

(The following is a synopsis of the minutes of the West Branch City Council Work session. 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.)

**West Branch, Iowa
Council Chambers**

City Council Work Session

**March 31, 2011
6:30 p.m.**

Mayor Don Kessler opened the Work Session by welcoming the audience and the following City staff: City Administrator/Clerk Matt Muckler, City Attorney Kevin Olson, and Administrative Assistant Ashley Borland-Kaalberg, Fire Administrator Dick Stoolman, Park and Recreation Director Melissa Russell. Council members: David Johnson, Robert Sexton, Jim Oaks, Mark Worrell and Dan O'Neil.

Discussion of the time of regular Council Meetings (Chapter 17.04)

City Administrator Matt Muckler referenced the March 21, 2011 Council Meeting that addressed the time change from 6:30pm to 7:00pm that happens in April and November.

Worrell said that he would like to see the time change in April and November stay. Johnson, Sexton and O'Neil said that they were indifferent on the time and Oaks said that he would like to see the time stay consistent at 6:30pm.

Water and Sewer Permit Fee Discussion (Chapter 90.06 and 96.02)

Muckler presented options for the fee increase and gave surrounding communities as an average. He explained that this amount would continue to be added to the building permit as is currently being done.

Johnson said that he was interested in Council looking into one of the proposed options of \$315 with 5% per year increases.

Sexton voiced that he feels the increase is too high. Worrell would like staff to look into the comparable communities' multi-family pricing and if it is different from single family.

Discussion of preliminary plat of Meadows Subdivision

Dave Schechinger, Veenstra and Kimm presented his calculations concerning the requirements for the development's water retention options.

Council discussed the City taking ownership of the out lot of 4 acres in the Meadows Subdivision.

Discussion was had on the option of districting for new service to contribute to the lift station.

Muckler addressed the possibility of a pedestrian street crossing on Main Street. Worrell suggested using the location of the driveways of either the High School or Dawson drive as a dedicated area for the crossing. The necessity of a traffic study in the area was discussed.

Brad Larson, KLM Investors, presented Council with an estimate of construction costs to replace the existing sewer line that runs through the property.

Larson proposed cost sharing options with the City for the construction costs of the sewer project.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mayor Kessler to adjourn. City Council Work Session adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Don Kessler, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Matt Muckler, City Administrator/Clerk