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Special meeting held to discuss streets, Wrabek education issue, and hiring new Administrator

September 30, 2010



Will the Council get more street repairs done before the weather turns?

A special meeting was called by the Council to move forward or bring closure to some key topics of interest to the city.

On September 30, the City Council met to review bids for street improvement to seven of the worst city streets, to review the attorney's legal recommendation regarding the controversy surrounding temporary Administrator Joe Wrabek, and to make some decisions on the interviewing and selection process for a new City Administrator.

Mayor Chris Heisler also made a new appointment to the city's Water Committee.

The Mayor said, "Based on the recommendation of the Committee Chair, I am appointing Trevor Higby. He has worked for the Budget Committee, has a strong financial background, and was on the Water Task Force originally."

The Council unanimously approved the Mayor's recommendation. The Water Committee now has five volunteer members.

Administrator Wrabek said that he was still waiting to receive the contractor bids requested by the Council for street repairs. He said one contractor had finally called him back and stated plainly, "It's hunting season."

The Council had hoped to evaluate bids at tonight's meeting to proceed on street improvements before weather conditions prevented progress.

Still hope for street improvements this year

Wrabek stated that he hopes to have bids by the October 14th council meeting. He stated that at least one contractor has said they can begin work immediately upon council approval.

If the bids and approval are not accomplished on time, the project would probably have to wait until spring due to weather conditions that typically occur after October.

New City Administrator could be hired within weeks

The Council is moving forward on the recruitment of a new City Administrator. The deadline for applications was today. There are currently 22 applicants being looked at.

The Council decided to individually review the applications and then meet collectively to select final candidates on October 12. Final applicants will be interviewed by the Council at the end of October.

A new Assistant City Administrator has been selected and will begin on October 1st. She has city experience and is transferring to Lafayette from the city of Aurora. Wrabek stated she was the top candidate chosen by Lafayette.

Finally, after meeting in closed "executive session" the council reconvened publicly and announced that they received legal opinion this week regarding the [controversy](#) surrounding the educational background of temporary staff member, Administrator Wrabek.

The city's attorney had been instructed by the Council to conduct an investigation into the issue when the matter surfaced in August. Wrabek's resume listed a diploma from a university that is not accredited and has been referred to as a "diploma mill."

Legal statement on Wrabek education issue to be released at next council meeting

The Council said they will receive a statement from the city attorney to be approved and released by the next council meeting. They stated that the information they received from the attorney up to this point has been marked "confidential" and have been unable to report on it.

The next council meeting is scheduled for October 14.



This entry was posted on September 30, 2010 at 10:57 pm and is filed under [Council](#), [Feature](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed.

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Partly Cloudy 57°F

Sat
74/50

Sun
65/49

Mon

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