

The Cresco City Council met in special session on November 24, 2014, at 11:30 am at the Howard County Courthouse during the Howard County Supervisor's weekly meeting. Council members Carman, Bouska, McGee and McCarville were present. Loveless arrived at 11:35 am. No Council Members were absent. Howard County Supervisors Jan McGovern, Don Burnikel and Mark Kubik were present. Also present were Mayor Bohle, PWD Freidhof, Sheriff Miner, County Engineer Rissman, County Auditor Chapman and City Clerk Girolamo.

The meeting was to work on agreements with the funding of the dispatchers at the Law Enforcement Center and also the maintenance of shared roads between the City and County.

County Supervisor McGovern stated that this meeting was a follow up to the January meeting at which the City and County agreed to reduce the amount paid by the City of Cresco from 48% to 24% of the dispatchers' wages and benefits. She informed everyone that due to valuations staying the same and the impact of TIF on the County's revenue, they could not afford to cut the City's contribution more this year. She said that in two years they should be able to reduce the TIF on the windmills which would increase their taxes that could be allocated to the Sheriff's Department.

Mayor Bohle commented that the City Council had hoped to cut the funding to 12% this next year and to 6% thereafter. The Council would have to discuss if they could work out something with the two year agreement.

Sheriff Miner explained that the Dispatchers take about the same number of City calls as County calls so he felt the City needed to continue to pay for the dispatching services. He distributed a sample contract that he said could be used so the City would not have to pay for the Dispatcher's services. His proposal would be for the City to eliminate the City Police Department and contract all law enforcement through the Sheriff's Department at a cost of \$49.60 per hour.

Bohle assured the County that the City should pay something for the Dispatcher's service but that it seemed like the City residents are already paying more for it than the rest of the County and other cities. The Council agreed to discuss this further during budget worksessions and would have a proposal back to the Supervisors by January 19, 2015.

County Engineer Rissman explained that the Vernon Road was in need of an overlay or reconstruction. He wondered if in the 5-10 year plan if a traffic study should be conducted by the Iowa DOT and to explore the possibility of bypassing the traffic on the Vernon Road and paving 110<sup>th</sup> Street. This would be more costly due to Right-of-Way purchases and bringing the road to grade. The City explained that they were not planning any major street projects in the near future due to the cost of financing the Granger Road Reconstruction Project. The City will consider Rissman's proposal but did not see the necessity to divert the traffic. Rissman and PWD Freidhof will work together on updating the 28E agreement for the shared roads so that maintenance issues will be stated clearly and agreed to by the County and City.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 am. The next regular Cresco City Council meeting will be at 7:00 pm on December 1, 2014 at Cresco City Hall.

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Mayor Mark Bohle

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City Clerk Michelle Girolamo