

SMITHVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMAN

WORK SESSION

September 20, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
City Hall Council Chambers and Via Videoconference

1. Call to Order

Mayor Boley, present, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum of the Board was present: Leeah Shipley, John Chevalier, Marv Atkins and Dan Ulledahl. Dan Hartman and Ronald Russell were present via Zoom.

Staff present: Cynthia Wagner, Chief Jason Lockridge, Stephan Larson, Chuck Soules, Matt Denton, Jack Hendrix and Linda Drummond.

2. Discussion - Enforcement of Chapter 235 – Dog and Cat Regulations

Cynthia walked through information that was included in the packet and apologized that there was some information that did not make it in the packet. Cynthia explained that the information was a second alternative.

Cynthia briefly outlined the information that was in the memo for Ordinance Chapter 235 of the City's requirements for operating a city pound either internally through staff or by contracting it out. It outlines regulations for the licensure of dogs and cats, limitations relating to the number of animals kept, abuse or neglect, abandonment, running at large and all of those items we would anticipate as part of enforcement of animal control issues and concerns.

The Police Department provides the City's primary response. When we get a call of a vicious dog, or a dog at large it is the Police Department that responds to the call. The dogs, if they are at large, are collected and housed at the facility known as Megan's Paws and Claws that is located at the Water Treatment Plant facility. Once the dog is taken to the pound it is housed in an intake facility for observation it is held for ten days or until claimed by the owner. During the time the dog is there, staff monitors for any obvious health concerns or issues and if needed medical attention is provided. Once that 10-day time period has passed and the dog is not reunited with its owner it is moved to the main pound building and is available for adoption. All dogs are brought up to date on vaccinations, are spayed or neutered and microchipped before adoption.

By Ordinance in the case of a vicious dog or a dog bite, a dog that bites a human is required to be quarantined for at least a 10-day observation either at a veterinarian of the owner's choosing or at the city pound. Once that 10-day time has expired the dog can be returned to the owner assuming there are no signs of illness. The process of issuing citations is handled through the court system like any other Ordinance violation. Cynthia noted that our number vicious dog instances is very low in general one to two occurrence per year at the most.

The City currently works with a non-profit Friends of Megan's Paws and Claws to provide support to the facility and support of the impounded animals. The original facility that the animals are held in initially, is the facility that was built in 2010 with monetary and kind donations from the community in response to Megan's Paws and Claws. Funding and donations were spearheaded by Tom and Lori Kissinger, Megan's

parents. A similar facility was constructed with City funds in 2017 or 2018 this facility provides the ability to separate dogs to ensure that none are ill, and it provides space to quarantine any aggressive dogs.

An Administrative Coordinator in the Utilities Department Division of the Public Works Department works with the police in providing the day-to-day care of those animals. This position also works with Friends of Megan's Paws and Claws to coordinate adoption of unclaimed dogs. Approximately 25 to 30 dogs are adopted annually.

Cynthia noted that information in the packet include statistics from the pound as well as police information on responses. On average six to seven dogs are impounded on a monthly basis most are returned to the owner or adopted in less than 30 days.

The second piece of information included in the packet outlines the timing of when calls for service related to animals are. Police response for calls generally reach a peak between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. with the most responses around 4:00 p.m. and on any days of the week but Friday is usually the highest.

Cynthia noted that the Water Master Plan, which was completed in 2018 outlines a need for expansion of the water treatment plant to provide water services for the community as we continue to grow. Because the existing dog pound buildings are in the footprint of that expansion it will affect those buildings.

Over the course of the last several months and following discussion at the retreat, staff, the Mayor, representatives of Friends of Megan's Paws and Claws and a local veterinarian have met to begin examining animal control needs and services in the future to enforce Chapter 235. Staff sent invites out to all local veterinarians who provide boarding services for animals to try to identify an alternative for looking at care that might be a contracted service. Former Alderman Kelly Kobylski helped spearhead some of the review and those discussions and efforts to try to determine the best way to enforce chapter 235 in line with other priorities throughout the community.

