

City of Clearwater
City Council Annexation and Code Enforcement Workshop Meeting
Minutes
Clearwater City Council Chamber
January 19, 2016

OPEN WORKSHOP

Mayor Edmonson opened the workshop at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing annexation and code enforcement.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Edmonson, and Council Members Ranum, Ritzer, Crandall, and Lange. A quorum of the City Council was declared present.

Staff present: Administrator Kress.

Others Present: Dave Lenhardt – Gries Lenhardt, Kevin Bittner – Bolton-Menk, Kendra Lindahl – Landform, Ken Francis – Citizen Tribune.

ANNEXATION

Lindahl worked through a PowerPoint on future annexation options with the City Council. A printed copy of the PowerPoint is available at City Hall. Lindahl explained that annexation has the potential to increase tax revenue by adding land. Lindahl added that it gives the City some control over the land uses both before and after land is annexed. Lindahl briefly discussed the current agreement with Clearwater Township and described the four reasons when the City can annex property. Those reasons are as follows:

1. Initiation by a landowner.
2. Failure of a septic system serving the property.
3. Contamination of the primary well.
4. The land or property becomes surrounded on all four sides by property in the City.

Lindahl added that as part of the current agreement the City has to pay a percentage of taxes to the Township for five years following the annexation. The agreement also states that the City must provide water and sewer services within three years of the annexation. Mr. Lenhardt added that in most cases cities allow landowners to run on private wells and replace those wells if it wouldn't be cost effective to run water and sewer lines to the property. Lindahl informed the Council that it was important to understand that services like police, fire, and street maintenance including infrastructure costs would increase. Lindahl added that it was important to determine if the benefits outweigh the costs. As part of the discussion Lynden Township and Clear Lake Township were brought up. The Council briefly discussed Clear Lake Township and determined that the Township was likely never approached by the City but was likely a viable option and may warrant a meeting. Mayor Edmonson commented that in discussions with a Lynden Township Supervisor he was told if St. Cloud attempted to annex them that they would prefer to go

Kevin Kress, City Administrator

Pete Edmonson, Mayor

2-1-2016
Date Approved