

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
AUGUST 28, 2019
5:00 P.M.

The Members of the Marshall City Council met for a work session at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 28, 2019 in the Community Room of the Marshall Memorial Municipal Airport, 1945 S. Odell, Marshall, Missouri, with the following members of the City Council present: Mayor Julie M. Schwetz; Council Members Kirk Arends, Tom Hagedorn, Dewey Hendrix, Chuck Hines, Kathy Vasquez, Dan Brandt, Charles Guthrey and Ron Ott; City Administrator David Haugland, City Clerk Julie Lewis and Mr. Phil Ryan.

Mayor Schwetz welcomed everyone and said the purpose of the meeting is to hear concerns brought forth from Mr. Phil Ryan. Mayor Schwetz introduced Mr. Phil Ryan.

Mr. Ryan thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak to them this evening.

Mr. Ryan said the community of Marshall has five crown jewels and he is very concerned about one of them. Fitzgibbon Hospital serves the community of Marshall and surrounding areas and there is concern with the current leadership and board of trustees.

Information was provided regarding the financial state of Fitzgibbon Hospital. Audit reports from 2012 through 2018 were compared. Beginning in 2016 and continuing through the current year, audit reports show a significant loss.

Fitzgibbon recently went through a conversion of electronic accounting system and electronic patient records system. The two systems purchased from two different providers, after conversion, did not interface with each other. Several other reasons that have been given for the financial state of Fitzgibbon Hospital; however, there is skepticism about those reasons.

Although consultants have been hired to analyze the situation, past leadership has not been contacted to give input and possible direction. He is very concerned about their profitability; he does not want to see the hospital become a transfer station or be bought out. This community and surrounding area needs Fitzgibbon Hospital.

Mr. Ryan said he has tried speaking with the President and Vice President of the Board of Trustees but did not get answers. It is possible the members do not have experience and/or understand their roles. The board assumes that management is taking care of everything and management is presenting what they want the board to see.

Mr. Ryan asked the Council to consider speaking to the Fitzgibbon Hospital Board of Trustees to voice concerns of the citizens of this community. The hospital is private but the Council has the power of the people. The Board of Trustees consists of seven members at this time; however, the board has had larger membership in the past. He would like for the Council to request an appointment to the membership of Fitzgibbon Hospital Board of Trustees. That member would need to ask tough questions and report back to the Council and in turn, the community.

Mayor Schwetz added this community has built the hospital through private funding. They are a major employer and have a huge impact on this community. This will take serious discussion and review.

Mr. Ryan thanked the Council and exited the meeting at 5:38 p.m.

Council Members discussed concerns about Fitzgibbon Hospital.

Council Member Arends reminded Council Members there is potential for a budget surplus and he would like some ideas as to how to use that surplus.

Council Member Hagedorn reminded everyone that Ward 4 still has areas that do not have curb and gutter. He receives several calls a week about this issue.

Council Member Vasquez suggested a sidewalk project in each Ward; showing the citizens that each Ward is getting improvements.

Council Members discussed their relationship with Marshall Saline Development Corporation and Buxton.

Mayor Schwetz spoke about the Tourism tax and distribution of tourism funds.

Council Member Ott discussed the nuisance situation of the old Fitzgibbon hospital location on Brunswick Ave.

The members of the Marshall City Council made no decision during the work session.

The work session ended at 6:30 p.m.

Julie M. Schwetz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Julie A. Lewis, City Clerk