Cynthia explained that based on the ongoing needs and priorities it is staff's recommendation at this point in time is to issue a RFQ (Request for Qualifications) based on Board input for animal care and housing services to meet the needs of Chapter 235. It would be anticipated that an agreement would provide for the observation and care of animals collected, the police would take the animals as they are collected to the facility where they would be monitored, and a medical assessment would occur. They would also obtain a behavioral observation to determine the suitability for adoption and the coordination of return to owners would also be taking care of through that contractual relationship. An RFQ evaluation process would anticipate cooperation by whoever would be awarded a contract in coordination with Friends of Megan's Paws and Claws particularly in the adoption process in any way that they found appropriate.

Cynthia explained that what did not get included in the staff report was an alternative approach that staff has reviewed would be to reevaluate the proposed police facility construction for inclusion of space for animal impoundment and care. This option would also include revision of staffing needs to add an animal control position in the police department. At this time, full costs are unknown, but could be developed.

In either case, a change would not be anticipated and realistically could not be implemented before FY2024.

Cynthia noted that the expansion of the water treatment plant is not included in the CIP until 2027, so we do have some time to work through this. She asked for direction or feedback from the Board as to preferred option for moving forward, whether it be issuing an RFQ for looking at that care or including the information and review of a Police Department facility. Both of these staff anticipate would need to occur this fall to help us look our police department needs.

Kelly Kobylski explained that based on their discussions in her opinion she would like to see an RFQ go out to contract with either a local vet or a boarding facility. She would like to see Megan's Paws and Claws look at fundraising and maybe working with Platte and Clay County to do a shelter of some sort. She thinks there is just a bigger need outside the city limits. She noted that from the City's standpoint contracting with a local veterinarian or boarding facility would be the best financial route to go.

Dawn Adams, representative of Friends of Megan's Paws and Claws, said that she would like to be involved in the conversation for planning. She noted that she sees the good and bad in outsourcing. She said that outsourcing seems to be the simple fix but not for the long term. She sees opportunities for partnering and would really like to partner with the City. She said that they have already raised over the City's annual budget for the pound. She feels strongly that this community is very committed to making things successful for the animals in Smithville.

She said they really wanted to be involved in more of the planning process and we were not able to get the details of anything because the meetings never happened, and she was little concerned about that.

Dawn agreed that we do have a county problem but feels we need to keep them separate. While she agrees we need to advocate for Platte Clay County, and she does plan to do so she also wants to continue to advocate for Smithville. She said her concern is if we outsource what happens when the contract ends. She explained that happened in Platte County, it was outsourced to Dr. Jackson and years later he realized he was losing money. She said that it also is going to be a difficult story to tell the residents of Smithville who funded the original facility that it is just going to go away.

Dawn noted that she loves the idea of moving it to the Police Department and thinks if we partner and work together, we could probably raise funds for a new facility there rather than outsourcing it. She realizes this is not going to happen overnight, but it could happen.

She said it is her personal opinion she sees issues if we outsourced to a veterinarian. She said that both of our local veterinarians do not have any fencing, they do not have the ability to do enrichment, they do not have 24/7 staffing and they do not have anyone to do marketing.

Dawn asked that the Board hold off on the RFQ and instead form a subcommittee and come up with other solutions. She said that they could see if they could help the City financially get that solution.

Mayor Boley noted that he would see what the Aldermen have to say but usually to be on our committees require residency. He noted that Dawn was not a Smithville resident so that that makes being on the committee difficult. He said that partnering with a nonprofit is definitely an option. He noted that in talking with the sheriff in Clay County there is a regional issue.

Kelly Kobylski said that whichever direction we go we absolutely need to include Megan's Paws and Claws to make this happen. We have to work together whichever route we go. Kelly noted that we want this to be a long-term solution. If we do fundraising it should be for a regional location, so we do not outgrow it.

Dawn said that her heart is with the animals and for those who care for them. She said that she cannot said enough nice things about the staff at the pound. She said that reality is there is a lot of work going on behind the scenes and does not think you see that unless you are there. She has seen them all go above and beyond. She thinks we have nice facility, but it could be better and she would like to make it better. She would like to earn the funds to make it better.

Dawn noted that if we contract with a local veterinarian the dogs are going to be stuffed into kennels and they are not going to get what they need as far as enrichment and yards. The veterinarians along 169 Highway have no fencing which is terrifying to her. She does not see them having the staff to go walk them three times a day or give them the freedom they currently have and she thinks we would be going backwards.

Cynthia noted that all those things will be addressed in an RFQ. She explained that we have had conversations about what would be included in those desires. Cynthia explained that we did invite all the veterinarians in the community and those within a reasonable distance who board animals, to help walk through the expectations of the level of care and the care that we are providing at this point in time. We also asked for feedback to help staff understand it and what we could use in putting together the RFQ for outsourcing those services.

