

**Troy City Council
Work Meeting
Council Chambers
March 10, 2011
6:30 pm**

The meeting came to order at 6:30 pm. Present: Council: Phil Fisher, Gary Rose, and Fran McCully, John Clogston, and City Clerk Sandra Johnson. Mayor Banning excused, absent.

GUESTS: Linda Rose, Sharon Johnson, and Robert McLeod

VARIANCE REQUEST: More than three dogs – Don and Denise Whedon, Chris Hartzmann- Sandra Johnson explained that they have five dogs, two are the Whedon's and their adult daughter that lives with them has three. Chief McLeod further explained; they have a letter from her doctor stating the dogs are companion dogs. McLeod advised that he spoke with the Doctor for more information and if taken away, it would be a drastic measure to her condition. Two of the dogs are fairly elderly. McLeod stated that he had spoke with Don Whedon, and explained that Council may be able to do a variance, but if they pass away they could not be replaced until they get down to the Three (3) dogs the Ordinance states, to be in compliance. The original complaint was not about the dogs, it was the chickens. They have complied with everything except for the dogs. Fran McCully asked their physical address. McLeod gave the information. Heather McDougall gave an example of seeing an aid dog in Costco with someone that looked capable, she added her opinion that sometimes reasons for medical dogs are getting out of control. Phil Fisher responded; stating that sometimes the dogs are there for reasons of depression, not always physical reasons. Linda Rose asked if there was an Ordinance on the number of cats people can have. Fran McCully said that she thought it was three and asked if it had been amended since then. The city clerk answered; there have been amendments, but she is not sure, and will follow up. Fran McCully read; proximity of neighboring residential structures and reaction of neighbors. She asked McLeod if anyone had spoken to their neighbors. He stated that the original complaint wasn't about the dogs, so no. Phil Fisher said it should be up to them to gather the information required and get it back to the council. McLeod stated that he will have the animal control officer contact them to advise that there is more information needed for the council's consideration for the variance. Fisher added; without all the information we will not be able to have a vote at the next council meeting. Discussion followed. Wayne Maffit stated that he has meetings at the ambulance barn, and you wouldn't even know the dogs were there. Phil Fisher would like the animal control officer to inspect, and give estimate of how long the daughter will be living there, as that is part of the requirement for the variance.

COUNTY CTEP PROJECT: Troy Walking Path- There was discussion on how much has been completed by the County and what is left to be done. Phil Fisher brought up that the City has already paid on the lease. It is paid up for three years. Fisher expressed his concern that the drain by the tracks still hasn't been put in and suggested to call the county about it. Discussion followed regarding the process and where the location of the fence would be.

TETRA TECH LEASE AGREEMENT: The annual renewal agreement for the building that Tetra Tech leases from the city includes \$113 additional per month for changes made. The increases were due to cleaning and the increase in power usage. Fran McCully asked what the wording "consideration" meant referring to the utility part of the contract. It was explained that they pay the same amount every month, but at the end of the contract, would make up any differences. The City would also have to reimburse any overages. There will be some activity there soon as they (Tetra Tech) plan to enclose the lean-to and do general improvements. McCully wanted reassurance that it was at their expense. Yes it is at their expense. Fran McCully asked if there was an estimate of how much longer they will be in the building. No, Tetra Tech said five plus years and it has been five, and they are still there. Discussion followed regarding air testing.

NORTHERN LIGHTS BILLING PROCESS: The process and specific fund accounts were explained. McCully expressed concerns on how much was spent on the fish study. The net total of what was paid to the city was given. Troy Power and Light is not as expensive as other co-ops, the work done there helps keep the rates lower. Fran McCully asked what the benefit was for maintaining the hydros. Right now, Troy Power & Light maintains it and the money for that goes into the power and light fund account. Discussion on use and charges. The council requested to sit down with Clint Taylor, the Power Manager for further discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Wayne Maffit stated that this was a pleasant meeting. Heather McDougall stated that someone told her that an 80 year old woman was removing ice from her drywell. It is on city property

and she didn't think that was right. Phil Fisher agreed and added if the drywells are plugged our city crews should be taking care of it. Wayne Maffit agreed and stated that there is an erosion problem up on the hill near his home. Bob McLeod asked if there was a grate in the back of the 80 year old's home as well, or just the one in front. McDougall said there were three. McLeod advised that he had called the State regarding the one on the Highway. He also advised that if they were marked he could keep an eye on them while patrolling. Discussion followed.

Phil Fisher questioned the MMIA deductible recovery of \$33 billed to the city from MMIA. They were advised that there had not been any paperwork sent on it. Fisher asked the clerk to make a call to MMIA. A follow-up will be done.

Heather McDougall asked John Clogston how many gallons of water the system is losing per month. She asked for explanation on how power consumption is measured and what the city's usage is as a whole. Clogston advised that a megawatt is a million kilowatts. They system of Troy is around 3 megawatts. . Discussion on when to use power and the difference it makes for the demand. Clogston explained that when the demand reaches its peak, then the charges increase. Fran McCully suggested a meeting with the public to advise better times for higher usages during non-peak times. John Clogston answered the question regarding the water system stating the city is pumping 19 million gallons a month but using only 4 million putting the loss at about 15 million gallons a month. This amount is down, however, since many of the mains have been replace. There is still a Phase III as part of the water project that includes looping and more main replacement which would get rid of a majority of the loss. Discussion followed regarding leak detection equipment and reporting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned 7:52 p.m.

Phil Fisher, Council President

ATTEST:

Sandra Johnson, City Clerk