



CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION MINUTES

Monday, August 21, 2023
6:00 PM

Iowa Colony City Hall, 12003 Iowa Colony Blvd., Iowa Colony, TX 77583

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STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BRAZORIA
CITY OF IOWA COLONY

BE IT REMEMBERED ON THIS, the 21st day of August 2023, the City Council of the City of Iowa Colony, Texas, held a Council Worksession at 6:00 P.M. at Iowa Colony City Hall, there being present and in attendance the following members to wit:

Mayor Wil Kennedy
Councilmember Arnetta Murray
Councilmember McLean Barnett
Mayor Pro Tem Marquette Greene-Scott
Councilmember Tim Varlack
Councilmember Steven Byrum-Bratsen
Councilmember Sydney Hargroder

And none being absent, constituting a quorum at which time the following business was transacted.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kennedy called the work session to order at 6:00 P.M.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Discussion on AMI water meter project update and the proposed creation of a utility franchise fee for ROW maintenance.

Greg Smith provided information on the AMI water meter project. They will be using a fixed base communication system. They have already completed wastewater evaluation and will then turn it over to staff for review of the wastewater treatment plant. They will be gathering all the information for the water rate development. Next month they will try to have ranges to discuss and present to council before the final project is completed. The rate implementation plan will be operational cost both internal and external cost as well as debt service, capital improvements, franchise fees and they look at the plan for 10 years. They will do a 20-year warranty on all meters. The city will be able to monitor system. He showed pictures of what the system can do. There will be a customer portal and they will be able to set their own alerts. They will train the trainer as well as host town hall meetings to help train the residents on the program. He provided an overview of the timeline of the plan and implementation.

2. Discussion on possible changes to the city's sign ordinance.

The Building Official, Albert Cantu stated he was seeking guidance from the council regarding how to proceed with the sign ordinance. He provided them two options. Option 1 was to leave the ordinance as is and not make any changes. Option 2 was to make amendments to the sign ordinance. He provided council with examples he researched in other cities. City Council asked questions and provided feedback to staff. The mayor stated he is okay with temporary signs if we can provide a warning on the first violation as people may not have been aware of the changes to the ordinance, after that they will be issued a citation and have to appear in front of the Judge. He is also open to the specific hours. Councilmember Varlack said he is okay with the bandit signs from realtors being out from Friday to Monday. He feels like there should be a variance process and state the associated cost to that. Councilmember Barnett stated that the area outside of the city seems to be the issue. Albert recommended maybe having two locations where they can place the signs. Dinh Ho clarified that the sign ordinance does extend into the ETJ. Councilmember Hargroder mentioned limiting the scope to being temporary bandit signs. She feels that we have a good sign ordinance as is. She is also good with the suggested times of Friday at 5 P.M. until Monday at 8 A.M. Councilmember Murray is in agreement with the times. City Attorney, Natahsa Brooks asked if there were any specific locations they would like. Albert Cantu responded with Meridiana and Discovery and Meridiana and Iowa Colony Blvd. Councilmember Byrum-Bratsen asked if we could limit the placement of the signs to just intersections. Mayor Pro Tem Greene- Scott is concerned with only limiting the sign placement to two places because this will cause there to be a bunch of signs in just two places. Councilmember Barnett asked if there could be language in the ordinance regarding exemption of private roads and subdivisions.

3. Discussion on Council Meeting schedule, holiday conflicts, and proposed changes.

Robert provided the council with a current meeting schedule that showed potential holiday and other meeting conflicts. The consensus of the city council was for council meetings to be on the 2nd Monday on the month.

ADJOURNMENT

The worksession was adjourned at 7:07 P.M.

APPROVED THIS 18th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2023

Kayleen Rosser, City Secretary

Wil Kennedy, Mayor

