

*(The following is a synopsis of the minutes of the West Branch City Council meeting. The full text of the minutes is available for inspection at the City Clerk's office. The minutes are not approved until the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting.)*

**City Council Joint Work Session with the West Branch  
Community School District Board of Directors**

**West Branch, Iowa  
Council Chambers**

**July 20, 2015  
6:00 p.m.**

School Board Vice President Mike Colbert opened the West Branch City Council Joint Work Session with the West Branch Community School District Board of Directors at 6:03 p.m. by welcoming the audience and the following School District and City staff: Superintendent Kevin Hatfield, Business Manager/Board Secretary Angie Klinkkammer, City Administrator Matt Muckler, Public Works Director Matt Goodale, and City Attorney Kevin Olson. School Board members: Mike Owen, Richard Paulus and Deb Schreiber. School Board President Kathy Knoop was absent. Council members: Jordan Ellyson, Colton Miller, Brian Pierce, Tim Shields and Mary Beth Stevenson.

City Projects and Development Updates

Goodale reported on the recently completed N. Oliphant water infrastructure project completed in front of Hoover Elementary. Miller detailed upcoming CIP Projects which include Main Street intersection improvements at Oliphant and Foster, Main Street crossings at Scott and Pedersen, and a road construction project on N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street from the West Branch Animal Clinic to Reagan Blvd. Miller also discussed the West Branch Village Trail Project and the Casey's Gas and Convenience Store Project and associated road improvements. Hatfield asked Muckler for an update on the Meadows Subdivision and Muckler reported that KLM was moving forward with a spec house on W. Orange Street, but that there was no news on a second phase of that development at this time. Owen asked Muckler about the alignment of Dawson Drive and the future High School entrance and Muckler reported that the City had no intention of changing the road alignment that was determined by a recent traffic study.

School Facility Improvements and other Updates

Hatfield provided an overview of the West Branch Community School District's fifteen year master facilities improvement plan, district preparations for a bond referendum, an overview of current locker room and restroom renovations, and the east parking lot expansion at West Branch High School. Schreiber reported that the Kirkwood Regional Academic Center will offer hands-on technical programs and arts and sciences classes to dozens of West Branch students. Resident Roger Laughlin discussed future plans for the West Branch Public Library. Colbert mentioned that while District enrollment was down by twelve students, there were many noteworthy items to report: a) Principal Jess Burger was selected as a Top 3 School Administrator for the development of an early intervention reading program initiative, b) Standards based grading system is a model for other districts, c) Vocational opportunities and additional college prep classes are available through Kirkwood Community College, d) The 1:1 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology Program continues for students from 5<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade, e) A 2:1 Program will be offered for students from Kindergarten to 4<sup>th</sup> grade, f) Academic club offerings have been included in the latest teacher's contract, and g) Mrs. Heithoff's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class was recognized for running a greeting card business which generated enough profit to purchase five stoves for a charitable endeavor in Guatemala. Paulus reported on the positive progress of the Robotics Team. Hatfield concluded the meeting with a discussion of the District's AP course offerings and the college credit earned by high school students.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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Colton Miller, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Matt Muckler, City Administrator/Clerk