

A work session of the Grundy Center City Council was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, August 5, 2024, in the Council Chambers by Mayor Eberline. Present: Smith, Kuester, McDonald, Lamp. Absent: Rasmussen. Visitors: Officer Natvig.

Mayor Eberline opened the discussion on Police Chief and Officer applicant search. Eberline mentioned seven candidates, including Interim Chief Natvig, have applied for the available Chief position. This work session is to conduct an interview with Natvig. Interim Chief Natvig commented that ten applicants for the vacant Police Officer position, two dropped out, two already have tests completed and two more have committed to the testing on Saturday, August 10, 2024.

Smith moved and McDonald seconded action to enter into a Closed Session at 5:40pm per Iowa Code 21.5 1 i. to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session. Smith moved and McDonald seconded adjournment of the closed session and reentered work session at 6:15pm. Motions carried four ayes. Smith moved and Lamp seconded adjournment of the closed session and reentered work session at 6:15pm. Motions carried four ayes.

Mayor Eberline asked Interim Chief Natvig for a plan regarding shooting and gun training for the future, reserve training, etc. Natvig commented the quarterly shooting training and that qualifications regarding shootings are changing very quickly and will require more practice training. Lamp asked about the school resource officer (SRO) with the school district because this is important to the community. Smith claimed there is a disconnect with the community regarding the SRO position. The school district technically did not have an SRO, the City provided an officer to work at the school as needed. If the school district needs/wants an SRO in the future, there will need to be an agreement and costs associated for the position. There will be meetings soon for further discussions on this.

Mayor Eberline asked Interim Chief Natvig for department update regarding training, schedule, reserve officer requirement to work a specific number of shifts, all to help overtime at a minimum. Lamp asked how much overtime will be needed. Natvig said overtime should be back only 8 hours every other week once all positions are filled and officers are certified, which may take some time. Discussion lead to officers being available within the city limits. Smith expressed that out of the applicants only one officer was willing/able to move within the city limits at this time and now is not the time to require this with interest and affordable housing availability. No further discussions, no formal action was taken during this work session.

Smith moved and McDonald seconded adjournment of the meeting at 6:20pm. Motion carried four ayes. Next regular meeting will be Monday, August 19, 2024, at 6:30pm.

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Attest: Kristy Sawyer, City Clerk

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Dr. Paul Eberline, Mayor