

Fertile City Council Minutes
Special Meeting
April 20, 2023

The Fertile City Council held a special meeting on Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Present were: Mayor Daniel Wilkens and Council members Mary Kiefert, Amanda Bosman, and Todd Wise. Also present was City Administrator Lisa Liden and Fertile resident Liz Lisburg. Also in attendance electronically via Microsoft Teams was Jason Murray with David Drown and Associates. The purpose of the meeting was for Public Hearings regarding the Community Center project.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Wilkens at 6:30 p.m. and began with those present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The agenda was approved as presented on a motion by Council member Kiefert that was seconded by Council member Bosman and was carried.

The regular meeting was closed and the Public Hearing opened on a motion by Council member Wise that was seconded by Council member Kiefert and was carried.

The Public Hearing began with Jason Murray of David Drown and Associates explaining the purpose of the two hearings that were scheduled that evening. The first hearing was to go over the Capital Improvement Plan that had been prepared for the Community Center project. The second hearing was required by the IRS since there were two non-profit entities, Riverview Rehab Clinic and the food shelf, located in the building. That hearing was just part of the required process for the bonds that would be issued for the project.

Murray then briefly went over the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that had been prepared by his office. He explained that the high estimate for the funding was \$820,000 but that the amount could be lowered based on the actual bids that had been received on the project. Murray went over the debt limit for the City and showed how the added debt for the project would be within the statutory limits for the City. On page 4 of the CIP he quickly reviewed the items that were included in the project as well as the demand and need for the work to be done. He ended with a summary overview of the financing and payment schedule on page six of the CIP plan.

When Murray finished his presentation, the floor was opened for public comments. Liz Lisburg began by asking if there was a building committee that regularly looked at building issues so that some of the current problems could have been addressed much earlier. Mayor Wilkens explained that the air conditioning had quit last summer and that the units on the roof were so old that replacement parts were no longer available. Administrator Liden added that the roof had leaked periodically over the last few years but the needed repairs were rather small. The previous summer, however, there were numerous leaks on the roof so repair was no longer feasible.

Lisburg asked whether the City had considered completely rebuilding the Community Center given the high cost of the repairs that were under consideration. Council member Wise stated

