CITY OF CAMERON
MINUTES
September 14, 2020

SPECIAL WORK SESSION

Dennis M. Clark	P
Darlene Breckenridge	A
Becky Curtis	P
Julie Ausmus	P
Roy Estes	P

The City Council of the City of Cameron, Missouri met in Special Session on Monday, the 14th day of September 2020, at 6:02 p.m. at the Cameron Community Building, 915 Ashland Drive. Mayor Dennis M. Clark led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Mayor Dennis M. Clark presided with the following Councilmembers present: Becky Curtis, Julie Ausmus and Roy Estes. Absent: Darlene Breckenridge.

Present were City Manager Stephen Rasmussen, Finance Director Carmen Weigand, Accountant Jim Shrimpton and City Clerk Shellie J. Blades.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS DISCUSSION

City Manager Rasmussen explained tonight's work session is being held at the Community Building as a better solution for ADA Accessibility and for audio quality. The City is continuing to meet at off-site locations due to the COVID-19 Pandemic to allow for social distancing.

The City Manager gave an overview of the collaborative/community projects list. A brief discussion was held on the funding for community projects and the state of the City's reserve fund balances. Mayor Clark suggested that some of the 'big ticket' projects on the list may be paid over time and other projects may get funding from special use taxes. City Manager Rasmussen stated that the purpose of tonight's meeting is to prioritize projects for approximately half the budget (≈$116,000) for the 10-10-400-00 line item. The remaining projects will then be determined in the spring.

Councilmember Ausmus requested adding a Habitat for Humanity project to the project's list. Also inquired about the details of the city limit boundaries project. City Manager Rasmussen stated this is a project whose purpose is to attempt to correct many of the islands and peninsulas that have been created over the years from annexations.

Mayor Clark proposed supporting the Chamber/Main Street projects at $15,000. These are collaborative projects and the Chamber has indicated they will contribute approximately $22,500. The projects include store front matching grants, billboards, banners and sidewalk planters. Councilmember Curtis suggested that the Chamber meet with Main Street to discuss what can and

can't be done due to their 501(c)3 status. Tony Clark indicated they have a meeting set up already for tomorrow. There was a consensus to move forward with developing this project.

There was a discussion regarding the large trash pickup project. City staff recently sent out a solid waste survey with the August utility bills. The results of that survey are currently being compiled. The consensus was to postpone a decision for funding large trash until the results of the survey could be reviewed.

Councilmember Estes inquired about the projects on the list that involve other entities that may or may not want to participate. Dan Kercher with the School Board stated that he cannot make any commitments but their catch phrase is 'Better Together' and the school is definitely interested in collaboration. Mayor Clark and Councilmember Ausmus explained that some of the other entities will be contacted about potential collaboration once those projects receive prioritization. If those entities, on whose property a project exists, do not want to participate, then we'll move on to other projects.

City Manager Rasmussen asked if the Council would consider allocating approximately $30,000 to the 'Image Improvement' projects listed at the end of the spreadsheet. This will give staff direction to reach out to some of those other entities and gauge their interest as well as refine the scope of the projects. There was Council consensus to move forward with the image improvement projects with the exception of items 11 & 12, which were postponed for further discussion.

Councilmember Curtis inquired about needed repairs to Seventh Street and when the Great Northwest Wholesale Water Commission will be paying back their loan to the City. Steve responded that when GNWWC gets their loan to move forward with the project, a portion of that money will come back to reimburse the City. It could be as early as this fall or next spring.

Councilmember Ausmus suggested funding $40,000 for the repairs needed for the Community Center Parking lot. City Manager Rasmussen stated he is also working with the American Legion to possibly share costs on the project.

Councilmember Estes stated he wants to vote on funding for well vetted and developed projects and not a vague Resolution. City Manager Rasmussen explained that the purpose of the Resolution is to give staff authority to move forward and develop the authorized projects. Once done, the vetted projects will come back to Council for final approval.

Mayor Clark suggested funding the $1,000 project to weed-kill traffic islands. Fire Chief O'Donnell was thanked by Mayor Clark for taking his own time and effort to clean up some of MoDOT's 'weedy' islands.

Mayor Clark also suggested funding the collaborative project with Cameron Regional Medical Center for the Garrison flag project. City Manager Rasmussen stated he has spoken with Joe Abrutz from CRMC and they are very interested in participating on this project. This project is estimated at approximately $40,000.

City Manager Rasmussen requested funding approximately $10,000 to start on some of the lake project ideas and also $10,000 for a marketing sign for the Business Park. Development of the Business Park was one of the goals identified at the strategic planning session back in July.

Overall, there was Council consensus to move forward with the following projects:

1. Chamber/Main Street collaborative projects		$15,000
2. Community Center parking lot		$40,000
3. Lake Improvement projects		$10,000
4. Business Park sign		$10,000
5. Large Garrison Flag project		$40,000
6. Weed kill on traffic islands		$ 1,000
7. Image Projects		$30,000
	Total	$146,000

City Manager Rasmussen stated that the next step will be for staff to draft a Resolution indicating which projects to move forward and be presented at the next Council Meeting. Then staff will further develop and vet the individual projects before bringing them back to Council for final approval.

The work session discussion reached its conclusion. There being no further business on motion made by Councilmember Ausmus and seconded by Councilmember Estes, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. by voice vote. Councilmember Breckenridge absent.

APPROVED:

_____
Mayor Dennis M. Clark

ATTEST:

_____
City Clerk