

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a work session on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor John Althoff, Council Members Mary Jill Bringgold, Bill Duncan, Steve Gesme, Morris Mattson and Matt Montgomery. Also present were City Administrator David Maroney, Police Chief Jeff McCormick and Police Lieutenant Joe Berg.

Purpose

The purpose of the work session was to discuss 2020 Appointments; 2019 Goals; and Transition Proposals.

Discussion

1. 2020 Appointments: (a) Eliminate Personnel Committee and create a Finance Committee; (b) Establish a Police Commission by Ordinance and include appointment of citizen representatives. Currently, the Charter stipulates that the purpose of the Commission is to recommend appointment of the Police Chief and peace officer(s); (c) Eliminate the Hiawathaland Transit Advisory Committee as they do not appear to be meeting; (d) Establish the Cable Commission by Ordinance; (e) Establish the Public Works Commission by Ordinance; and (f) Establish the Park Board by Ordinance and allow a non-resident to be appointed.
2. 2019 Goals. Administrator Maroney presented and discussed the Status Report relating to priorities established on March 19, 2019. Generally, the City Council agreed: (a) that further consideration of water/sewer rates should be delayed pending a review of year-end 2019 financials and preliminary input from Abdo Eick and Meyers (2019 City Audit) and also that Ehlers and Associates should not be authorized to prepare a Utility Rate Study for \$22,000; (b) that the possibility of relocating City Hall continue to be evaluated along with efforts to make the building more energy efficient and cost-effective to operate; and (c) that pursuing opportunities to develop affordable/market rate housing (rental and ownership) should continue to be a high priority. Mayor Althoff and City Council members also discussed goals and projects to consider and possibly pursue in 2020 including: (a) review the Health Care Insurance Program and explore ways to stabilize and perhaps reduce the cost to the Employer; (b) evaluate reserve/capital funds and policies to determine if changes might be made to increase balances and discourage unnecessary or unbudgeted spending; (c) appoint a Committee to prepare and recommend a plan for replacing the existing swimming pool; (d) develop a plan for addressing the 2020 mill and overlay street improvement project; and (e) solicit proposals for civil engineering, legal and from other providers that contract for professional

services with the City of Cannon Falls. The current status of a number of other ongoing projects were also discussed.

3. Transition Proposals. The City Council reviewed proposals to provide Economic Development, Interim Finance Director, Audit Preparation and Human Resources professional services in 2020. Following discussion, the City Council instructed Staff to schedule consideration of the Economic Development and Interim Finance Director/Audit Preparation proposals on the January 21st Council Agenda.
4. Although not scheduled on the City Council Workshop Agenda, considerable discussion occurred relating to the Police Department Extra Duty Policy, primarily relating to the Cannon River Winery. The main topic of conversation included questions and concerns relating to the liability of the City; whether the amount charged by the City fully covered City costs; and, how the City benefitted. The City Council agreed to address the Policy and concerns at the January 21st meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was duly adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 4th day of February, 2020.

John O. Althoff, Mayor

ATTEST:

David Maroney, City Administrator