

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a City Council Work Session was duly held in the City Council chambers at 6:00 p.m. on the 10th day of November 2020. The following members were present: Mayor Doug Henke, Council Members, Richard Nielsen Tom Gard, John Mortensen, and Dan Rechtzigel. Absent: None

Also, present: City Administrator Mark Vahlsing, Police Chief Sjolander

Via Teleconference: Ilaya Hopkins and Dr. Jason Wray-Raabolle Mayo Health Systems, Brian Todd Rochester Post Bulletin, Michelle Vlasik Kenyon Leader, Molly Ryan

Mayor Henke called the work session to order at 6:00 pm. The purpose of the work session was to discuss the closing of the Mayo Health Systems Kenyon Clinic.

Meet with officials of Mayo Health Systems to discuss the closure of Kenyon Clinic

City Administrator Vahlsing provided a summary of the Mayo Health Systems Clinic closure. Mayo had announced the closure on October 9, 2020 effective the end of this calendar year.

Ilaya Hopkins of Mayo Health Systems provided an introduction to the closing of the Kenyon and Blooming Prairie Clinic facilities.

Dr. Wray-Raabolle of Mayo Health Systems reviewed a Power Point presentation. It highlighted some possible future options for delivering health care services to the residents of the Kenyon area. Some options could include increased telemedicine services, a mobile clinic or some type of dedicated physical office space in Kenyon with limited services. He stated that options for virtual care are rapidly expanding due to the COVID-19 virus. He said that office space in Kenyon is still on the table.

Administrator Vahlsing stated that the next step might be to form a committee to work with representatives of Mayo and other persons in the community to find alternatives for local healthcare delivery. He also stated that the City would be reaching out to other health care providers about establishing a clinic or to provide other services in the City.

Councilmen Nielsen asked if general tests and labs could be completed at a future clinic site in Kenyon,

Mayor Henke asked the Mayo reps if there had been a final decision made on providing any services in the City in the future. He requested a response before the end the year.

Councilmen Nielsen thought a mobile healthcare clinic would a good future option to provide services locally in Kenyon.

Administrator Vahlsing stated that due to the pandemic Healthcare systems have not been expanding. It may take some time to get another group to look at Kenyon.

Councilmen Mortenson stated that pandemic has placed a lot of pressure on Mayo and other health systems.

Mayor Henke stated that he was not sure that Mayo was serious about providing services in Kenyon. He stated that the City needs to look at other options to provide services.

Motion by Mortenson second by Rechtzigel to adjourn the work session at 7:04 pm.
Motion carried 5-0-0.

Mark R. Vahlsing
City Administrator

Douglas Henke, Mayor