Cynthia noted that it would be nice to be able to have a regional solution so that there were services provided by a larger entity that we could all work with. Especially since we are all balancing priorities of funding for all of the needs throughout the community.

Mayor Boley explained that this is a problem we have to solve by 2027 and we are not going to solve this tonight. Even if we added this to the Police Department that issue is not going on the ballot until April and if it passes it still will take months and months for financing, bonds and sales tax.

Cynthia explained that this should be a request for qualifications and not a request for proposal. A request for proposal is something we send out and we take the low bid. A request for qualifications is when we outline what it is we are looking for and we have submittals that are reviewed. It is like selecting an engineering firm or some type of

professional service which is what we are looking for in this situation. A number of the members of the Board have participated in this process before. When we do this RFQ we will put together an interview panel with the intent to find individuals from the community representing the needs and the desires of our animal control services.

Dawn noted that she would like to make sure that they have a voice in the matter and explained that Traci Sisco, a member of their board of directors' lives in Smithville.

Traci Sisco, 604 Indian Trail Court, asked if the City had put the position of Animal Control Officer in the budget?

Cynthia explained that we have not budgeted an Animal Control Officer position that as she indicated in her presentation tonight is to help us understand how we work forward and come up with a plan. It would depend on resources and how we would be able to fund that and what that cost would be.

Cynthia noted that we have talked a lot about volunteering as well as she and Dawn have had ongoing conversations concerning it. Currently the pound is located on property of the water treatment facility and access to that by the public is problematic. There are some concerns since it is our water supply system, not that we do not trust people that come out there but there are concerns about what those limitations should be. Those same concerns would apply in a police department facility. The City would have to work very carefully through any process to coordinate and make all the opportunities possible for assistance through Friends of Megan's Paws and Claws that would ensure that all parties understood what those limitations and opportunities would be.

Traci asked about the discussions with Clay County.

Mayor Boley said that Clay County is working on getting regional dispatch and getting regional services. We have our dispatch through Platte County. Clay County Sheriff Akin is trying to get things built for the entire community. Sheriff Akin knows there is an animal problem and is looking to what other communities especially since they provide police services for some of the municipalities.

Traci noted that she would like to be involved in the discussions with local veterinarians as a representative of Megan's Paws and Claws.

Kristine Bunch, 208 Maple Lane, explained that 19 years ago she stood before the Board and proposed a dog park and everybody thought she was crazy. They asked who is going to fund it, how is it going to happen and what would it look like and she told them exactly how they do it in Los Angeles with dog tags. She said while she is not happy when fees are increased you just have to pay them as a responsible pet owner. Right now Smithville has a tag fee of ten dollars, Kristine said that if our tag fee was 45 dollars and everybody in the city limits of Smithville paid that fee there would be our Animal Control Officer's salary.

Kristine said that she seconds everything that Dawn Adams said and absolutely love that woman and she love Melissa and said kudos to them they do things beyond any of can even comprehend.

Kristine said that we are having an epidemic of dogs being dropped in Smithville because it is now known to that we do not have an animal control officer so dogs are getting dumped. She recently rescued a dog that got dumped with bloody paws. She said it is a very sad thing to see when she believes the city could do something and step in by getting an animal control officer.

Kristine noted that AARP magazine says 70% of all households have dogs. People have adopted dogs during the pandemic for companionship for working at home and that in itself is an epidemic. Now it is putting a heavy burden on the veterinarians and the local pounds because they cannot keep the dog now because they are either moving, they get divorced or it did not work out so well when they went back to work.

Kristine said that she would like to help in whatever way that she can and also thinks that outsourcing might not be the best thing.

Alderman Russell said that since looking forward to 2027 he suggested that we include the dogs catching as well as cats in the RFQ. We need to look at what the need will be for the facilities. He noted that we do have a lot of cats roaming around and people also dropped them off as well. He said in moving forward with this we need to look at the position of dog catcher whether we outsource it or keep it inhouse.

Alderman Hartman noted he was just looking at the numbers and was pleased with the numbers the impound totals of 54 so far for this year with 61% being return to the owners and 31% were adopted. He said he was curious to know of that 54 how many were chipped. He also asked when dogs that are dropped off in city limits are included in those numbers.

