

City/County/Park/School Liaison Committee

July 18, 2022 Meeting

Members Present:

Lisa Olson, Howard Anderson

John Pietsch

Members Absent:

Mark Jantzer

Others Present:

Jim Rostad, John Fjeldahl, Brian Billingsley, Mikayla McWilliams, Ryan Kamrowski, Jill Schramm, Larry Haug, Mark Lyman, Harold Stewart, David Lakefield, and Marisa Haman

FROM: City of Minot City Clerk

RE: Meeting agenda for Monday, July 18, 2022
10:00 am Ward County Administrative Building Room 106 & 108

The City/County/Park/School Liaison Committee meeting was called to order at 10:00 am, by Chairwoman Lisa Olson at the Ward County Administrative Building.

1. Approval of minutes

County Commissioner Pietsch moved to approve the minutes from April 21, 2022, County Commissioner Anderson seconded and motion carried unanimously.

2. 2023 Levy/Budget Discussion

Marisa Haman stated that Ward County was looking at having a mill increase of 1.4. The county was still looking at their salary study because currently their preliminary budget had a 5% increase on salaries.

Harold Stewart discussed the City of Minot having a possible mill increase of 1.48. The TIF impact with the budget is still in consideration and could bring down the increase. The significant impacts were fuel charges, inflation, supply chain issues, and the preliminary budget had a 10% increase for health insurance.

County Commission Pietsch asked the City of Minot if the city had ever worked with a consultant for health insurance. The City of Minot is self-funded with insurance and working with Blue Cross Blue Shield but the city will be looking at changes for 2024. County Commissioner Pietsch mentioned that the county was pleased with Brown & Brown Consultants and worked with Tami as the consultant on health insurance.

Harold Stewart discussed Health Care Tourism and how it is not recommended but some places do look into that so he understands the recommendations and needs of a consultant. Alderwoman Olson stated how with the workforce shortage benefits are important for hiring and retention.

David Lakefield mentioned that the Park District could have a slight increase and the Minot Public School District will have an increase with the bond issue passing.

County Commissioner Rostad and Pietsch stated how the County Commissioners need more clarification on the budget.

3. TIF Development Agreement

Harold Stewart discussed the TIF application for the Tracks, which is being done in phases with phase 1 being a 5 year TIF for two buildings. Phase 1 the City of Minot has approval authority but EPIC has been instructed to do a presentation to Ward County and Minot Public Schools for the Tracks. Phase 2 will need approval/denial from all three entities.

The first draft of the development agreement is expected at the end of this week or next week. The bonds are not backed by the City of Minot and it will be similar to Blu on Broadway. It was asked how the TIF helps in this situation and it helps for funding the project with reimbursement. The focus will be included in the development agreement such as the roads and water/sewer infrastructure.

4. Other Business

Jim Rostad mentioned that remodeling starts in September for the new high school. The ground breaking could be the first week in September and the bid package for the interior remodel should be out in September also.

The new high school should have classes beginning Fall of 2024 and the Minot Public School District and the City of Minot will work together to discuss the extra needs for School Resource Officers.

Marisa Haman mentioned that the Election is in place and David Lakefield thanked Marisa for the help with the Special Election for a Council Alderman/Alderwoman.

Alderwoman Olson asked the committee about the new location for the meetings. County Commissioner Pietsch thought that there were less people but David Lakefield mentioned that could also be because of the time of the year. It was mentioned the Ward County Administrative Building meeting room offered a quieter atmosphere.

The next meeting will be September 21, 2022 at 1:00 pm at Ward County Administrative Building Room 106 & 108.

Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:24 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Mikayla McWilliams
City of Minot, City Clerk