

City of Eldridge City Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

The City of Eldridge, Iowa, City Council met in an open Committee of the Whole session at the Eldridge Community Center at 6:00 pm on May 6, 2025.

Council Members Present: Scott Campbell, Dan Collins and Ryan Iossi. Brian Dockery arrived at 6:43pm

Presiding: Mayor Frank King

Also Present: Nevada Lemke, Jeff Martens, Letty Goslowsky, Marty O'Boyle, Ben Ruzick, Dale Grunbald, Gretchen Deutmeyer, Mallory Deutmeyer, Zach Howell, Zoey Kanakares and Erin Gentz.

Ben Ruzick from Metronet gave a presentation on the company and their desire to come to the Eldridge area to offer internet service. Throughout the presentation Council and staff asked various questions.

Next topic was options on the South 25th Ave (Fellner's Addition) project with costs. Zach Howell with Shive-Hattery provided documentation with two options, concrete vs asphalt. Discussion was had regarding the costs, longevity, construction phasing and funding options. It was decided concrete would be the material for the project. Council requested staff to explore some funding options and bring it back to the Council.

Next item agenda discussed was regarding bench donations. Staff wanted input from Council on how they want to handle the process for approving future bench donations and locations. City Administrator Nevada Lemke provided a memo from Public Works Director Tony Rupe, that included some direction and recommendations. Council decided a process should be put in place for city staff to approve bench donations and locations, and requests would not need to come to the Council.

Discussion was then had on upcoming joint meetings in regards to the Park Board, Community Center Board and the Utility Board. The Park Board has requested to come forward to Council to provide more detail information regarding their plans and priorities, and possible funding options. Council decided to have a Special Committee of the Whole on Monday May 19th 2025 at 6:00pm prior to the Regular Council Meeting. Because the Community Center recently hired a new manager, at least one of the board members wanted to skip the planned June 6 month follow-up meeting with Council regarding their progress and just wait until the December 2025 meeting. Council determined the June meeting is still needed and would not be cancelled. For the Utility Board, council determined because they are being well informed by Councilman Ryan Iossi, the liaison between the Council and Utility Board, and there are no known issues, that a joint meeting was not needed at this time.

The last item on the agenda was no longer an issue since the new Community Center Manager has now started so there didn't need to be any discussion of moving the next three meetings.

A quick discussion was then had on room and layout for the upcoming Volunteer Fire Department Special Committee of the Whole and how the Council wanted the agenda to be setup.

Dockery advised he would be out of town on May 19th 2025.

Motion by Dockery to approve the agenda. Second by lossi. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted, Letty Goslowsky, Finance Manager/City Clerk