Chief Lockridge explained that he did not believe we have numbers on how many were microchipped and does not think that is something that is on the Department of Agriculture's intake but noted it was something staff could look at tracking. Chief noted that as to the number of dropped dogs he believes they are included in that number. He said if you look at the history on those numbers you would see their trending models were actually for pre-COVID times.

Cynthia clarified we do not take surrenders.

Chief Lockridge noted that the numbers were for dogs dumped in town.

Mayor Boley noted that if you look at our return to owner numbers a lot of the dogs get returned home.

Chief Lockridge noted that in the memo it said that for any animal we adopt out we require them to be microchipped and registered which is done before they are released.

Mayor Boley asked if we keep track of repeat offenders.

Chief Lockridge explained that we do somewhat keep track of the subsequent offenses and several of those are paying second, third and fourth impound fees. The fees go up from \$25, \$50 to \$100 per offense.

Alderman Chevalier said he agreed with Alderman Russell on the cat scenario. He noted that if we are going to expand we should also look what we can do with cats. He said that he does hear a lot more people talk about all the cats running loose more so than dogs. Alderman Chevalier said that he is not necessarily against outsourcing but does not want the level of care and facility to change and would like that to be part of the part of the RFQ to see what those options are. He also noted that he is not sure on the Animal Control Officer position because of the number of calls we receive and having enough work for them unless it could be an on-call position.

Cynthia said that was absolutely something that we have to look at. She noted that one of the things that is kind of the beauty of this issue is not having to have an answer tonight. These suggestions tonight can be incorporated into a longer term review.

Alderman Atkins noted that over the last few years we have been diligently looking at long-term solutions, 10-year and 20-year plans and we need to take our time with this. He said that he respects the individuals that are passionate about the animals and also respects those who are worried about the money. Alderman Atkins said that instead of trying to do something for a quick solution this should be investigated with and RFQ to look at what is needed in the future and what would be the best solution. We need to look at if this will need a job-sharing position, will it grow to a full-time position, what to do about the cat situation. These things need to be looked at instead of just building another little house and a cheap solution and have to come back in four or five years looking to readdress the whole thing.

Alderman Ulledahl noted that he agreed with Alderman Chevalier and does not want to see the level of care change and thinks it should be something we constantly have to raise the bar. He asked what the timeline was for the water plant expansion.

Cynthia explained that it is scheduled for 2027 when we would begin construction.

Mayor Boley added that we will need to have something in place for the animals by the end of 2026.

Alderman Chevalier added that the outsourcing should be more of a temporary solution and would like the long-term solution for it to be part of the new police station.

Mayor Boley explained that the conversation came up for working with the local veterinarians because they do have additional land. He said that Dawn had approached him about adding a dog run at the current facility and he explained to her that we just do not have the room.

Mayor Boley inquired if the Board would like to have staff start developing an RFQ or for outsourcing Animal Control and they all replied yes.

Mayor Boley noted that staff will work with a representative of Megan's Paws and Claws and also continue working with the Kissinger's as well.

3. Discussion of Potential Ballot Initiatives

Cynthia noted this was part of the discussion in May at the governing body retreat. We have completed a lot of the City's Master Plans in the community. We know the needs that we have, and we have been able to work through a lot of processes to move forward in improvements with infrastructure. In looking at facilities earlier this year we worked with architects to come up with plans and designs to address needs for facilities for the Police Department, Public Works and a Parks Maintenance facility. At the retreat we reviewed the plans that were submitted and previously presented to the board in January and February. Of the two different plans discussed at the governing body retreat there was priority expressed for a police facility.

Cynthia went on to provide information received since the retreat. Staff has reviewed the existing facilities and have also received one major opportunity. Staff also looking at our funding capacity, because at this point in time with current resources we do not have the resources to be able to support any new facility. Cynthia also noted the community has a desire for a community but as we discussed at the retreat and have discussed at various times, we would like nothing more than to be able to bring forward something to be able to fund the community center. At this point in time, it is not feasible given the resources that we have and the authority we have from the state to leverage resources to build a community center, maintain a community center and staff a community center. The estimated costs for community center are 15 to 25 million dollars depending upon the size and what is included. Cynthia explained our debt capacity which would be the best way to be able to address that which is 21 million dollars and will be 23 million dollars after the beginning of next year. The debt capacity is funded through property tax increases. That amount would build the community center facility, but the ongoing operations for facility of that size would be significant and would potentially out pace our ability to fund it through an existing sales tax. She noted that as we have seen in communities throughout the area staffing in general is an issue but particularly staffing related to lifeguards has been difficult. At this point in time and based on discussions with the governing body at the retreat the community center has been put aside for some other discussion right now the priority needs related to the Police Department.

