

**CITY OF BAYPORT
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MAY 1, 2023
4:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The workshop was called to order by Mayor Michele Hanson at 4:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Michele Hanson, John Dahl, Ethan Gilmore, Katie Hill, and Connie Carlson

Staff present: City Administrator Matt Kline, Assistant City Administrator/Planner Sara Taylor, Police Chief Laura Eastman, and City Attorney Eric Larson (arrived at 5:40 p.m.)

DISCUSS RELOCATION OPTIONS FOR ANDERSEN ELEMENTARY

Stillwater Area Public Schools Superintendent Mike Funk and Director of Operations Mark Drommerhausen provided an overview of the current challenges with the existing location of Andersen Elementary and outlined future facility improvements under consideration for the district. Driving factors for facility improvements include planning for future growth, providing the best educational environment for students and faculty, implementing enhanced safety improvements, and increasing early childhood learning. Benefits of a new elementary school in the Bayport vicinity include decreased operating costs, staff efficiencies, and increased flex learning and recreation space. Discussion followed on potential locations to relocate the school in Bayport, one of which included Barker's Alps Park. Multiple councilmembers expressed concern about the lack of public access to Barker's Alps Park if the school were to be pursued in this location. Alternative locations within Baytown were also discussed, as well as potential tax impacts that would result from the proposed facility improvements planned for the district. The consensus of the City Council was to reconvene discussion with the district at a future meeting.

DISCUSS SUCCESSION PLANNING FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Administrator Kline and Chief Eastman reviewed the chief's pending plans for retirement and the potential for Sergeant Jackson to serve as the Police Chief in an interim capacity. If the City Council is receptive to this arrangement and perhaps considering him as a permanent replacement for the Police Chief position, staff recommends this be discussed in further detail with Sergeant Jackson at the June 5 workshop. It is anticipated that the initial interim period would last 2-3 months following Chief Eastman's retirement, at which time the City Council would then evaluate and discuss Sergeant Jackson's performance in the position for consideration of a permanent appointment. The consensus of the City Council was to reconvene discussion on June 5.

RECESS

It was moved by Councilmember Carlson and seconded by Councilmember Dahl to recess the workshop at 5:53 p.m. and continue discussion following the regular meeting. Motion carried 5-0. The workshop discussion was resumed by Mayor Michele Hanson at 7:19 p.m.

DISCUSS THE APPEAL PROCESS FOR PENDING AND FUTURE VARIANCE APPLICATIONS

City Attorney Larson reviewed the city ordinance related to the appeal process for land use applications. He outlined the terms of a current appeal submitted to the city on April 4, 2023 regarding a condition of a variance approval for 317 Lake Street South. Attorney Larson summarized options to be considered by the City Council at the appeal hearing, including (1) denial of the appeal, resulting in the variance, as conditioned, to remain in full force and effect; (2) approval of the appeal, resulting in removal of the identified condition from the variance; or (3) denial in part or approval in part the variance appeal, subject to terms and conditions determined by the City Council. The appeal is scheduled to be heard and considered at the June 5 City Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilmember Dahl and seconded by Councilmember Carlson to adjourn the workshop at 7:57 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.