

**FRANKENMUTH CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, January 8, 2019
1:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Ackerman, LaBrenz, Meyer, Reindel (@ 1:20 PM), Ross, Schmitzer & Schoenow.

ABSENT: NONE.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Smith, City Clerk Kerns, DDA Director Stamiris, DPW Superintendent Braeutigam, Parks & Recreation Director Kaschinske, Robert Zeilinger, Joe Toth, Bill Zehnder, and Kenton Scherzer.

Mayor Mary Anne Ackerman called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. and opened the meeting by leading the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

City Manager Smith introduced new DPW Assistant Superintendent Kenton Scherzer who will be working full-time for the City.

There being no comments, the Mayor proceeded with the agenda.

QUESTIONS ON THE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

There being no questions, the Mayor proceeded with the work session agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There being no changes, the Mayor proceeded with the agenda as disbursed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Cass River Greenways. Chairperson Robert Zeilinger reviewed a power point presentation on the Cass River Greenway project that has been implemented over the past decade and their next proposal is to create a management board or coalition that will focus on the water trail that is in operation. The name will be Cass River Water Trail Coalition and the City of Frankenmuth will be asked to designate Parks & Recreation Director Daren Kaschinske as its member.

Discussion took place on the Coalition's mission and goals, proposed membership organizations, that there were no financial obligations or risks involved with the coalition.

Zeilinger reviewed the locations of the trail and specific site information, that the coalition formation will create grant opportunities that aren't currently available, and that it is not the intent to push the water trail on communities that do not desire such use.

Reindel entered the meeting.

Organization & Function of Work Session. Reviewed that the purpose of work sessions is to discuss upcoming council items that are not ready for Council approval at regular meetings.

Discussion took place on work sessions being an opportunity to become familiar with projects and issues that will be acted upon by Council at future regular meetings, allows councilmembers to ask questions and make inquiries and to get oriented, and that work sessions are not meant to rubber stamp items, but to provide information to the entire group so they are better prepared to make a decision.

Further discussion took place on the need for Council to be on the same page with open dialogue and discussion, and the need for city staff to give input and comment.

Because there isn't always the need for the entire staff to attend work sessions, perhaps the first 20 minutes of the work session is dedicated for staff to attend in the event council has questions on certain items, etc.

Committee Organization & Appointments. Reviewed the current make-up of committees and proposed appointments to committees making sure Council representation is assigned for those bodies that require such attendance.

A spreadsheet will be finalized listing councilmembers representation on City Boards, Commissions and Committees. It is noted that the Water Board and Waste Treatment Board will be combined into the Water and Treatment Board, the Public Safety Committee be eliminated being that the City-Township Commission meets with police and fire and should the need arise that an ad hoc committee would be appointed, and the Tax Abatement Committee duties will be reassigned to the EDC Board.

Discussion took place on the need for two Councilmembers to be Civic Events Council representatives.

Contact Information & Accessibility. Reviewed the need for councilmembers to have email addresses and publishes telephone numbers.

Discussion took place on job descriptions being available for all board, commission and committee assignments and that being part of the redevelopment ready process.

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) – Introduction & Overview. Summarized the submitted CIP 2019-2023 plan that was provided to Council as well as reviewed the added 2019 projects.

Discussion took place on the (N. Haas Street) Keystone Way extension financing and budgeting challenges if bids come back favorable.

Advanced Planning. Being time was short, this item will be placed on the February work session agenda.

December Invoices – Preliminary Review. The bills were available for review and specific questions.

Correspondence. Reviewed an email received from Charlene McGunn.

Council Liaison Reports. The minutes of boards, commissions and committees were available for review and comment.

Review of Upcoming Council Meeting Agenda Items/Meeting Schedule. The preliminary Council agenda for the *February* meeting was available for review.

Discussed that starting with April, the work session time will be changed to 9:00 AM, and that the EDC Board has vacancies.

Requests for Future Work Session. None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 P.M.

Phillip Kerns
City Clerk