

Special Council Meeting Work Session
February 27, 2017
5:30 p.m.
City Hall

Members present were Nelson, Sexton, Maas, Merritt, and Dempsey.

Members absent: None.

City staff and consultants in attendance were Andy Welti, Elizabeth Jackson, and Jed Petersen.

Others attending were Rich Kucera, Rick Hager, Greg Sanborn, John Anhorn, Ashley Stewart, and Lon Thiele.

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The purpose of this special council meeting is to discuss the Municipal Complex.

Mayor Nelson gave the history of the Municipal Complex process.

Mayor Nelson asked each councilmember for individual thoughts on the Municipal Complex.

Councilmember Sexton stated the need and intention of the Municipal Complex has not changed.
Councilmember Sexton stated the need for fundraising.

Councilmember Merritt asked why the proposed Municipal Complex is bigger than Faribault, Northfield, or Owatonna, considering Medford is much smaller than those communities. Merritt stated the only way to get the price down is to reduce the square footage.

Councilmember Maas stated that some residents of Medford have stated approval if there was only the fire hall in the proposed design. Maas stated that the Fire Department and the City Council have to agree on the Municipal Complex design for it to get approved by the Medford residents.

Councilmember Dempsey stated Medford residents are concerned about the price tag of the Municipal Complex. Dempsey asked is the office portion could be a steel or wood building with the apparatus bay area being precast walls.

Mayor Nelson asked the Fire Department for thoughts on the Municipal Complex.

Chief Hager stated the Fire Department needs all the space of the current design.

Assistant Chief Sanborn stated the difficulties of the chief, assistant chief, and commanders sharing one office and one computer.

Commander Anhorn stated the idea of taking out the City Hall portion to see if Medford residents would approve of the design.

Mayor Nelson asked the City employees for thoughts on the Municipal Complex.

Public Works Supervisor Petersen stated that any additional space for public works would be helpful.

Administrator Welti stated the challenge will be finding a design that will be passed by the Medford residents. Welti stated there must be a unified effort and an advocacy group to push the design.

No decisions were made at this work session.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Minutes approved at _____ meeting.

Submitted by _____ City Clerk.

Signed by _____ Mayor.