

KINDRED CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
01-13-2021 at 4:00pm - Kindred City Hall

Board Present: Mayor DuBord, CMs Spelhaug, Amerman, and Peraza. Absent: CM Stoddard.
Others present: MLGC Representatives Tyler Kilde, Loren Briss, Eric Swenson, and Shelie Bunn, PWS Rich Schock, City Auditor Tabitha Arnaud.

Meeting called to order at 4:00pm.

1. Community Development - MLGC

Mayor DuBord opened the floor to MLGC President and General Manager Tyler Kilde. Mr. Kilde shared that MLGC constructed a small office and equipment building on 7th Ave S in 2003, followed by a larger storage building in 2020. Over the last year or so, the company has continued to grow and now the current main office is located in Enderlin and is too small to add more staff. MLGC pursued purchasing the old Cass County Electric building, but it was too costly to repair and an agreement on price could not be made with the owner. MLGC board members approved exploring further options in Kindred as they are planning to convert the City of Kindred to fiber internet/cable service making it a good fit to expand the company. Mr. Kilde attended the last Planning & Zoning meeting and asked the board members to help look for a property that MLGC could construct a new office building on. They would be looking for approximately 10,000 sq ft plus parking spaces; 5,000 sq ft for office and 5,000 sq ft for storage/garage space. Office and storage facilities do not need to be on same property. The City has been a great help currently for the outdoor storage of spools and larger supplies. Location priority for the office building would be off of County Hwy 15 or downtown area.

Discussion on available properties.

- Vacant “triangle” downtown lot owned by City? This lot is too small with the railroad easement.
- Current City Hall lot? This is about 20,000 sq ft. Where would City offices be located if the current space was sold? Have been having discussions about a possible new community center that could hold the City offices. Or could MLGC and the City share a space? Possible potential for that. But timing of construction could be an issue since MLGC is hoping to move more quickly.
- Rustad lots on Linden St, about 30,000 sq ft. Possible as a site for MLGC, the City’s facilities, or both.
- West side of Elm St. Would be useful for storage only, not offices.
- Sheyenne St & County 15. This is still technically in the floodplain; not interested.
- North of the airport or high school. Could do office and storage together at this location.
- Dakota Hills Electric properties: Shop at 510 Spruce or vacant lot east of City Hall. Owners only looking to lease as of City’s last discussion with them.

As the City has been discussing a possible community center and/or city hall, looking at keeping the impact low for our residents is the goal. With the addition of sales tax collection required for online purchases, the City has seen a decent increase in City Sales Tax revenues over the last two years. If you shop online and have it shipped to your Kindred residence, the sales tax is passed on to the City. This has helped to grow the sales tax fund reserves that could be used for this type of project.

MLGC identified the Rustad lots and the City Hall lots as possible prospects. Will discuss with their board members and reviewing what their site plan could look like in those locations. Will revisit soon.

No motions made. Meeting adjourned at 5:23pm.

Tabitha Arnaud, City Auditor

Jason DuBord, Mayor

Date approved