

**EUREKA CITY COUNCIL
WORK MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 2020 7:00 P.M.**

Pledge of Allegiance and Welcome – Mayor Nick Castleton

Roll Call

Mayor Nick Castleton – Present
Council Member Darrin Carlson – Present
Council Member Hortt Carter – Present
Council Member Larry Ezell – Present
Council Member Travis Haynes – Absent
Council Member Leslie Rice – Present
City Recorder Patricia Bigler

Others in Attendance

Melissa Mellor – Attorney, Ron Stewart – Auditor

Discussion Items

Ron Stewart, Gilbert & Stewart – Review 2019 Audit of Eureka City Financial Statements

Mr. Stewart gave a detailed explanation of how they performed the audit. There has been and continues to be an issue with separation of duties. He explained he just had a short meeting with Patricia, Rachel, and the Mayor to address this issue. State compliance is looked at every year and some are done every three years. A finding was found. It shows the City spent more than what was budgeted. The recommendation was to monitor the budget. Council Member Rice asked if those findings would come back on the City. The State can withhold funds such as Sales Tax, Property Tax, etc. He will help draft a letter of compliance to the State. He said there are three Enterprise Funds, water, sewer, and garbage. He said there is not a lot of cash in those funds. We need to look and decided are we generating enough funds to cover these funds. We may look at raising fees. We need to either use what is coming in or limit what goes out. Council Member Ezell would it help when we do the budget to make sure we are staying within those budgets when a project gets done. Council Member Carter said he wants the employees to show what department they are using for their time and supplies. This way come budget time we can get a more accurate amount for each department. It looks like we are starting to borrow money from the General fund.

Mayor Castleton told the Council he had spent the day up at the Capitol. He was there concerning HB129 sponsored by Christine Watkins. HB129 will allow Public Service Committee to allow Dominion to run the natural gas line into your homes. It passed out of Committee in favor of.

Recorder Bigler mentioned Brent Pulver dropped off two invitations to be on the Citizens Academy. It requires a seven-week commitment beginning in March. No one was able to commit.

Review of Eureka City Employee Policies and Procedures – Procurement Policy, Pay, Scale, Overtime Policy

Attorney Mellor will follow up with former City Attorney Merrill.

Council Member Carter made a motion to move into Executive Session. Council Member Ezell seconded. All in favor moved meeting into Executive Session.

Council returned to regular meeting.

Council Member Ezell asked if anyone had attended the Planning Commission Meeting and if so, what they had decided on the lot split for Bob Allinson. Mayor Castleton said they had approved the lot split. Council Member Ezell said he has a problem with the split. Bob needs to maintain the frontage of 80 ft. He feels this could come back to haunt us. The Council will require him to have the 80 ft. frontage.

Council Member Ezell brought up the property on main street across from City Hall. He had the map that Pauline Webber sent concerning the property. He said the Council had decided not to sell the property. Council Member Carter asked about the hospital board if they agreed to sell. The Mayor said yes. Attorney Mellor asked if they were doing this part-time for the RV parking. She said this could become an issue. Council Member Ezell said the City needs to control public parking. If he wants to entertain coming to meeting, he is more than welcome.

Council Member Carter said he had some items he wanted to bring up. He said something needs to be done with the building next to Gary Poh's museum. It needs to be fixed/cleaned up. The same issue is happening with the old clinic. These buildings are starting to pose a hazard to the City and its residents. He suggested having Attorney Mellor write a letter saying the building needs to be fixed or torn down. He wanted to know what has been done with the property Chuck Davis wanted to purchase. He accepted the counteroffer and is waiting on the surveyor. Has anyone else done any thinking on the School Resource Officer. Council Member Carter and Ezell do not feel the City should be paying a 1/3rd of the cost and have the officer spend all their time at the school. Council Member Carter brought Attorney Mellor up to date on the subject.

Council Member Carlson said it was brought to his attention what was going on at the house Palfreyman's are remodeling on Main St. He talked to City Recorder Bigler and it doesn't have a building permit. He would like to have the Building Inspector come up. Council Member Carter said we need to talk to the Building Inspector to find out how much he is going to charge us to contact these people. This charge would be paid by the homeowner.

Adjournment

Council Member Carter made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Carlson seconded. All in favor meeting adjourned.

Executive Session

