



# Minutes

City Council Work Session

Oelwein City Hall, 20 Second Avenue SW, Oelwein, Iowa

November 15, 2021 - 5:30 PM

## Pledge of Allegiance

## Discussions

### 1. How to be a Council Member

Mulfinger along with the Department heads hosted new and current elected officials:

New Council Members

Dave Garrigus

Dave Lenz

Current Elected Officials

Brett DeVore

Tom Stewart

Karen Seeders

Lynda Payne

Mulfinger along with Department Heads provided input on the following topics:

- Read your updates and your agenda
  - Cheat Sheet
- Ask questions before meetings
- Show up to meetings
  - Susan Macken
- Don't make the city look bad
  - You now reflect the city
- Don't be a gotcha council member
  - We are on the same team
- Be on the same team as staff
- Disagree when needed
- Show support when needed
  - Josh Johnson
- You are elected to make decisions
- Be supportive of your own council and the organization
  - Jessica Burkhart
- Look decent for council meetings
  - A collar goes a long way
  - We are professionals
- Staff is listening and watching
- Stop thinking in thousands, you now do millions
  - Rigdon
- You act as a council not as a person
- Evaluate if it is a problem

- Vic Kane
- How staff works
  - Jeremy Logan
- Hear both sides of the story
  - Jay Shekleton
  - I hope that did not happen, but I will check with the City Administrator and get back to you
- How do you plan when leadership changes every two years
  - Get over consistent and done the same way every time
- You are not in charge of staff, the Administrator does the day to day
  - Communication goes from Council to admin to staff, staff to admin to council
- You set policy for the city
- Your most important job is making sure the City Administration is doing theirs

## **Adjournment**

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Dylan Mulfinger, City Administrator