Cynthia explained that Smithville is a community that is growing and the needs that we have for a Police Department have been acknowledged and provide for a more efficient response to the community services and providing those community services. The estimate that was provided earlier this year was about 16 million dollars for a police facility. With inflation and based on estimates from the architects if we were to build this next late year, they are estimating about 16 and a half million dollars based on current inflationary costs. Outlined in the memo were some areas where it was identified that there could be some reductions to cost for a savings of about 1.5 million dollars. The one caution that staff would make sure that the Board is aware of would be any reduction to a building at this point in time, as the community grows, there will be a need to expand, and we would probably see increases in costs that would offset the savings of the 1.5 million dollars. So, if we save the 1.5 million dollars now it would probably cost closer to two to two and a half million dollars down the road.

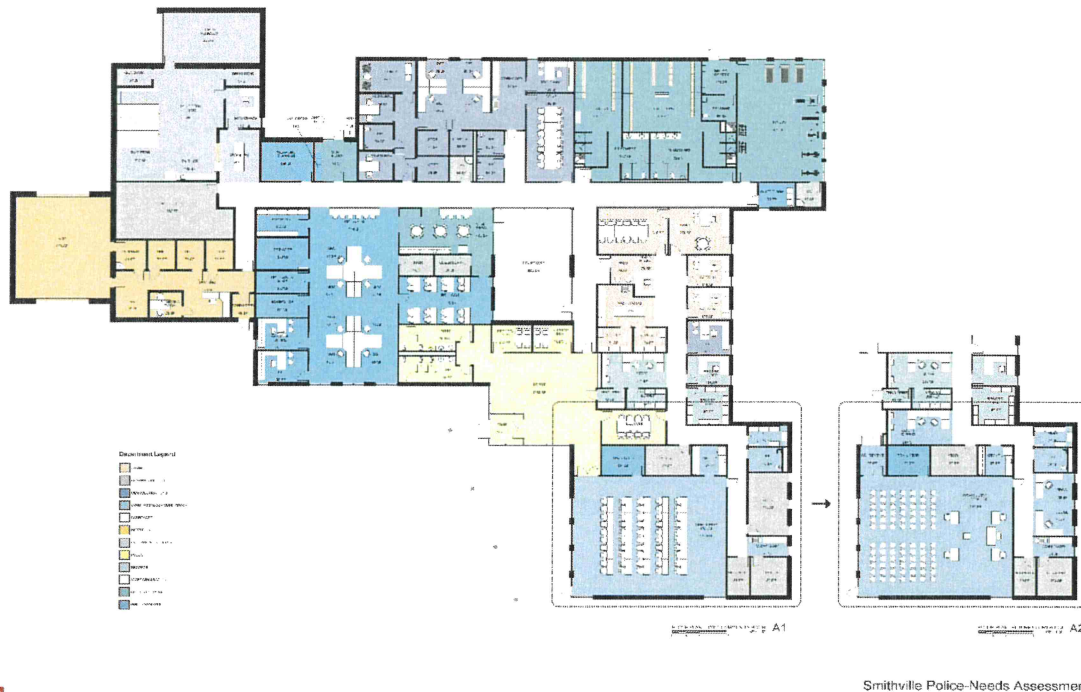


Figure 1 Police Department Floorplan

Cynthia noted that earlier this year the estimate for the Public Works and Parks Maintenance facility, some renovation to the existing Parks building, a covered facility for equipment, and locker rooms for street maintenance workers was estimated at eight to ten million dollars.

Cynthia explained that earlier this year staff received information from the Corps of Engineers that they are looking to repurpose several areas included in the Litton Visitor Center. This is just on the outskirts of the City in an area that two years ago we submitted annexation requests to the Corps of Engineers for voluntary annexation of that land. That annexation is still under review, but we do not anticipate any problems some things just take time when working with the Corp of Engineers.

