

**MINUTES**  
**Goshen City Council Working Session**  
**October 24, 2023 at 6:30PM**  
**Goshen Community Building, 244 Clark Street**

**Call to Order:** Mayor Stroud called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**Roll Call:** Paula Anderson, Colton Martin, Shawn Mayfield, Max Poye and John Vaillancourt were present. Birch Wright was absent. Attorney Brian Hogue and Recorder/Treasurer Marjorie Vaillancourt were present.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by Max Poye to amend the agenda to include public input at the end of discussion. Seconded by John Vaillancourt. All in favor. Yay (5). The motion carried.

**Working Session:**

**Ordinance 181:** Colton Martin presented. I called the meeting. Over the last nine months our meetings have not been the best. They have been a little bit disorderly at times, we need to look at our ordinances that lay out the rules of the meetings to prevent this from occurring in the future. There are some things that we could do to make it more orderly. Dallas Hale, he comes to these meetings, and he cannot hear anything, he cannot hear anything whenever everybody is talking all at once. I think for me, one of the most important things that we come out of this working session is finding a way to make sure everybody's voice is heard. In a way that is orderly, more civil than what we have been doing in the past. This is just a time for us to look at Ordinance 181 and 165 that sets the rules for our meetings. Find ways to make our meetings move forward, more orderly, more civil, and more productive.

John Vaillancourt stated you are correct, Colton. The meetings have been very, very difficult in many ways with, people speaking when they shouldn't be speaking. The meeting is supposed to be done by Roberts Rules, which we discussed at the end of the last Council meeting. That is already in Ordinance 181. But it must be enforced. That will stop a lot of the comments that are spoken out one after the other, and we do not get anyplace.

Mayor Stroud stated I feel I could definitely do a better job at the beginning of the meeting to be able to announce to the public. I think the public may not necessarily know Roberts Rules of Order to let them know exactly when it is the appropriate time to make a comment. Let them know come to the podium. If they cannot come to the podium, raise their hand and then I will recognize them and then they can speak. I have been watching some other City Council meetings online. They have a spot in the beginning for public input/comments. Maybe 10-15 minutes.

Brian Hogue stated he has attended City council in Greenland, they do public input only at the beginning and not when actions being taken on any agenda items. So, if anybody from the public has an opinion on a certain agenda item, they can speak about it at the beginning. My

guess is that it prevents a lot of arguments back and forth when the discussions really should be among the council.

Colton and Max both stated they liked the public input at the beginning.

Paula Anderson, do we want 10 or 15 minutes, or do we want 2 minutes per person at the beginning? Mayor 2 minutes.

Colton Martin stated let us try the public input at the beginning of the meeting for a few months. See how it goes.

Brian Hogue stated do we want to vacate Ordinance 165 and add to Ordinance 181 time for public input to 2 minutes or more time allowed at the discretion of the Mayor or Council. Ordinance 165 also pertains to the planning commission and Parks Commission.

Max Poye asked Ordinance 181, Section D the special meeting says mayor, or three council members can call for a special meeting. Is that against FOIA? Brain no it is just asking for a meeting you are not discussing anything. John, Requests for a special meeting go to the recorder she will pole everyone and set up the meeting. The recorder can talk to the council member, she is not a voting member. It would not be a FOIA violation.

Colton Martin stated he would like to adjust when they get the Council packets. Sometimes half on Friday and the rest on Monday. Colton thinks the packets need to be a priority.

KaSeana Williams stated she makes it her priority to get them done on Fridays.

Colton Martin stated he would like to see all the packet by 5:00PM on Fridays so they will have a couple of days to review.

Brian will make sure he will get his resolution and ordinances to City Hall by Noon on Fridays.

Colton Martin asked how are the city staff involved with discussions in City Council Meetings? When they are recognized to speak, right now there is a lot of back and forth.

Mayor Stroud, I think when they are presenting, they will be recognized and come to the podium to speak.

Brian: According to your rules, no one should be speaking unless recognized.

Liz Mashie stated likes doing the public comment at the beginning and end. I am glad to see we will be applying Roberts Rules.

Bernadette Boyle, can we do video of the meeting? Mayor, we are looking into it.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by John Vaillancourt at 7:45 pm, Seconded by Shawn Mayfield. The motion carried. Adjourn