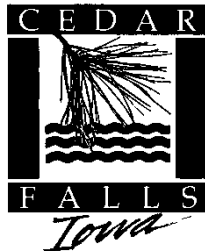




AGENDA
CITY OF CEDAR FALLS, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MONDAY, APRIL 04, 2022
6:00 PM AT COMMUNITY CENTER, 528 MAIN STREET

Call to Order by the Mayor

- [1.](#) Standing Committee Structure.
(50 Minutes, Council discussion)



FINANCE & BUSINESS OPERATIONS

CITY OF CEDAR FALLS, IOWA
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CEDAR FALLS, IOWA 50613
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MEMORANDUM
Public Records Division

TO: Honorable Mayor Green and City Council
FROM: Jacque Danielsen, City Clerk
DATE: March 28, 2022
SUBJECT: Committee Structure Discussion

Please find presentation materials from the August 17, 2020 Council Work Session on this topic enclosed for your reference.

Thank you.

Committee Structure

Council Work Session

August 17, 2020



History of Committees

- *Prior to 1986 there were 7 standing committees*
- *There have been 3 Standing Committees since 1986*
 - *Administration*
 - *Public Works*
 - *Community Relations & Planning*
- *Before 2015, Committees were not televised and were more of a casual conversation in the Conference room. Assume public expectation would be to continue to televise committee meetings and hold prior to the Council meetings.*

History of Committees

- *In Goal Setting in October 2006, the City Council wanted to “experiment with seven(7) member committees in an attempt to include all City Council members in discussions and determine the political likelihood of passage on any given issue before the City Council in formal session”*
- *This resulted in the City Council adopting Ordinance #2605 in 2006 changing the number of council members on each committee from 5 to 7.*

History of Committees

- In 2014, Administrative Policy No. 7 (No. 70) was changed to formally put in the Administrative Policy what City Council decided several years ago.***
- On October 6, 2014 City Council adopted Resolution 19,230 which revised City Council Meeting procedures (Administrative Policy No. 7) to refer all items that would have otherwise have gone to one of the three standing committees to the entire City Council sitting as a Committee of the Whole, where all seven members could participate in each committee item.***

Reasons for Committee of the Whole

- ***There was debate about which committee an item should go in front of***
- ***Annual debate about who the chair for each committee should be***
- ***The Mayor was left out of the committee debates since not the chair and not part of the committee***

Reasons for Committee of the Whole

- ***With committees of 5 – something could pass 3-2 in committee, but then get defeated 4-3 at City Council. Therefore a concern about double the work of staff.***
- ***With committees of 7 – how is that different than a Committee of the Whole at that point***

All of these reasons is how we got to a Committee of the Whole format

Other Communities

- ***Reached out to 10 other cities comparable in size to Cedar Falls***
 - ***2 cities have standing committees (Waterloo & Cedar Rapids)***
 - ***2 cities have some special committees for particular topics (ex. CIP review committee)***
 - ***Most cities do not have standing committees, use work sessions or committee of the whole meetings.***

Discussion and Questions