

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL  
WORKSHOP MEETING AGENDA  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2017  
@ 6:30-8:00 P.M.  
Arlington Community Center**

1. Call to Order.

**Discussion Item:**

2. Medical School Trip Delegation – Update
3. Adjourn

**ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 2, 2017**

On Mayor Nagel's behalf, Adm. Donabauer and Leah Prah (Arl. Chamber) called the special workshop meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Members present: Battcher, Cowell, Hatlestad, Heiland

Members absent: Mayor Nagel, Jaszewski

Also present: City Administrator Donabauer, Arl. Chamber: Leah Prah & Terry Klages; Arl.

EDA: Tim Kloeckl, Dick Thomes, Holly Kreft; Arl. P&Z: Janet Deno, Cynthia Smith-Strack, Jim Kreft, Darnell Halverson, Dwight Grabitske; Todd Sandberg (RSMC Administrator), Phil & Sue Keithahn (ProGrowth Bank), Pastor Rod Stemme (United Methodist Church Arl.), Rev. Matthew Rauh (St. Paul's Church Arl.), Jerry Hahn (Jerry's Foods Arl. & Gaylord), James Harmon & Amanda Riemenschneider (Premier Realty Arl.); Linnea Bullert (Chef Craig's Catering Arl.), Wendell & Lorraine Terlinden (Subway & Terlinden Repair Arl.), Avery Grochow (SE School Board Member), Dave Trebelhorn (Winthrop EDA), Joe Kreger (G.I. Mayor), Scott Vos (G.I. EDA), Arl. Twp: Sheila Henke & Kenny Mueller; Arlington Residents: Lawrence Crawford, Greg & Maurine Goblirsch, Nancy Mathwig, Pat Grabitske, Tim Haggemiller, Jon Hazelwood, Kris Rosenfeld, Kim Quast, Dave & Dee Czech, Tami Diehn, Bethany Diehn, Anne Karl; G.I. Residents: Beverly Boehne, Mike Vos; Gaylord Residents: Carol Trout, Jean Watts, Elaine Thies, Miana Nagel, Diana Karau; Alex Fredin, Ted Pinske, Sandy Schulte

Phil Kaithan provided a history on how a rural medical school went from an idea to a feasible project in Sibley County. He described his work in conducting an economic development feasibility study, accreditation materials, and policy writing. The medical school is a \$100 million project which will have a significant positive economic impact on the surrounding area. Phil stated that the goal is to open the medical school in the fall of 2018, minus the dormitory.

The group discussed their observations from their visits to communities with rural medical schools: Harrogate, Tennessee (population 4,388); Pikeville, Kentucky (Population 6,903); Lewisburg, West Virginia (Population 3,934). Each of the schools they visited represented a different lifespan: 10, 20, 40 years in their community. They noted the following observations: students were mature (25-35 years old); not all students live in dormitories (up to 30% of students have families/married); dormitories were built to allow pets; professors lived within 10-15 miles of the school; growth comes largely after the school is in place (e.g. growth in housing); investors weren't willing to invest in the community until the school was in place (they had to believe); faculty dedicated to the mission of the school; businesses had to adapt to national businesses coming in (forced to find a niche, provide a good service, compete); the communities worked together; county EDA's and Chamber of Commerce's – not so much City.

Hospital Administrator Todd Sandberg stated his interest in going was to see what Ridgeview's role will be in this project. Rural hospitals and clinics have a difficult time attracting physicians to the rural areas. He was specifically interested in learning about the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine program and found this school is deeply involved in their communities (e.g. building dog parks). Business Owner Tim Kloeckl echoed Sandberg's sentiment by noting there was a lot of volunteerism and students wanting to give back to the community. He noted the towns did drag behind in development (ten years behind the establishment of the school).

Avery Grochow noted that there may be up to 1,000 students coming to visit the school to determine whether it is a school they want to attend. They bring parents and families to visit also. We need hotels and restaurants to accommodate the visitors. Grochow also noted that the students really like theatre, coffee and wine. The students don't have time to cook therefore restaurants are necessary. The students like meeting rooms so they can study together. The curriculum requires volunteerism; communities experienced an increase in ambulance and fire volunteers, and participation in service organizations. He noted that the City's Planning and Zoning Organizations have to have their ordinances in place for rental properties: what can be built, how the rentals can be used, nuisance rules, city boundaries large enough for the growth, etc. He noted that having the school will create jobs. The trades are needed: plumbers, masons, carpenters, electricians, etc.

Sue Keithahn noted that the spouses of the medical students have a college education and are looking for work. The spouses want to be involved in the community. Parents own rental properties, students open accounts at the banks and take out loans. Students are typically in town for two years before they move on to their clinical rotations.

Members of the audience posed questions varying from the occupancy timeline, funding the school project, where the instructors will live, keeping the students in Minnesota that are doing their clinical rotations, etc.

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City Administrator Liza M. Donabauer

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Vice Mayor Jim Heiland