

February 26, 2018

Working Session – 6:30 PM

The Working Session of the Denton Town Council was called to order by Mayor McNinch at 6:30 PM on this date, leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

In Attendance:

Council: Mayor McNinch, Councilman Branson, Councilman Johnson, and Councilwoman Wilson were present. Councilman Lister arrived at 6:40 PM.

Staff: Mr. Don Mulrine, Town Administrator, Chief Rodney Cox, Phil Clark – Denton Public Works, David Renshaw – Planning & Codes, and Karen Monteith, Clerk-Treasurer, were present.

Mr. Chris Drummond, Town Attorney.

Discussion:

Zoning Letter

Mr. Drummond pointed out some conflicts between the text of the Town Code and the Table of Use Chart. Discussion was held, Mr. Drummond recommended fixing, so the Code and Tables match to remove any uncertainty on how the language applies to projects.

Councilman Lister arrived at 6:40 PM.

Power Plant Tax Abatement Request

Discussion was held with the Town Attorney on the Eastern Shore Energy request for a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) Agreement. A request is being submitted seeking legislation to allow Municipalities to be able to issue tax waivers. Staff and Mr. Drummond will continue to work on this through the Eastern Shore Delegation.

Rental Code

Discussion was held on the recent amendments to the Rental Code and some concerns being received from Landlords.

Waste Contract

With the current Residential Trash Collection Contract expiring in June, discussion was held on making some changes to the collection policy and implementing a recycling program; draft legislation was reviewed with the primary focus being on changing the size of cans and number of cans per unit or dwelling.

Town Hall Roof Replacement

Follow up discussion was held on the 40-year warranty on the roofing materials for the roof replacement for the Town Hall Roof.

School Safety, Police Man Power Projects, Wages

Chief Cox, Councilman Johnson and Councilman Lister share a discussion they held earlier today regarding Staffing shortages; getting the Officers away from handling the Crossing Guard for the School. This will free up the Officer's to handle more police work; and reaching out to discuss with the Board of Education.

Strategic Plan

Discussion was held on the Strategic Plan, with recommendations for changes to update the 2018 priorities and projections for 2019.

2018-4

2018/2019 Town Budget Process

Discussion was held on the cost for purchasing Real Estate Tax Software and the cost associated with processing in house instead of paying the County a large sum for administering the Town's Tax Billing and collections.

Discussion was held on Staff's research to implement Online Bill Pay for Utility Accounts. The FY2019 Budget Schedule was discussed.

Miscellaneous and Closing Remarks

The draft of the March meeting agenda was shared.

March 7, 2018 the Senate will be holding a hearing on the discussion of the Highway User Revenues being reinstated for Municipalities. The Mayor is unable to attend. Councilwoman Wilson will try to attend.

The next ESAM Meeting will be held at the Market St. Pub.

April 3, 2018 – LGIT FY2019 Spring Workshop will be held at the Visitor Center.

Mr. Mulrine will be testifying Wednesday for DHCD Funding.

Mr. Mulrine provided an update on the installation of the Muffin Monster and staff efforts for monitoring the pump stations for corrosion.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor McNinch closed the Working Session at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen L. Monteith
Clerk-Treasurer*