

August 4, 2021 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 August 4, 2021.

Mayor Darin Johnson called the special meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

The following council members were present: Mayor Darin Johnson, Brandon Mickelson, Mike Trygg, , Shirley Weeding and Donna Scholl. Terri Trygg, Clerk, and community members present were Jackie Hellerud, Kurt and Pam Vandermeer, Ken and Kathy Mickelson, Lucas and Jessica Spaeth, Gregg and Pam Holte, Emily Finney, Dave and Shirley Weeding, Donna Scholl, and Jeremy and Kristi Melting.

Mayor Johnson explained the purpose of the special meeting to the council and attendees. The meeting was set to bring together council members, Planning Commission members, EDA members, HBL members and other interested residents, to come up with ideas for short term and long term utilization, and revenue sources for the school building and property. A master plan is necessary to clearly define a plan and goals in order to obtain grants, loans and other external funding. No decisions, motions, or resolutions will be made during this session.

Jeremy and Kristi Melting facilitated the discussion. The attendees were broken into 6 groups to brainstorm the following topics:

- Residential
- Grounds
- Recreation
- Office Space/Business
- Education/Community Education
- Other

Once the groups had worked through each topic, the group was asked to prioritize or look for items on the list that were important to them and the community, and to discuss ideas on how to move forward. The attendees started with the recreation topic and there was much discussion regarding the interest in a Health and Wellness Center on the southeast side of the building, where the gym is located. There were a number of ideas for a center, but some of the immediate tasks that need to be completed before the space would be available include building security, security cameras, key fobs, how membership or use would be granted, funding sources such as grants, and how the space will be managed.

The next topic to be discussed was the grounds and outbuildings. There were a number of ideas discussed for usage of properties and the former bus garage. Some of the ideas included primitive RV parking spaces, recreation programs using existing ball fields, and

either leasing or rental of the bus garage. There may need to be some zoning changes, depending on how the space is used in the future.

The next topic discussed was Office Space/Business. Some ideas were community usage of spaces, and some were for business usage.

Mayor Johnson pointed out that for the 2021-2022 winter season, the city would not be able to heat the entire building. The current plan is to only heat the south end of the building. The group determined that another meeting will be needed to go through the rest of the topics, and to discuss how to move forward with a plan.

Motion to adjourn by Donna Scholl, second by Shirley Weeding. The roll call vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.