

**CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION MINUTES
September 11, 2012**

The Study Session of the Monroe City Council was held on September 11, 2012, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Robert Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Councilpersons present: Goering, Cudaback, Williams, Kamp, Davis, Gamble, and Hanford.

Staff present: Feilberg, Warthan, Quenzer, Roberts, Sax, and Martinson.

Staff absent: Brazel.

City Attorney Zach Lell was not present.

Mayor Zimmerman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance and honor of the victims of the attacks on America on September 11, 2001. He also asked that we remember the first responders, who sacrificed their lives to save others.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Ron Lewis, 16854 Ladd Street SE, Monroe, addressed Council regarding the 30-day notice to move his fence off of the City right-of-way. He asked for a one-year extension on removal of his fence.

It was noted that Public Works Director Feilberg would be giving Council an update on this topic later in the evening.

Martha Donkers, 14005 Reiner Road, Monroe, invited Council to the 5-year celebration of the Y. She told about how the programs helped several citizens in the community and reported on the partnership with the school for another program.

Joel Phillips, 55 Circle Drive, Monroe, asked whether Council had obtained funds for video cameras to record Council meetings. It was explained that there are no funds available at this time.

Katie Thompson, 15673 Lakeview Avenue SE, Monroe, addressed Council regarding their fence on the City's property. They would like to keep the fence up for child safety; they keep the area clean themselves.

BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS

No Business & Action Items at this time

MEETING WAS RECESSED AND RECONVENED IN STUDY SESSION: 7:15 P.M.

STUDY SESSION

1. Redevelopment of City Landfill

Public Works Director Feilberg gave a brief overview explaining that there is interest expressed in development of the old landfill site. Zoning changed in 2003 to General Commercial. He stated that the garbage has to be dealt with and explained the choices and the four phase approach and costs to clean up the landfill. He suggested doing the first phase through an RFP process.

Mayor Zimmerman explained the potential value (\$3.2-3.3M). There could be gravel to mine, earth to use, scrap to sell. He had asked staff to gather information, in order to start a process to determine best route to go.

Manager Sax explained that the Galaxy property buyer is interested in the landfill site, in order to build a larger building. There is also an interest from companies in remediating the landfill. He agrees that Director Feilberg's suggestion is a good way to go.

After discussion, Council consensus was to start with Phase I. This will be brought back in 2013, to determine next step.

2. Department Reports

Director Feilberg reported on the five big projects underway at this time in Monroe (Main Street, Chain Lake, Bear Mountain, Eaglemont, and NexCore.

Manager Sax reported that NexCore is prepared to close at the end of September, instead of October.

3. Update: Private Use of City Property

Mayor Zimmerman explained that this topic is in response to some e-mails received last week. Any decision made would be based on the whole of the properties, not just one or two.

Public Works Director Feilberg gave an update on the issue of homeowners encroaching on the City right-of-way. Removal was extended to September 24th. They have also contacted owners in other areas of the City, to remove fences, etc., within 30 days. He explained the differences between the various issues.

Mayor Zimmerman pointed out that the responsibility of ensuring that a fence is built within the homeowner's property boundaries is the homeowner's. One homeowner had questioned having to remove his fence, when he had built it using an approved City fence permit.

Director Feilberg explained that fence permits are for the purpose of ensuring there are no sight obstructions. It is the homeowner's obligation to ensure that it is buildt it on his own property.

Utility Supervisor Roberts commented on the issues for the City on this matter. There could also be a violation of the *Clean Water Act*. He would like Council to determine how much time to give homeowners across the board, as the issue also arises in other areas of the city.

It was determined that Staff would bring back a policy of how much time is allowed for removal of encroaching items. They will also draft a notification timeline to include with the policy. They will continue working with the three homeowners they have already talked to about removal. The policy will be for future issues.

Director Feilberg suggested having a specific date set for removal, rather than a certain amount of time, to ensure maintenance can be done on the ditches during the weather window of opportunity.

4. Draft Agenda for September 18, 2012

Mayor Zimmerman noted the draft agenda for September 18, 2012.

There is no meeting on September 25th.

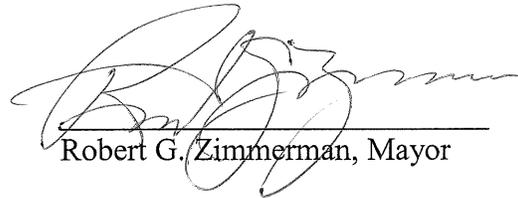
Councilperson Kamp reported on the Library Celebration event and that the *Friends of Monroe Library* gave Council some items from the celebration.

Councilperson Gamble reported that he will be absent September 18th.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:20 p.m.



Robert G. Zimmerman, Mayor



Eadye Martinson, Deputy City Clerk