

THE MINNEHAHA COUNTY COMMISSION CONVENED IN JOINT SESSION WITH THE SIOUX FALLS CITY COUNCIL AT 5:00 P.M., December 19, 2005, pursuant to adjournment on December 13, 2005. Commissioners present were: Twedt, Hajek, and Kolbe. Commissioners Pekas and Zweep were absent. Sandy Kinder, Deputy Auditor, was also present.

City Council Members present: Brown, Jamison, Kavanaugh, Knudson, Smith, Staggers, and Mayor Munson. Council Members Benninga and Howes joined the meeting late.

Chairman Twedt called the meeting to order.

BRIEFINGS

Bob Simpson, Homeless Advisory Board Chairman, gave a briefing on the history of the Homeless Advisory Board and named its members. He reported that the mission of the Board is to identify needs, set priorities, and recommend proactive policies to city, county, and state officials that will help to end homelessness in the Sioux Falls area. The Board has been working to study the report issued by the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force and to identify the main priorities to address the issue of homelessness in the area. Priorities are: 1) temporary housing needs; 2) chronic homeless population needs including supportive services; 3) transitional housing units; and 4) continuing to educate the community on the issue of homelessness. The Board also requested that the County and City continue to keep the issue of homelessness a priority and develop a more formal agreement to support the Board's mission. Mr. Simpson noted that although the Board was created by City Ordinance, they recognize that many of the issues related to homelessness are handled and paid for by the County. He stressed the importance for the City and County to work more closely together to ensure that the chronic homeless population is housed and that the temporary homeless are given the best chance possible at self-sufficiency. Chairman Twedt noted that a cooperative agreement is being reviewed at this time, and will be presented after final approval of the language. Commissioners thanked Mr. Simpson for his presentation and commended the group on their diligence.

Ken McFarland, Administrative Assistant, reported that bids for the Minnehaha County Human Services/Sioux Falls City Health Department Building Project were opened on December 15th. Five bids were received ranging from \$6,618,900 to \$7,078,772 with alternates. Mr. McFarland reported that all bids were less than the \$7.3 million architect's estimate. Larry Crane, AIA Associate Principal, TSP, commented on the importance for the Building Committee to continue to work together and communicate changes to the County Commission and City Council. A recommendation will be made at the Commission Meeting on December 20th, to award the bid to Swift Contractors. Mr. Crane reported that the completion time of the project is estimated at 14 months, and construction is anticipated to begin the third week of January, 2006. Mr. Crane also noted that the parking issue would need to be solidified.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken McFarland, Administrative Assistant, announced that the Joint City/County/School Board Meeting on December 21st, will be held at Leonardo's Café.

MOTION by Hajek, seconded by Kolbe to adjourn until 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 20, 2005. 3 ayes.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:

Carol Twedt, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandy Kinder, Deputy Auditor