

**MANISTEE CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 10, 2017**

The Manistee City Council met in a work session on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 70 Maple Street, Manistee, Michigan 49660.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dale Cooper, Lynda Beaton, Roger Zielinski, Robert Goodspeed, James Smith, Mark Wittlieff, Erin Pontiac

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Thad Taylor, City Attorney George Saylor, DPW Director Jeff Mikula, Public Safety Director Tim Kozal, Planning & Zoning Director Denise Blakeslee, City Engineer Shawn Middleton, Public, and Media

Public Comments on Work Session Related Items. None

Presentation of US-31 Corridor Study. County Planner Rob Carson and AES Community Development Director Tamara Buswinka made a presentation of the US-31 Corridor Study. Questions were asked on funding and possible visibility obstructions from zero lot line. Discussion took place on what the expectation would be of current business owners versus new businesses. Provides a proactive approach for new businesses with no retroactive force on existing businesses. First phase is to get everyone on the same page. This will be a long, ongoing process.

Discussion on The Potential Redevelopment of the Manistee Iron Works Property. City Manager Thad Taylor led a discussion on the Potential Redevelopment of the Manistee Iron Works Property. Ken Armour, 325 4th Avenue, and Jim Brodi, Create 3 Architecture, made a presentation on the plans for the Iron Works Property including but not limited to a community amphitheater, cottages, hotel, retail spaces, dining, and marijuana grow facility. A presentation was also made by Joe Brennan and Mike Cavanaugh of Brass LLC. They gave a history of their company, founders, and goals. A lengthy discussion took place on the marijuana grow process and potential impacts. Council stated they would need a timeline for completion for the project if grow was approved.

CONSENSUS: Council is opposed to dispensing but open to discussion of the grow and process of marijuana. Would like to move forward with preparing police power ordinance and zoning ordinance.

Discussion on Economic Development Funding. City Manager Thad Taylor led a discussion on Economic Development Funding. Council had a lengthy discussion which included putting projects out for bid and contracting services on a case by case basis. Questions were raised as to how this would work with time sensitive projects and for budgeting.

CONSENSUS: Council directed staff to begin preparation of a Request for Qualifications for an Economic Development Vendor of Record.

Presentation of Quarterly Strategic Plan Update.

CONSENSUS: Council asked that this item will be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting.

Discussion on Deputy Finance / Deputy Treasurer Position.

CONSENSUS: Council asked that this item will be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting.

Adjourned at approximately 9:16 p.m.



Heather Pefley CMC | CMMC | MiCPT
Deputy Clerk