

KIRTLAND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

September 18, 2023 – Work Session

The work session meeting of Kirtland City Council commenced at 6:50 p.m. Council members present were: Ronald Fenstermaker, Suzanne Grazia, Scott Haymer, Richard Lowery, Matthew Schulz, Joseph Smolic and Eric Ziegler.

Mayor Kevin Potter, Law Director Matthew Lallo, Finance Director Louis Slapnicker, City Engineer Douglas Courtney, Police Chief Brian McCallister and Senior Center Coordinator Teresa Szary were also in attendance.

Mayor Potter noted that the legislation relating to engine brakes (23-O-58) is on Third Reading tonight, and there is a new Resolution (23-R-65) on First Reading relating to the Waste Management contract. Mayor Potter advised that Resolution 23-R-65 can receive three readings.

Mayor Potter asked if Council members had questions relating to the legislation on tonight's agenda or the financial documents provided today by the Finance Director.

With regard to Ordinance 23-O-58 relating to jake brakes, Councilman Schulz said he looked at neighboring communities' legislation and inquired if Kirtland's ordinance needs specific language to define and describe a jake brake. Mr. Lallo said the officers are trained in detecting the difference between a car downshifting vs. a jake brake. Chief McCallister confirmed that the officers are trained in regard to jake brakes. Answering Mr. Schulz, Mr. Lallo confirmed that the legislation is city-wide.

Councilman Schulz inquired about posting of signage relating to jake brakes. Chief McCallister said he recommends signs be posted in the same manner as the signage relating to overnight parking, at the main entryways into the city, stating that engine brakes are prohibited.

Answering Council President Smolic, Chief McCallister said that jake brakes are generally used when vehicles are travelling downhill, because they are trying to avoid using the brake system and are pushing air through the engine to slow down the vehicle.

Chief McCallister said he will coordinate with Mr. Fornaro with regard to posting signage, noting that he would recommend giving only warnings until the time the signage is posted.

Mayor Potter requested that Councilman Haymer schedule a Utilities Standing Committee meeting to review the broadband bid proposals. Councilman Schulz stated that he would also like to schedule a Finance Committee meeting for an update on the financials. Upon discussion, it was agreed that a Utilities Standing Committee meeting be scheduled for October 2, 2023 at 5:30 p.m., and that a Finance Committee meeting be scheduled for October 2, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Noting that Councilman Fenstermaker had requested information regarding capital equipment purchased this year, Council President Smolic said he sent to Council members information that he had available from the past four years. Responding to Mr. Smolic, Mr. Slapnicker said he will provide a comprehensive list.

There was no further discussion, and the work session meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. upon the consensus of Council.

President of Council

Clerk of Council