

**MINUTES OF THE STUDY SESSION OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2023, 4:30 P.M.**

1. Call To Order / Roll Call

Mayor Thom Walker called the meeting to order. Council members present were Jeff Reynolds, Jack Edmonds, Jenny Gerold and Vicki Hallin. Staff present, Administrator Michele McPherson, Clerk Shawna Jenkins, Public Works Director Bob Gerold, Police Chief Todd Frederick, Wastewater Plant Manager Chris Klinghagen, Engineer Jen Edison, PUC General Manager Butcher, and PUC Water Supervisor Scott Schmidt. Absent was Community Developer – Planner Stacy Marquardt, Fire Chief Ron Lawrence, Liquor Store Manager Dylan Donner and Attorney Damien Toven

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Infrastructure Replacement Prioritization

McPherson reported that in late 2022, WSB provided information on the condition of the City’s streets based on the results of the completed Pavement Management Plan. The end conclusion of the plan was that the City’s streets have been kept in good condition, such that they would not be the driving factor in prioritizing where the City should begin improving its infrastructure.

Given the age and material of much of the City’s sewer system, staff is looking to that as the driver for project recommendation, especially after a review of maintenance records.

Attached is an overview map and four additional maps highlighting the current CSAH 4/7th Avenue project and three additional projects for the Council to consider. The proposed project schedule looks something like this:

CSAH 4/7 th Avenue:	2024
3 rd Street North:	2026
2 nd Street North:	2028
4 th Avenue South:	2030

The franchise fee for park improvements has an end date of February 1, 2025, when the last bond payment is made. The proposed schedule allows for time to re-establish the franchise fee for infrastructure purposes, or if the proposed street improvement district authority is approved by the legislature, the time to create those as needed. In addition, it would allow the city to seek and apply for grant dollars as available.

The Council was asked to review the list and discuss the proposed projects and timing recommended by staff.

The Council concurred with the proposed projects and their timeline.

4. Discuss Excess City-Owned Property

McPherson reported that Community Development Planner Marquardt has compiled and reviewed with relevant staff a list of City-owned properties. The entire list is vast, however staff narrowed it down to a few that could be considered the “low-hanging fruit” of what the city owns and a good place to start.

McPherson presented each property to the council, along with the suggested resolution to the Council.

The Council was in agreement of staff’s recommendations.

5. AWOS Relocation Options & Update

McPherson advised that as noted last week, the options for AWOS relocation sites have been reduced to two – one on each side of the airport. The council was provided a map and an updated summary table which shows the impacts, and the costs and the funding breakdown.

Staff had another meeting with the FAA and MNDOT aeronautics January 31. These meetings are extremely frustrating and, on the part of the FAA, full of double-speak. Both agencies continue to push for extreme amounts of hangar development potential on the airport even when presented with the little development the airport has experienced over the last 30+ years of its existence and the fact that the runway is not going to be expanded.

Before any siting recommendations can be made by staff, the options are going to be run through meteorology to determine if either option will be certified by the agencies. The East option proposes a taller structure to address the presence of existing and proposed hangars and the West option is outside the “ideal” siting box/criteria. It will take at least 30 days to get through this informal process, but McPherson suggested planning on 60 days.

In addition to the revisions, KLJ has reached out to both North Memorial Ambulance Service and the Department of Natural Resources to determine how the lack of an AWOS would impact their operations. North Memorial verbally indicated that the AWOS is important to them, but they have yet to follow up in writing.

McPherson stated that the City will still push for the East side location. Staff has been able to identify some additional possible hanger development space in the future if it is needed.

6. Adjournment

HALLIN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:10 PM. J GEROLD SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawna Jenkins Tadych
City Clerk

ATTEST:

Thom Walker,
Mayor