

MINUTES

DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION 21630 11th Avenue South, City Council Chambers

November 15, 2012 - 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Kaplan called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The flag salute was led by Councilmember Burrage.

ROLL CALL

Present were Mayor Dave Kaplan; Mayor Pro-Tem Matt Pina; Councilmembers Dan Caldwell, Melissa Musser, Jeanette Burrage, and Bob Sheckler.

Councilmember Scott was absent. Councilmember Musser moved to excuse Councilmember Scott; Mayor Pro-Tem Pina, second. The motion passed, 6-0.

Staff present were City Manager Tony Piasecki; Assistant City Manager Lorri Ericson; Police Chief George Delgado; Acting Public Works Director Dan Brewer; Development Services Manager Robert Ruth; Acting Commander Patty Harris; City Clerk Sandy Paul

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. HIGHLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE/CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY/HERITAGE UNIVERSITY POLICY DISCUSSION
Discussion Introduced by Mayor Kaplan

John Bascom of Heritage University in Toppenish; Jim Baldino and Barbara Badgely both of Central Washington University in Ellensburg; and Jack Birmingham of Highline Community College in Des Moines were present to discuss the partnership that has evolved on the Des Moines Campus of HCC. Kaplan Language College also has a presence on the HCC Campus.

Discussion included goals of the educational institutions matched to the future needs of the local community including how well the branch campus model works to educate students. The college-bound programs, also known as running start, whereby high school students attend college classes during their last years of high school, are other programs that can reduce costs for students and families.

The universities criticized the state for abandoning their funding to colleges at all levels. A Bachelor's degree at Central now costs \$80,000, the cost for a small business franchise. There are 80,000 students in Washington state who qualify for educational funding assistance who do not get it.

The Council asked what they could do to assist educational and campus growth and offered assistance to create mutually beneficial programs and projects through lobbying, zoning changes, and changes or additions in educational programs. Lobbying efforts could include alternative funding sources.

Councilmember Sheckler left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Dr. Birmingham thanked the City and Council for the support in the past few years, and offered thanks, also, for the opportunity to have this discussion. Educational institutions remain one of the City's biggest economic development engines. Additional meetings will be scheduled in the future.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Regular Meeting November 29, 2012

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Councilmember Musser moved to adjourn; Mayor Pro-Tem Pina, second. The motion passed, 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Paul CMC
City Clerk