

City of Cambridge
Special City Council Meeting
Wednesday December 27, 2017

Pursuant to notice published in the Cambridge Clarion, Thursday December 21, 2017 and posted in the Cambridge City Office, the Cambridge City Council held a special meeting convening at 6:35 P.M. Present were Mayor Mark Harpst, City Council Member Tom McCarville, Derek Raburn, Keith Luedders, Tony Groshong, Vernita Saylor and Jeff Ommert entered the meeting at 8:00 P.M. City Staff present was City Clerk/Treasurer Kandra Kinne. Cambridge Rural Fire Board Members present were Kim Shifflet, Larry Kubik, Dave Johnson and Ken Houghtelling. Mayor Harpst opened the meeting and announced the open meeting act is posted on the east wall of the meeting room and available for public inspection.

Mayor Harpst opened the discussion by stated the purpose of the meeting is to make a decision on the fire barn project and come to a compromise and work through issues. The discussion for the project has been ongoing since 2013. The bid build approach has compromised issues. The City has a lump sum contract for design through build. The City Council does not want a repeat of history as happened with the existing fire barn. The building was a design build project in 1974 and has issues with settling. The City Council would like to see an engineered building with construction oversight to avoid future problems. The City Council met with Brad Slaughter of Ameritas and presented the information provided about bonding the project. Kim Shifflet said it is not feasible to double the Rural Fire Levy and then need to raise taxes for equipment needs. Mark said it does not make sense to put an estimated

\$350,000 to \$400,000 in an addition on the existing fire barn. The group discussed the possibility of going to bid and see what the contractors bid and that it is possible the project would come in under the engineers estimate. Discussion was held about selling the current ladder truck and purchase a used lower profile truck that would fit under the overhead doors at the fire barn. Both Boards agreed they need to be unified in their final decision. The Boards discussed equipment needs and discussed finances and that it is not possible to do both build a fire barn and replace existing trucks. It was decided to meet again in January. The Fire Department will need to provide an inventory of existing equipment and a five year plan to replace trucks and equipment. There will need to be discussion about priorities. Kandra discussed a need to have a spending policy not only for the fire department but all departments that would require an approval by the City Council prior to purchase and the Fire Department will need to get approval from both the City Council and Rural Fire Board for all large purchases. Kandra explained the even if the funds are from donations or foundations the City Council or the City Council and Rural Board are responsible for maintenance costs and insurance after the purchase. Kandra would prepare a draft purchase policy for all departments and the Fire Department will need to provide an inventory, and five year plan before the January 17th meeting.

Vernita Saylor stated the motion, seconded by Tom McCarville to adjourn at 8:30 P.M. On roll call vote Tom McCarville, Derek Raburn, Keith Luedders, Jeff Ommert, Tony Groshong and Vernita Saylor voted yes, none voted no. Motion carried unanimously.

Attest: _____

Kandra J. Kinne, City Clerk/Treasurer

Mark Harpst, Mayor