

WORK SESSION OF THE WEST BRANCH CITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE WEST BRANCH CITY HALL, 121 N. FOURTH ST. ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2023

Mayor Frechette opened the work session at 5:30 PM.

Present: Mayor Paul Frechette; Council Members Carol Adair, Joanne Bennett, Mike Jackson, Ellen Pugh, Rusty Showalter, and Cathy Zimmerman.

Absent: None

Others present: City Manager John Dantzer and City Clerk Lori Ann Clover

City building inspector was not discussed as Attorney Meihn was absent.

Council Members discussed the OPRA plan submitted by Manager Dantzer. Attorney Meihn had emailed Manager Dantzer and let him know he found no issue with the draft plan. If a property was approved it would freeze the taxes at the existing rate (except for school mileages) for the duration given (up to twelve years). A State Licensed Assessor would also have to certify that the facility was obsolete. Discussion was held regarding a point system for awarding years including new jobs and housing opportunities. If the approved applicant was not compliant with the time frame of the application the taxes would revert back to normal assessing. At the end of the granted time frame the property would be re-assessed for "normal" tax billing.

Work Session ended at 5:55 pm.