreement to Purchase 2.5+/- Acres for Recreational Trail. Mayor Doyle stated this resolution would approve a purchase offer agreement from Hawkeye Land Co., for Ely to purchase 2.5+/- acres as specifically identified in the resolution for \$40,000, subject to city attorney review and approval of the conditions of the sale. Stanek moved to approve Resolution No. 10-0927-34, second by Grove.

Aye: Stanek Grove, Hale, Mai, Ballantyne

Nay:

Absent:

Mayor Doyle declared the motion carried and the resolution approved - 5 to 0.

Workshop Session re: Strategic and Comprehensive Planning

Discuss Proposal from Institute for Decision Making for Strategic Community and Economic Development Planning. The Mayor and City Council discussed a proposal from the Institute for Decision Making, at the University of Northern Iowa, to conduct strategic community and economic development planning in conjunction with EDGE and other Ely community groups. Items discussed include, but are not limited to: timing of work and planning, finding sources of non-city money to pay for the project, importance of directing Ely's resources wisely, identifying desired community goals, assuring a lot of public input in any and all planning efforts and making sure the product of this plan merges with a comprehensive plan update.

Discuss Update of Comprehensive Plan, and State & Regional Planning Efforts. Mayor and City Council discussed general guidelines and concepts for updating the Ely comprehensive plan including factoring in recent Iowa legislation regarding principles of “Smart” planning and the elements of a comprehensive Plan.

Workshop Session re: Storm Water Management Policies and Standards. Mayor Doyle and the City Council briefly discussed preparing a multi-entity watershed plan for the Hoosier Creek watershed in cooperation with Linn and Johnson Counties and other entities in this water shed.

Stanek moved to adjourn at 7:44 p.m., second by Grove; motion carried – 5 to 0. Mayor Doyle declared the meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

James E. Doyle Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Aaron Anderson, Clerk/Administrator