

Study Session, Douglas City Council
February 5, 2018

A Study Session of the Douglas City Council was held on Monday, February 5, 2018, at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 101 N. 4th Street, Douglas, Wyoming. Mayor Jones called the meeting to order. Those present were:

Mayor and Council: Bruce A. Jones, Mayor; Councilmembers Leroy Kingery; John Bartling; Rene´ Kemper; and Monty Gilbreath

Others Present: Karen Rimmer, Interim City Administrator/City Clerk; Heather Duncan-Malone, City Attorney, via conference call; Mary Nicol, City Treasurer; John Harbarger, Public Works Director; Clara Chaffin, Community Development Director; Kim Rightmer, Wyoming Business Council (via conference call); and Cindy Porter, Tim Pexton, Ron Hayes, and Denny Harts, The Enterprise

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a potential project at 114 N. 2nd Street, referred to as "Murphy's Wall". The general concept is to turn this area into a public space usable year-round by utilizing the existing façade, adding a roof, garage-type door, landscaping, and plantings. The Enterprise would like to purchase the property and then move forward with a Wyoming Business Council Community Enhancement grant. Requirements of the grant were discussed; the City would have to be the grant applicant as well as take ownership of the property. The details of the grant were reviewed including timeline and match requirements. The City does have the legal ability per W.S. 15-1-112(e) for the City to sell publicly-owned property to a private person or entity if the governing body determines the sale would benefit the economic development of the municipality; an appraisal would be a requirement as well. The structural integrity of the building was discussed, as well as the report from Pillar Structural Engineering; the priority would be to repair the existing façade and make sure the building is secure and not a safety hazard. A cost estimate is needed for the stabilization of the façade wall, which is forthcoming from CEPI; this report will be shared with the City once it is received. The way this wall would need to be secured was also discussed. A contingency agreement between the parties would need to be put in place making the transfer of the

property contingent upon the grant being successful; operation of the property as a public space was also talked about. Photos and drawings of potential ideas for the creation of the public space were reviewed. This project ties in with the City's adopted Strategic Plan and Downtown Master Plan. The Study Session was adjourned at 4:25 p.m. **No Council action was taken.**

Karen Rimmer, City Clerk