

Minutes of the Independence City Commission's December 5, 2017 Special Meeting

The Independence City Commission met for a work session on December 5, 2017 at 5:30 P.M. in the Veterans Room at the Memorial Hall. Mayor Fred Meier, Commissioner Leonhard Caflisch, and Commissioner Gary Hogsett were present. Others present included:

City Staff

Craig Whitehead, City Manager
Kelly Passauer, Assistant City Manager
Michael Borovetz, Director of Finance/City Clerk
David Cowan, Director of Public Safety
Shawn Wallis, Fire Chief
Jerry Harrison, Police Chief
Barbara Beurskens, Director of Parks & Zoo
Barry Beurskens, Fire Captain

Visitors

Steve McBride	Dean Hayse
Ned Stichman	Louis Ysusi

Mayor Meier called the meeting order.

The meeting was held as a work session for the Commission and City staff to discuss the Public Safety and City Hall building project.

The purpose of the work session was to bring the Commission and City staff together to discuss the project following the three public forums and establish a plan to move forward on the project.

Mayor Meier stated that the steering committee that included 5 members picked by each Commissioner had reached a consensus to renovate 1916 City Hall and build a new Public Safety facility across the street in the municipal parking lot for an approximate cost of \$16,000,000. Commissioner Hogsett said that at the outset of forming the committee, the Commission would accept the committee's recommendation and the Commissioners agreed that is what they are going to do.

Mayor Meier thought the overall project should be put out to the citizens for a vote and how it would be funded either through property taxes, sales tax or other funding. Commission Caflisch noted that he was concerned that Treanor didn't take into consideration of the suitability of the site for the Public Safety building design. Mayor Meier noted that he felt Treanor did consider that as the report indicated \$683,892 was included for site related work for the new public safety building. Commissioner Caflisch also said that City staff deserves a suitable work place that also serves the citizens and it is

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important for morale and performance and the old city hall in its current state didn't address that.

Craig Whitehead said if the City is going to move forward with a vote on the project, the City would need to get together a site plan in more detail with an architect as well as developing financing options to get in front of the public to further educate prior to a vote on the project. He estimated that it would take 60-90 days to put this together once an architect is selected to develop a concept design and would suggest putting it out for a request for qualifications as part of the process of selecting an architect. Whitehead stated that it appeared that the Commission was in agreement to take the project to a vote and would like City staff to prepare a process to move forward.

Mayor Meier said that the City needs to look at all of the priorities in front of it. He noted that this project may not be the top priority and if the City is going to be at Building D for a couple of years, it would make sense at looking at some electrical upgrades to save money with the \$500K Mercy Hospital money. Whitehead stated that the City is working on a proposal to make the upgrades. Mike Borovetz explained that this was the second time the City has evaluated making upgrades to the electrical system but this time, it was broken down into phases to give the City options. Commissioner Caflisch also said it would be good to make contact with the mental health facility that was interested in Building D to see where they are at for direction.

Whitehead said that putting the project out to a vote and evaluating how it fits the overall structure and priority with funding had been established during the meeting. Borovetz stated that it was important to evaluate the structure of the funding to make sure that it would leave room for other funding for future projects and infrastructure. Whitehead said that City staff would take what was discussed in the work session and develop a strategy to move forward.

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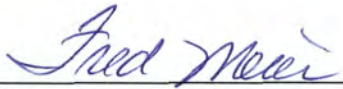
Adjournment

Motion:

On the motion of Commissioner Caflisch, seconded by Commissioner Hogsett, the commission adjourned the meeting.

Aye: Caflisch, Meier, Hogsett

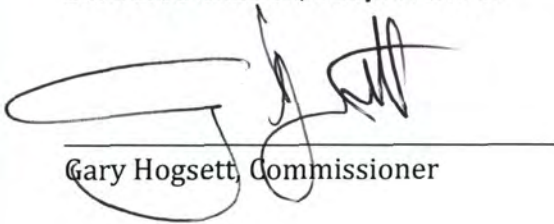
Nay: None



Fred Meier, Mayor

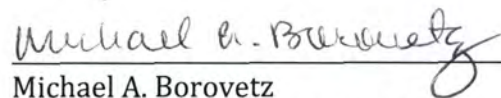


Leonhard Caflisch, Commissioner



Gary Hogsett, Commissioner

Attest:



Michael A. Borovetz
Director of Finance/City Clerk

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, KANSAS**

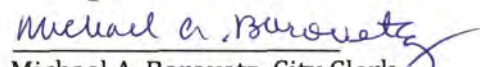
Notice is hereby given that a work session of the board of commissioners of the City of Independence, Kansas, will be held at the Memorial Hall, Penn and Chestnut, Independence, Kansas, at 5:30 p.m., on December 5, 2017 for the following purpose (s):

Agenda Item:

Work session to discuss the City Hall and Public Safety building project.

No Action will be taken.

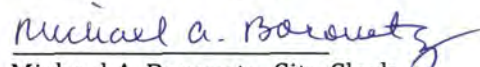
Date: December 5, 2017


Michael A. Borovetz, City Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OF NOTICE

I, Michael A. Borovetz, the duly appointed, qualified and acting City Clerk of the City of Independence, do hereby certify that on this 5th day of December, 2017, I served a true copy of the Notice of Special Meeting on each and every member of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Independence in the manner provided by law.

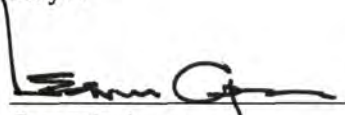
Date: December 5, 2017

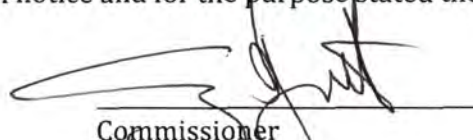

Michael A. Borovetz, City Clerk

WAIVER OF REGULAR NOTICE OF AND CONSENT TO SPECIAL MEETING

We, the undersigned members of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Independence do hereby accept service of the notice of special meeting waiving any and all irregularities in such service and in such notice and consent and agree that the said members of said Board of Commissioners shall meet at the time and place named in such notice and for the purpose stated therein.


Mayor


Commissioner


Commissioner