

Minutes of the Proceedings of the City Council of the City of Champlin in the County of Hennepin and the State of Minnesota
Pursuant to Due Call and Notice Thereof

Worksession
July 26, 2010
Municipal Center

Call to Order The Champlin City Council met in a Worksession and was called to order by Mayor Mark Uglem at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call Present were Mayor Mark Uglem, Councilmembers Eric Johnson, Julia Whalen, ArMand Nelson and Greg Payer.

Absent: none.

City Staff Attending: City Administrator Bret Heitkamp, City Clerk Roberta Colotti, City Planner Scott Schulte, City Engineer Tim Hanson, Assistant City Engineer Todd Tuominen and City Attorney Darrell Jensen.

Approval of Agenda Motion by Councilmember Johnson and seconded by Councilmember Whalen to approve the agenda for the July 26, 2010 Worksession as presented. Voting in favor: Mayor Uglem, Councilmembers Payer, Nelson, Johnson and Whalen. Voting against: none, whereupon said motion passed this 26th day of July, 2010.

Entryway Signs The City Planner and the City's consultant, CJ Fernandez of LHB, presented an overview of the proposed entryway sign plan that includes two concepts for the NE corner (with and without City ID), along with a plan for incorporating features into the Douglas Drive corridor landscape improvements.

The City Planner reported that the NW Corner Plan calls for a five-foot high symmetrical limestone wall. The City's logo and front are framed in smooth texture limestone within a rough-texture wall; similar to the entryway signage at Winnetka Avenue. Extending from the sign on both sides is a steel framed ornamental fence. Perennial plantings no greater than 18 inches in height separate the sign from the sidewalk. The planting area has a raised edge using a course limestone along the sidewalk's radius. The edge demarcates the landscaping bed and attempts to prevent vandalism.

The City Planner reported that El Toro has agreed to provide the necessary easements for the NW Corner entryway sign. They have also endorsed the design. The construction cost is estimated at \$45,000 to \$50,000.

The City Planner reported that the NE Corner preferred concept plan includes the same design elements and materials palette as the NW Corner Plan and incorporates a Holiday sign and City ID. The estimated construction cost of the sign is \$90,000 to \$110,000. The sign necessitates easements from Holiday and the removal of one parking stall.

The City Planner reported that concurrent with our plans, Holiday plans to convert their manual reader-board to an electronic message board. The conversion requires a conditional use permit and a setback variance as the existing Holiday sign is legal non-conforming due the widening of Douglas Drive.

The City Planner requested authorization to negotiate with Holiday on behalf of the City to reach a cooperative agreement for the construction of a joint sign.

Council Consensus

It was the consensus of the Council to authorize staff to move forward with the entryway sign plan as presented for the NW Corner and NE Corner, with direction to review the car wash sign, frame color, materials to be used, and landscaping theme. To authorize them to negotiate with Holiday for the construction of the sign, with consideration of the need for a cross-use agreement.

Douglas Drive Corridor Plan The City Planner stated that the Douglas Drive corridor landscaping plan compliments the entryway sign at 109th Avenue and other improvements in the City. Intersections along Douglas Drive receive varying levels of enhancement, with significant improvements at West River Road, Brittany Drive and 117th

Avenue. These “key” intersections are landscaped using the natural stone and the fence designs used on Hayden Lake Road. The round-a-bout will have a more pronounced visual appearance and height to assist with night visibility. The intersection at Brittany Drive will also incorporate ornamental fencing, cast-stone post fence ends and some trees and shrubs. The remaining intersections would incorporate tree/shrub groupings and planting beds. The project will provide a more natural landscaping in the pond areas and will incorporate tree groupings and native grass turf.

The City Planner stated that \$356,683 is budgeted for the landscape improvements. The City’s portion is \$284,480, while Hennepin County picks up the balance of \$72,203. It is believed that the proposed improvements work within that budget.

Mayor Uglem stated that the Council needs more architectural detail in order to review this proposal. They also need more time to review the round-a-bout plans. He stated that as a result he would not be calling for a consensus at this time and would request staff to place this item on a future agenda for further consideration.

Adjourn

The Champlin City Council adjourned the Worksession at 6:57 p.m.

Julia Whalen, Acting Mayor

Attest:

Roberta Colotti, CMC, City Clerk