City of Eldridge Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

The City of Eldridge, Iowa, City Council met in a Committee of the Whole City Council session at Eldridge Community Center at 6:00 pm on November 2, 2026.

Council Members Present: Brian Dockery, Ryan Iossi, Jeff Ashcraft, Adrian Blackwell and Scott La Plante.

Presiding: Mayor Scott Campbell

Also Present: Nevada Lemke, Jeff Martens, Tabbitha Kramer, Erin Gentz, Rick Schaefer, Wade Warnecke, Jeremy Sorensen, Ben Keith, Mary Egger, Zach Howell, Dave Sarafin, Tony Rupe, Peter Tokar, and Tami Petsche

Assistant City Administrator Jeff Martens introduced Grow Quad Cities CEO Peter Tokar and Vice President Tami Petsche, who presented on Regional Industrial and Technological Development Trends. Tokar and Petsche provided a general definition of data centers and how each center is different due to capacity, operator, energy and water usage, cooling system operations, and required space and infrastructure. Martens clarified that there have been inquiries about available properties for data centers, but no specific project is in progress. He stated the presentation was to gather information and to be proactive and prepared. Council asked questions regarding environment impact and date center closures. Council discussed requiring decibel readings and a closed loop cooling system. Tokar and Petsche recommended contacting other cities who have data centers, such as Council Bluffs, Des Moines, and Altoona. MidAmerican employee Wade Warnecke briefly spoke about MidAmerican Energy's experience with data centers—requiring a 10-year load ramp schedule and a surety for the extra energy usage. Council discussed gathering more information, starting a pre-draft ordinance and providing solid, fact-based communication in simple terms to the public.

City Administrator Lemke, Public Works Director Tony Rupe, and City Engineer Zach Howell from Shive Hattery presented a draft of the Capital Improvement Plan. Lemke reported that any projects on the one-to-five-year plan should be re-evaluated based on priority, funding, condition, and need, and then approved for the fiscal year only. Rupe and Howell discussed street conditions and safety. Councilman Iossi brought up safety concerns on Lincoln Road and feels that should be a high priority. There was also discussion regarding Buttermilk Road, East LeClaire Road, and Blackhawk Trail to Hunter Lane. Council agreed that gravel alleys are not a priority unless grant funding were to become available.

Motion by Ashcraft to adjourn at 6:49pm. Seconded by LaPlante. Motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tabbitha Kramer
Deputy City Clerk