

November 4, 2024

COUNCIL WORK SESSION

4:00 p.m.

Harold E. Getty Council Chambers

Roll Call

Members present: Mayor Quentin Hart in the Chair. Mr. Boesen, Mr. Nichols, Ms. Creighton-Smith, Mr. Chiles, Mr. Simon and Mr. Feuss. Mr. Chiles joined via Zoom. Ms. Wilder joined the meeting at 4:17 p.m.

Agenda, as proposed or amended.

Feuss/Nichols

that the agenda as proposed be approved. Voice vote-Ayes: Six. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of the October 7, 2024 Council Work Session minutes, as proposed or amended.

Feuss/Nichols

that the minutes of the October 7, 2024, Council Work Session, as proposed be approved. Voice vote-Ayes: Six. Motion carried.

Discussion of a moratorium on hobby farms.

Mr. Boesen explained that Planning and Zoning and Board of Adjustments meetings are seeing variance requests for hobby farms come up on a regular basis. After discussing this with members of the Board of Adjustments, he suggested that council consider putting a moratorium in place until the ordinance can be reviewed and amended. He provided an overview of the current requirements and commented that once a variance is approved for a hobby farm, the applicant should be required to sign an agreement that allows inspectors and code enforcement access to that property at all times. He shared images of a hobby farm on Avon Avenue that was in violation of space requirements, the number of animals and conditions and stated that the board recommended denial. He questioned if there was anything in place that allowed staff to follow up to ensure these hobby farms remain in compliance with code. He explained that if we place a moratorium, we should work with Code Enforcement, Black Hawk County Health Department, the Humane Society and the Iowa State Extension Service to tighten up the ordinance.

Following a discussion with council and staff, the council members agreed to place a resolution declaring a moratorium on the next council agenda.

Discussion of the Building Blocks software with Tolemi.

Cristian Suarez, Tolemi, gave an overview of the Building Blocks and Slate software programs.

The City Council discussed the software programs with Mr. Suarez and Mayor Hart.

ADJOURNMENT

Feuss/Boesen
that the council adjourn at 4:42 p.m. Voice vote-Ayes: Seven. Motion carried.

Nancy Higby
Deputy City Clerk