

**NOTICE OF STUDY SESSION**

For Abilene City Commission  
4 p.m. June 19, 2018  
Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Building  
419 N. Broadway Avenue, Abilene, Kansas

**TO: Abilene City Commission**  
**FROM: Austin Gilley, City Manager**

**PURPOSE**

The City Commission's Study Sessions are for the purpose of providing the Commission the opportunity to study items in more detail. The City Manager is responsible for the meeting and helping manage discussion.

**OPEN FORUM**

This is an opportunity to bring up items to be informally addressed.

**STUDY ITEMS**

- **2018-19 Priority list update:** Status of projects related to the City Commission's priorities.
- **Request to add/change cat policy:** See attached email exchange. Commissioner Marshall asked that resident Gerri Gaul's request be considered or discussed by the Commission. The City's animal control ordinance can be found here: <http://abileneks.citycode.net/index.html#!articleAnimalControl>.
- **Economic Development process:** The City's Ends Policy No. 4 states that "The Commission understands and intends to emphasize the importance of a healthy economy in Abilene and the surrounding area. For the entire community a healthy economy is critical to a high quality of life. Because of its great importance, there are many entities involved in economic development in Abilene. As the City is a significant funding source for much of the economic development efforts in Abilene, it is the Commission's intention to spend economic development dollars in the wisest most productive manner possible. The City Commission's desired End is to have an economy that is healthy and growing with enough economic activity to support and fund public services."

We are in the midst of a number of economic development conversations, and the City's policies and procedures are creating confusion among the entities involved. I plan to review the framework that we are using and ask for your input on how you see the various roles working together to accomplish this important objective. The primary policy can be found here:

<http://abilenecityhall.com/documentcenter/view/423>

- **Water Conservation Plan:** As the summer heats up with no rain, water conservation will likely become a significant concern. Public Works Director Lon Schrader will discuss the City's current policies, practices, and needed amendments. The City has three layers of policy regarding this effort:
  - The Kansas Water Office-approved conservation plan, which can be found here:



<http://abilenecityhall.com/documentcenter/view/2254>.

- City Code section 7-1001 re-states the conservation plan and rules, which can be found here: <http://abileneks.citycode.net/index.html#!articleWaterConservation>.
- City Code section 7-1007 calls for the City Manager to promulgate regulations subject to the approval of the Governing Body. Those rules currently on record can be found here: <http://abilenecityhall.com/documentcenter/view/1187>

In the event of continued drought, extreme drought, or mechanical failure, we will need to be prepared to implement these or similar provisions.

END###



2018/2019 Commission Priorities: Status and tracking list as of June 19, 2018

Below are the Commissions 2018-2019 Priorities adopted by Resolution 040918-1 with status updates.

Item (2018/2019)	Category	Update notes (Items in grey unchanged since last meeting)	Original Ranking				
			Chaput	Marshall	Ostermann	Petersen	Shafer
Emerald Ash Borer Plan	Quality of Life	Tree Board is reviewing best option for making inventory of Ash trees on City property and in right of ways. Board is also assisting Eisenhower Museum and Library with its tree inventory.	1	1	-	-	2
Downtown development/beautification	Quality of Life	I have met with the City Engineer, DKEDC, City Planner, and consultant Ochsner Hare & Hare to being discussing the process for helping develop a vision and plan for this item. A work order will be forthcoming as soon as possible.	3	-	1	1	-
Welcome Sign	Quality of Life	CVB Director Julie Roller is preparing to present a marketing firm to the CVB board. Once the marketing firm is in place, we anticipate asking them to assist wit this project.	-	2	3	-	1
Sidewalks/Walkability	Quality of Life	This is likely contingent upon downtown development and parks planning. The City's match program is continuing and staff is plannig to include funding again for 2019.	-	3	-	3	3
Land Bank plan/policy	Policy	Pending ordinance to be drafted by City Attorney establishing separate board and limitations; also pending discussion of membership.	1	2	1	1	1
Retail Recruitment	Policy	This item likely depends heavily on the vision for downtown and the City's commitment to improving its infrastructure capacity and awareness.	2	1	3	2	-
Code enforcement program	Policy	Case management system investigation has led to the thinking that we likely need a service reporting and tracking tool for other purposes, too. This presents an opportunity to enhance transparency, efficiency, and citizen engagement. We are working through the best method for reviewing and selecting the right solution.	3	3	2	-	2
Storm Water Plan	Infrastructure	Pending work order from City Engineer, which is pending data released by state in new flood plain maps. The key decision will be whether or not the City chooses to make some improvements to the levee to certify it for additional gains in removing floodplain areas.	2	1	2	3	3
Street maintenance plan	Infrastructure	Pending further direction on goals of plan; and inventory and assessment instruments	1	2	-	-	1
Water source	Infrastructure	All easements are complete and water exploration of specific areas identified will begin soon. Water conservation plan is on this study session agenda.	-	-	1	1	-
Fire Engine	Equipment	Fire Chief seeking pricing information for inclusion in 2019 budget consideration.	1	1	-	1	2
Equipment Reserve	Equipment	Transfers from water and sewer funds had to be eliminated to keep funds with a positive cash balance. Challenge going forward will be balancing expenses with mill levy and appropriated balance impacts.	2	2	-	2	1



Austin Gilley &lt;austin@abilenecityhall.com&gt;

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## Resident request for change in City Code on Cat Policy

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**Gerri Gaul** <gerrib1953@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 14, 2018 at 11:29 AM

To: Austin Gilley &lt;austin@abilenecityhall.com&gt;

Cc: Dee Marshall &lt;dmarshall@abilenecityhall.com&gt;, "mragdale@apdks.org" &lt;mragdale@apdks.org&gt;, Penny Soukup &lt;penny@abilenecityhall.com&gt;, Chris Ostermann &lt;costermann@abilenecityhall.com&gt;, Aaron Martin &lt;aomartin@cml-law.com&gt;, Terry Chaput &lt;tchaput@abilenecityhall.com&gt;, Sharon Petersen &lt;spetersen@abilenecityhall.com&gt;, Mike Mohn &lt;mmohn@apdks.org&gt;, Tim Shafer &lt;tshafer@abilenecityhall.com&gt;

Thank you! I wanted to also let you know I will be out of town for the next Abilene City Council Meeting on Monday, June 25th. Thank you. Gerri

On Jun 14, 2018 11:22 AM, "Austin Gilley" <austin@abilenecityhall.com> wrote:

Sounds good. I will have it on the Study Session agenda for next Tuesday. Thanks!

On Thu, Jun 14, 2018 at 11:19 AM, Dee Marshall <dmarshall@abilenecityhall.com> wrote:

Having trouble with cats myself, I think we should do something about the issue. I don't have all the answers, but we should discuss it.

On Wed, Jun 13, 2018 at 3:26 PM, Austin Gilley <austin@abilenecityhall.com> wrote:

Dear Commissioners,

Resident Gerri Gaul would like to know if any of you would be willing to sponsor a change in City Policy that provides for the following:

- Requiring registration of cats.
- End the Trap, Neuter/Spay, and release program — replacing with a euthanization program.
- Updating the Abilene welcome packet with more information giving guidance to cat owners.

Gerri may be reached by phone at (785) 366-0739.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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Thank you,  
Austin Gilley  
City Manager  
Abilene Kansas