

Mayor Bohle called a special Cresco City Council worksession with the Airport Commission to order on December 7, 2016, at 6:00 pm at City Hall. Council Members Carman, McGee and McCarville were present. Council members Bouska and Brenno were absent. Airport Commission Members Ferrie, Lawrence, Bill and Bentz were present. Matthias was absent. Also in attendance were Airport Manager Pecinovsky and City Clerk Girolamo.

Bill made the motion for the Airport Commission to recommend reappointing Gerald Ferrie to the Airport Commission for a six year term expiring December 31, 2022. Lawrence seconded. Bill, Lawrence and Bentz voted aye. Ferrie abstained. The recommendation will go on the next City Council's agenda.

The proposed Airport budget for Fiscal Year 2017/2018 was reviewed. The major request was for a six-place T-Hangar for \$145,000 of which 85% could potentially be paid with a grant from the Iowa DOT. Other requests were for a used finishing mower for \$10,000 and concrete runway improvements of \$25,000 which will be reimbursed 85% by Johnson Spray and/or the Co-ops. The net result of the budget requests was a deficit of \$19,446.

Ferrie stated that the biggest decision that needs to be made by the City Council is whether the Airport should continue making big investments and expanding or whether it should just maintain the existing airport with the thought that it would be closed in ten years or whenever the next major repair is necessary. There was a lot of discussion on possible revenue sources that could help maintain the airport and whether there is any potential for additional use of the airport. There is no way the airport can cash flow to keep up with the maintenance if additional investments need to be made if no additional revenue can be generated.

The Council requested the Airport Commission get written commitments from potential new hangar tenants. They were also requested to solicit donation pledges from users of the airport to help with maintenance costs in the future. The new hangar was removed from this budget request giving the commission another year to determine costs as well as potential revenue sources so that the City Council can make an informed decision on the future of the airport.

Lawrence requested that the City Council allow any profits of land and hangar rent over the operating expenses to be transferred into an Airport Trust Fund. The Trust could then accumulate money to be used for airport projects in the future. This will be put on the next City Council's agenda as a potential resolution to be approved.

Girolamo will contact Shane Wright with the Iowa DOT to see if we can get permission to apply for a grant and do the taxiway project prior to the grant being awarded.

Carman moved to adjourn at 7:00 pm. McGee seconded and it passed all ayes. The next regular Cresco City Council meeting will be December 19, 2016 at 7:00 pm at Cresco City Hall.

Mayor Mark Bohle

City Clerk Michelle Girolamo