

SPRINGVILLE CITY COUNCIL/SCHOOL BOARD

Joint Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2016

School Board President LeAnn Grimley called their special meeting of the joint meeting to order at 6 pm, with roll call, present: Board members Deanna Wagaman, and Laura Riley.

Mayor Roger Shebetka called our special meeting of the joint meeting to order at 6:00 pm at Springville Community High School. Present on roll call: Councilpersons- Dennis Thies, Brad Merritt, Pat Hoyt, and Penny Sindelar. Councilperson Mareta Ralston was absent.

Motion by Thies, 2nd by Hoyt to approve the agenda as posted, all ayes, motion carried.

Superintendent Pat Hocking addressed the room, this is the first ever City and School meeting. This is just an informational meeting, no action will be taken.

1. Superintendent Pat Hocking presented an informational flyer about the school bond topic, in draft form. Vote to be February 2nd. An aerial view of the proposed area is included on this flyer. He asked for questions that the city might have or have heard. Penny Sindelar referred to 5th street drainage, and the playground size and location. Pat has both topics on his list for the engineers. Councilman Hoyt was unaware of the project, stated his concern of what appeared to be receiving this information so late. School Board President Grimley responded with listing several of the community informational meetings, and the variety of information that has been put out to the public. Pat Hoyt voiced some of his concerns, flooding on 5th street, the location of the playground, and the parking lot. Superintendent Hocking made everyone aware of the meeting Monday January 11th, the engineers will be here. Please come and ask your questions and voice your concerns. Superintendent Hocking talked about the \$2.70 tax rate vs. the defeated \$4.05. He told of the differences and how the school listened to the community and are incorporating their wants and needs. Mayor Shebetka spoke of the 5th Street project. This is the cities next major project. The city is waiting to see the outcome of this bond issue, to know exactly how to proceed. Drainage on 5th street is one of the biggest issues for the city. If the bond does pass, projected school construction start date is August 17, 2017.
2. Superintendent Hocking asked about the school taking over Academy Street. Mayor Shebetka told of the history, yes it had been offered before but rejected. Maintenance responsibility of the street is a question, it has been shared. Superintendent asked council to have a discussion over the possibility of gifting the street.
3. Adjacent Butler Park was discussed, with the possibility of a joint playground; liability is a concern of the city's. Penny brought up the fact that the park warranty deed states if the grounds become anything more than a park, ownership will return to the Butler family. Board member Wagaman noted that the district has designed what the taxpayer has asked for. The biggest concern is if there is an influx of kids, there is limited space to expand.
4. It was asked by Councilman Merritt what will become of the current elementary. Schwab Hall will have to come down, it is being monitored for stability. An estimate has been done for the demolition of the elementary. The board is aware they are responsible for the structure. Superintendent Hocking asked if the bond passes, and when the building becomes empty, would the city be interested in using part or all of it. He asked that the council have come discussion on the topic. Board President Grimley referred to a possible 28E agreement for the building, this would maintain the building in case of an influx of students, and its need returns.

Superintendent Hocking told of current activities at school. Reminded everyone, he would like to maintain an open door policy with the city. He also asked if the city ever has any concerns, comments, or questions, please feel free to contact the school. He wants to open up the doors of communication.

Superintendent Hocking would like to have these joint meetings at least once a year, Mayor Shebetka mentioned possibly more frequent than that.

Mayor Shebetka spoke on city topics. The possible new addition has one more meeting with Planning and Zoning, will know more after that. He strongly believes we need a strong and viable school to have a strong and viable city, it goes hand in hand. He is not interested in going with another district, on the bond flyer, it shows property tax rates of other schools, that we would then undertake, Springville is one of the lower districts.

Councilman Sindelar spoke of the cities upcoming projects, 5th street and city hall. We are also working on a CDBG Housing Grant, and an adjoining sanitary sewer grant. We are continually working on the trails project; there is a grant to possibly join the trail coming out of Marion to our city trails.

Sindelar and Shebetka both noted the need for upgrading the lift station, we are being proactive, to stay ahead of the DNR requiring the upgrades. The DNR has granted us a permit to work on the lift station, this being utilized with the sewer rehab grant. This is a matching grant, dollar for dollar, we are asking for \$400,000.

Opened up for public comment- nothing.

Board President thanked everyone for coming. She encourages everyone to attend the informational meeting on the new elementary, that is being held Monday, January 11, at 6 PM.

The school board adjourned.

Motion by Sindelar, second by Thies to adjourn, all ayes, motion carried.

Next City Council meeting, January 18, 2016, at City Hall

ATTEST: ___Kim Donaldson_____
 City Clerk

_____Roger Shebetka_____
 Mayor

Disclaimer: The foregoing minutes are not official until approved by the City Council.
Mayor