The area the Corp is proposing is the area where there currently is information about Jerry Litton as well as a wildlife exhibit. The Corp would like to outsource or provide for another entity and reached out to us as well as Clay County Parks and Recreation to consider using that area predominantly for administrative offices. They were really thinking our Parks and Recreation particularly in coordination with the Corp right there on the lake made sense. Through discussions with them it made sense that administrative function for Public Works could also be located there because of the communication and the coordination on a number of utility and other projects at the lake. We would look at use for one area for administrative functions of Public Works and Parks. There is another portion of the building across from the information display that is currently being used for storage space that could be used for public meetings, conference room space for City functions and even Parks and Recreation programs.

Cynthia explained that staff has expressed a significant interest in the facility and an appreciation to the Corp reaching out to the City. This could provide the coordination and communication having those departments in the same facility. Having space for

administrative staff of those two departments would alleviate some of the pressure we have on growth in those departments and allowed us to rethink design for the facility at Smith's Fork. At the facility at Smith's Fork, we could do minimal reconfiguration to the existing office area and our maintenance supervisory staff can have office space there. We would then build storage space that would include locker room space and other amenities for staff. These changes would significantly reduce cost.

Cynthia noted that we had included \$200,000 in this year's budget for design of a public works and parks facility and have not expended all of that money. We anticipate incorporating that money in the 2023 budget for work with the Corp on renovation of the Litton Center for use by administrative staff. Then the reconfigured maintenance space and storage space to include a salt barn is estimated at about three million dollars. Now the total cost of the Police and Public Works and Parks is just under \$20 million dollars. As discussed at the retreat the most logical form of funding for this would be issuance of General Obligation bonds. Our authority for issuance of General Obligation or GO bonds is set by the state based on our assessed valuation. At this point in time the cap that we could issue in debt is \$21.8 million dollars which is based on our current assessed valuation. During the regular meeting tonight there will be a public hearing on our mill levy and also the Board will set a new mill levy for the FY2023 budget that will expand our debt capacity to \$23.7 million. A bond issuance of between 21 and 23.5 million dollars would need a financing structure to be able to repay those bonds with the possibility of property tax mill levy of 6.3 or 6.4 being able fund that. Cynthia explained that the details of that would have to be worked out with our financial advisors.

Cynthia explained that the indicated 19 and a half million dollars estimated for construction at the time when we issue debt, that there are also upfront costs of issuance related to about a million dollars that will need to be added also. So with that \$21.8 million we have the capacity to be able to do these two facilities if that is the direction the Board would like to move forward with.

Cynthia noted that during the retreat we also spent some time discussing the ongoing operational and staffing needs to include in the 2023 budget. The addition of several positions was also outlined, two additional police officer positions as the community grows. If the police facility is built there would be a need for some administrative support. We currently have one administrative staff member who covers the front window, and we would need to ensure staff coverage for vacations, etc. We also have a need for assistance in our property and evidence room, this could be a civilian position. She and Chief Lockridge have discussed the new position would cover the front desk and the current position would help with coverage, support to the prosecutor and police the evidence storage. Those three positions are estimated about \$215,000. Staff also looked at the operating cost of the Police Department on an annual basis, not including personnel costs or capital expenditures, and it totaled approximately \$400,000 a year on operations and support of the Police Department.

Staff recommends that if the Board wishes ballot initiatives to fund ongoing needs that we look at Police Department needs from the staffing perspective of addition of those three positions and support of ongoing operating costs. That we provide identified funds for the Police Department and that could alleviate some of the pressure organizationally on the budget and providing services in general.

Currently we have statutory authority to take to the voters the question of assessing up to one additional cent of sales tax. One cent of sales tax generates between 1.2 and 1.3 million dollars on an annual basis. A half-cent sales tax would generate about \$650,000. The staffing and operational needs would represent about \$630,000 of that. Staff would recommend that the board take the question a half cent sales tax to the voters for supportive of the police.

Cynthia explained that there would be two questions on the ballot, issuance of debt and police sales tax or sales tax for general fund to support the police. State law does not require the board to take the question of increase of property taxes to the voters that is something the board can act on.

Cynthia noted that if the board wanted to move forward, we will need to engage in an information campaign. Part of that information would be - what debt levy would be required to support issuances funds.

Cynthia outlined the timeline for municipal elections that can occur in November and April. There is a timeline when the questions have to be certified. If a question is placed on the April ballot the language must be certified to the election board by the end of January. If it is on the November ballot that language has to be certified to the election board by the end of August. Cynthia asked for discussion, feedback and direction from the Board.

