

**October 26, 2020
Special Meeting**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Halstad was duly called and held on October 26, 2020 at 6:30pm.

Mayor Lori DeLong called the special meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

The following council members were present: Darin Johnson, Brandon Mickelson, Bruce Purrington, Mike Trygg

The following council members were absent: None

Mayor DeLong gave an explanation and purpose for the special meeting to attendees observing through electronic means in regards to the issue of the NCW property and school building discussion by the council.

Mayor DeLong requested a read back and briefing regarding information and documentation materials presented from the NCW Path Forward task force. Mike Trygg presented some of the materials in general response to questions asked by the mayor previously in regards to immediate costs incurred by the city upon taking ownership. The information gathered was complete as was possible within the time restraints available. Darin Johnson presented illustrations with additional information regarding costs and projections for possible income and revenues; also the results from the Planning Commission survey for the city comprehensive plan relative to the school building which indicated strong interest in at least some pieces of the overall building.

Discussion ensued, including new information provided today by a financial consultant with experience working for the city on TIF projects. The information was considered, and over all concerns consistently having to do with absolute costs for operations, expenses for fitment and upgrading notwithstanding financial assistance through revenues, grants, loans and donations to offset debts incurred by the city were repeated. Brandon Mickelson described a version of purchasing only the "south wing" of the building in addition to the green space with conditions the remainder of the school be demolished. He added the removal of asbestos and underground fuel tanks to protect the city from those costs in the future. Bruce Purrington concurred there could be support for a smaller part of the school with less financial hardship for the city, and without the necessity to raise citizens taxes.

Motion made by Mike Trygg second by Brandon Mickelson

Motion to purchase for \$1.00 property of Norman County West (NCW) in the City of Halstad including the greenspace and "South Wing" of the school on the property with agreement the remainder of the school building be demolished by NCW; and terms of a purchase agreement be negotiated by two selected council members and the city's attorney.

Roll Call Vote was unanimous. Clerk was asked to contact NCW Superintendent and leadership in regards to the motion passed.

Motion to adjourn at 8:22 pm by Bruce Purrington second by Darin Johnson.

Mike Trygg, City Clerk