



STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday October 23, 2018

1. Call to Order Time:6:10pm
2. Old Business
 - A. Sheriff's Contract Update

The sheriff's office sent an email to the city attorney about a few of the ideas for an interim contract in the meantime to for 12-15 hours per week until the permanent contract would be in place. Councilman Mark Gourneau did not agree with the proposed idea. He stated that they would hardly be here at all for that time. He also stated that we could have other cities cover us for more hours for that amount to time.

The Mayor explained that she explored that route also. She stated that she has talked to certain officers and that certain officers had contacted her about working in Mabton on their days off. Said officers actually talked to their chief and he said it was ok.

Mark continued that he said to drive the point home he called the sheriff's office and it took three hours for someone to respond. He called three separate times and on the final time he said to just cancel the call; the sheriff's office informed him at that time there was someone already dispatched to the scene. The incident was recorded and the Mabton officer was

supposed to follow up later. This was two weeks ago and no contact had still been made. Mark said that if that is all the better that they can do then we should just hire our own officers and forget about them.

Attorney Therrien-Power stated that maybe this is something should be discussed at the budget meeting. He stated that neither of these paths is easy but it is important to look at all the facts.

City Treasurer Michelle explained that even without as many officers there is still a large portion of that money (approx. \$337,000) have been spent in the Police Department since June even without the other officers on the payroll. Mark did not understand how this was possible.

There were questions about the reserve officers; uniforms etc. and why they were not active.

The mayor explained how reserve officer can only operate under a commission card that states they are working under a police chief.

B. Next Budget Meeting Date

The first meeting will be Saturday 10/27 8am-11am approximately depending on how long it takes. There needs to be two meetings in addition to the retreat. They will be held November 13th & November 27th in place of the study session before the regular scheduled meeting. If all goes well the budget will be passed at the regular meeting the December 11th.

3. New Business

A. Open House October 24th 5-7pm for WSDOT at Artz Fox in the Learning Center


This is to get community input on when the best time to close the bridge is. Construction will be a year or more to finish construction once it is started.

The mayor also mentioned that there will be a workshop for YVCOG November 1st @6:30pm at the Mabton Learning Center about solar energy and several programs and incentives that are being offered to try and get many people to make this conversion.

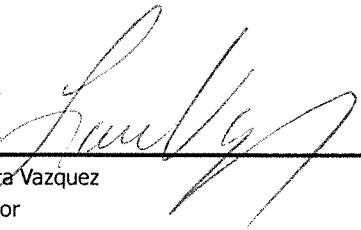
4. Visitor Comments

We heard from Curt Butterfield of 802 Sevilla St. who was one of the three reserve officers that they were talking about. He stated that they gave five months of their time away from their families and hard work to do nothing. He stated that if you want your uniforms back he will gladly bring them back. He found most of what he has in a storage room in the back; he has held onto these things because he was hoping to go to work here. Serving his community was the only reason he went to the reserve academy. He also stated that there have been offers from other agencies that he has not accepted because just working was not his intention.

5. Adjournment: Time:6:42pm

X 

Joshua Roberson
Deputy City Clerk

X 

Laura Vazquez
Mayor