

AITKIN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
SPECIAL WORK SESSION - PLANNING  
AITKIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

March 20, 2023

4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Megan Workman, Council Members: Kathy Galliger, Jason Henke, Julie Miller, Chris Dotzler

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Jen Thompson, Lon Nicko, Olivia Johnson - Aitkin Age, Terry Betley, Stan Gustafson

Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Megan Workman at 4:00 p.m.
2. **Approval of Agenda.**  
A motion to approve the agenda was made by Kathy Galliger, seconded by Jason Henke and approved with all ayes. Julie Miller did not vote on the agenda approval, but she was in attendance at the rest of the meeting.
3. **Introduction – Goals and Mission Statement** -The Mission Statement was discussed, and Councilor Henke provided a condensed version for approval of the Council. He will provide an edited version for the regular Council Meeting, and it will be added to the agenda.
4. **ARPA Funds Discussion** - The Council discussed the remaining ARPA Funds, possible uses and a potential capital request to Senator Stauber’s Office. They also discussed using some of these funds for a Plan B for the park community center/fieldhouse.
5. **Revenue Sources – Annexation Plans – Assessment Policy** – The Council discussed annexations and how that could impact future infrastructure plans. Land use specialist Jerry Bohnsack provided some information relating to annexation, and he suggested that “we might want to try to create an annexation policy with the townships.” Mayor Workman showed the properties that are currently encircled by City property, and the Council discussed if they would want to proceed with annexation plans and a potential plan for an assessment policy.
6. **Workforce Housing and How do we move forward** – Councilor Dotzler discussed some activities related to trying to create a workforce housing discussion with the State and County, and the Council would like more information before we continue with that initiative. The Council ran out of time, and we did not get this far. This is probably a good starting point for our next meeting.
7. **League of MN Cities – Aimee Gourlay and Lisa Sova:** - Aimee did a presentation on some of the roles and responsibilities of Council members and focused on teamwork and the chain of command. Lisa Sova provided an overview of LMNC Resources and encouraged all to utilize the League as a great starting point for many areas.
8. **Meeting Review** – Our next meeting date will be on April 17<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM.
9. **Comments from Visitors:**
  - There were no comments from visitors.
10. **Adjournment**
  - A motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 PM was made by Kathy Galliger, seconded by Julie Miller and approved with all ayes. It was also agreed that our next workshop session will be held on 4-17-2023 at 4 PM.

X 

Megan Workman  
Mayor

X 

Mike Skrbich  
City Administrator