

CITY COUNCIL PLANNING SESSION
Tuesday, February 21, 2023
(Immediately following Regular Council Meeting held at 5 p.m.)
Council Chambers – Denison, Iowa

Mayor Soseman called the planning session to order with the following members present: Curnyn, Granzen, Logan, Miller, and Garcia by telephone.

PARKS AND RECREATION FEE INCREASES Kempfert, Parks and Rec Director, stated his board would like to increase the rate for Morningside Park to \$25.00 per day with a \$75.00 deposit. They would like to keep the Union Park rates the same. They would also like to charge a non-refundable \$20.00 deposit to reserve open air shelters. Currently, all open air shelters are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Council would like to see a higher fee and deposit. Kempfert will take Council's recommendation back to his board.

GRANTS Hanson stated that his focus has been on Washington Park, the airport, generator, and a possible grant for the Temporary Aid Program.

FRANCHISE FEES Hanson presented Council franchise fees. He recommends implementing fees due to new budget issues including the LOSST and property tax bills.

Garcia arrived at 6:55 p.m.

The City currently receives a 3% franchise fee from Mediacom. He would like the Council to consider implementing fees on Black Hills, Western Iowa Network, and Denison Municipal Utilities. His recommendation is to increase the fees to 5% over the next 5 years. Hanson stated that the County would lose money if the City removes the current LOST tax from utility bills and recommends an agreement with the County to help them recover the loss. Council would like to create a committee to include the County, DMU, and the City to discuss issues for each entity. Miller and Logan will represent the City. Council would like to move forward with placing a franchise fee on the private utilities. Hanson will ask the City Attorney to prepare a resolution to set a public hearing for the March 7, 2023, agenda.

WELLNESS CENTER UPDATE Garcia stated that the amendment for the HGM agreement shows an hourly rate after they reduce the Wellness Center costs to \$18.5 million. The new floor plan will be generalized and is needed for a state grant application.

ARPA FUNDS Flaherty stated there was nothing new to report.

ANNEXATION Hanson would like Council's direction on how to proceed with annexation. He would like to know what areas to research and what

ANNEXATION CONT'D

questions they have. Garcia would like to know what value each area has and what the overall impact is for the community.

STREET DEPARTMENT
AWARD

Soseman stated that the Street Department received an award from KDSN.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Pamela Soseman, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jodie Flaherty, City Clerk