January 2, 2019

West Des Moines City Council Proceedings
Wednesday, January 2, 2019

Mayor Steven K. Gaer opened the special meeting of the City Council of West Des Moines, Iowa, in the Council Chambers of the West Des Moines City Hall on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. Council members present were: R. Hardman and K. Trevillyan. Council member J. Mickelson participated via telephone.

On Item 2. Agenda. It was moved by Hardman, second by Trevillyan to approve the agenda as presented.

Vote 19-001: Hardman, Mickelson, Trevillyan…3 yes
Motion carried.

On Item 3(a) Local Option Sales and Services Tax Referendum in Polk County, initiated by the City of West Des Moines

Mayor Gaer stated the Iowa Legislature has changed the rules for elections regarding Local Option Sales and Services Tax, so the City of West Des Moines can now vote independently of other contiguous cities. He stated the proposed revenue purpose statement calls for 50 percent of revenue to be used for property tax reduction, while the other 50 percent would be used for quality of life issues.

It was moved by Mickelson, second by Hardman to adopt Resolution - Submitting the Question of the Imposition of a Local Option Sales and Services Tax and Revenue Allocation Statement.

Council member Trevillyan spoke in opposition to holding a special election in March 2019, as he believes the Local Option Sales and Services Tax referendum should be included in the city election in November 2019. He stated including the measure on the November 2019 ballot would eliminate the expense to the city to hold a special election, and he believes it would generate higher voter turnout than a special election.

Mayor Gaer stated the advantage of holding the special election in March 2019 is that, if it passes, the City could begin collecting revenue on July 1, 2019, and the City's property tax rate could be reduced effective on that date.

Council member Sandager began participating via telephone at 8:16 a.m.

Vote 19-002: Hardman, Mickelson, Sandager, Trevillyan…4 yes
Motion carried.

On Item 4. The Special Meeting Notice was Received and Filed.

January 2, 2019

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ryan T. Jacobson, CMC
City Clerk

ATTEST:

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Steven K. Gaer, Mayor