Mayor Boley noted that he was glad that Cynthia brought up the Community Center because that is one thing that continues especially comments now about Kearny building a pool. He said that Kearney will spend about 12 million dollars on a pool only. He noted that one of the items on the regular session this evening is rezoning land for the School District. He explained that they spent over \$800,000 for a few acres to build a bus barn. A Community Center in this community would probably need about 10 acres and there is not ten acres tracks of land with services available on 169 Highway affordable or for sale.

Alderman Hartman said that he believes that we do need to go to the voters to ask for the police station. He noted that he had the opportunity to sit on the RFQ committee for the police station earlier this year with Chief Lockridge, several City staff members and some citizens. As our community grows, he absolutely thinks it is the right thing to do. He said that every year we wait construction costs go up. He noted he believes that a sales tax is something we should look at. Alderman Hartman reiterated that this would have to be approved by the voters, that the Aldermen cannot do anything more than ask that this be put on the ballot. He wants to make sure that people understand that this is voter driven this is not necessarily Aldermen driven. He said that he is for the ballot issues and thinks that we need to grow we need to make sure that our police station and police officer position are in place for the growth that is coming in the community.

Mayor Boley explained that the Parks Master Plans talks about a Community Center. Staff has been working on and delivering the items with the sales tax. We have asked for donations for our parks and to date we have raised approximately \$2,500 for the last three years.

Mayor Boley noted that about four years ago the City purchase land with the intent to build a police station on, so it takes years of planning.

Cynthia clarified during the discussion at the retreat because we were talking such large numbers for a maintenance facility, we were talking about two separate questions for the ballot. Now because of the lower cost of the maintenance facility 20% lower than what was originally discussed staff's recommendation at this point would be a joint question. She also reminded the Board concerning the need of moving the Street Maintenance facility is also necessitated because of the Water Treatment Plant expansion. We will not have a facility for Street facilities once we expand. Staff has recognized that police has been a priority but recommend one ballot question as opposed to two.

Cynthia also asked to get some clarification from the Board on that the animal control if they would like to see those estimates included in the Police Department facility.

Alderman Russell noted that we are looking at adjusting and making cuts and realizes everyone is working really hard on this. On the plans there is a courtyard, a conference room, a community room, a quiet room, a fitness room. He said there are a lot of rooms, and he is not saying the plan is wrong he just wonders if we need to look a repurposing some of it for the possible dog pound facility. He said also looking forward in the future and if we are building this for the purpose of the next 20 years, he would like to see us become self-sufficient and look at a Dispatch Center. He said he knows that it is this outsourced right now with Platte County, but everybody is growing and thinks that that might be something at least to look at for the future.

Mayor Boley explained that Clay County is working on that right now and it is a multi-million-dollar project.

Alderman Russell asked if the two officers that would be added would be overstaffing or was that just to meet staffing needs.

Cynthia explained that it would be the creation of two additional positions

Alderman Russell asked if there would be any costs associated with the community education process for the voters.

Cynthia noted that was a very good question. There would be cost and that would potentially be minimal. If the Board does want to proceed with ballot, we would need to develop a timeline and a more intensive plan with estimated costs for an information campaign.

Alderman Chevalier said to take the questions to the voters and let the community decide on the amenities they want.

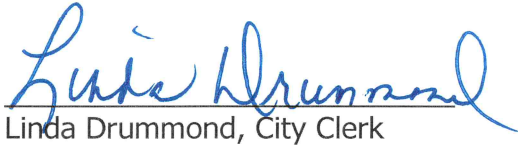
The Board all agreed to place the two ballot questions on the ballot for the April election.

Cynthia explained staff will work this fall to develop better cost information, taking into consideration and discussions to develop better information on what a campaign could look like and develop actual language as we refine some of those numbers. Staff will also work with our financial advisors on the mill levy and that information and develop the process and outcome to bring back to the Board for discussion and have ballot language ready for certification in January.

4. Adjourn

Alderman Ulledahl moved to adjourn. Alderman Atkins seconded the motion.

Ayes – 6, Noes – 0, motion carries. Mayor Boley declared the Work Session adjourned at 7:08 p.m.


Linda Drummond, City Clerk
Damien Boley, Mayor