Call to Order
The Champlin City Council met in Worksession called to order by Mayor Ryan Karasek at 5:40 p.m.

Roll Call
Present were Mayor Ryan Karasek, Councilmembers Jessica Tesdall (Ward 1), Tom Moe (Ward 2), Nate Truesdell (Ward 3) and Ryan Sabas (Ward 4).

Absent: none.

Also Present: City Administrator Bret Heitkamp, City Clerk Roberta Colotti, Community Development Director John Cox, City Planner Scott Schulte, Assistant City Engineer Todd Tuominen, Police Chief Dave Kolb, and City Attorney Scott Lepak.

Approval of Agenda (June 12, 2017)
Motion by Councilmember Sabas and seconded by Councilmember Tesdall to approve the agenda for the June 12, 2017 Worksession as presented. Voting in favor were Mayor Karasek, Councilmembers Tesdall, Moe, Truesdell, and Sabas. Voting against: none. Motion carried.

Mill Pond Restoration Project
The Assistant City Engineer reported that the proposed budget for the Mill Pond Restoration totals $6.3M. The City has identified the funding through grants, watershed partnership, local funds and MN State Bonding Funds. In 2015, the City of Champlin applied to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) for a grant to fund the restoration of the Mill Pond Shoreline and Aquatic Habitat. After a rigorous process the LCCMR awarded the grant to the City of Champlin in the amount of $2M from the Environment and Natural Resource Trust Fund (ENRTF). Also, the City requested $3.3M in funding from the 2016 Bonding Bill via State of Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB). The project received support from both the MN Senate and MN House of Representative Bonding Committees. However, the Bonding Bill was not approved during the 2016 Legislative Session. The Bonding Bill was taken up again as part of the 2017 Legislative Session. The 2017 Bonding Bill, including the Mill Pond funding, was approved by the MN House and the Senate on the last day of the Legislative Session and signed into law by Governor Dayton on May 30, 2017. Representative Mark Uglem and Senator John Hoffman deserve credit for carrying the Mill Pond funding request through this two year process.

The Assistant City Engineer stated that it is expected that the 2017 Bond Funds will be available by August 2017. First, the City will be required to enter into a Grant Agreement with the MMB. It is expected that the DNR will serve as the administrator of the 2017 Bonding Grant. The City entered into a grant agreement with the State for the ENRTF Grant in December 2016. The State Bonding would account for $3.3M of the funding and $2M will be funded through the grant from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. The City and Elm Creek Watershed CIP would account for $750,000 and $250,000 respectively.

Mill Pond Funding
- $2,000,000 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
- $750,000 Local Funds-City of Champlin
- $250,000 Local Funds-Elm Creek WMC
- $3,300,000 (available August 2017)

The Assistant City Engineer reported that on February 23, 2017, the City Council authorized moving forward with the design and permitting for the Mill Pond. The preliminary plans for the Mill Pond are 60% complete and the EAW has been completed and submitted to the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) and published in the EQB Monitor. After the EAW has been through a 30-day comment period, any comments by State or environmental organizations will be addressed as part of a Findings of Fact. A Record of Decision will be established and a Notice of Decision will be published in the...
EQB Monitor. The Mill Pond EAW and the preliminary plans include the Oxbow and the area of the Elm Creek from the Mill Pond to Cartway Road. It is intended that the Oxbow area be included in plans for permitting purposes. Note that the Oxbow area is not included in the proposed Mill Pond project budget.

The Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) has met several times and provided valuable insight and direction for the Mill Pond design and habitat features. The City will be meeting with Mill Pond Residents to discuss yard buffers and future raingarden projects. Also, the City anticipates removal of any wood structure on resident’s shoreline. Temporary construction easements may be required for this work. The construction permits are under review by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and the MN-DNR. The preliminary plans include potential locations for aquatic habitat; include the use of natural wood fish structure, boulder protection and rock riffles. Potential recreational points of interest are being reviewed and include Fishing Access and Water Access for Canoe and Kayak Launch Sites. Emergency water access is also being considered at both the Upper and Lower Mill Pond.

The Assistant City Engineer reported that City staff and WSB are reviewing the options of granular material disposition and the benefits of the normal bidding process versus brokering the granular material for separate sale. Brokering the material would require additional contracts that would need to work in coordination with the City bid contract work. Whereas, the typical process for bidding out the contract quantities for contractor ownership of material would let the competitive market dictate the value of work and resale together. This option would avoid contract and scheduling conflicts, along with issues with grant funding agreements.

Project Schedule:

- LCCMR Work Plan                 January 2017      Complete
- ENRTF Grant Agreement           January 2017      Complete
- Mill Pond Drawdown Public Hearing April 2017      Complete
- Submit EAW                        May 2017       Complete
- Submit State Agency Permits      June 2017       Complete
- State Bonding Approval           June 2017       Complete
- Submit Plan to MN DNR/ ACOE     June 2017       Complete
- Submit EAW Notice of Decision   June 2017
- ACOE Permit                        July 2017
- DNR Permit                           July 2017
- LCCMR Work Plan Update           July 2017
- Elm Creek WMC Permit                      August 2017
- Final Design/Approve Plans        October 2017
- Bid Approval/ Award Contract      November 2017
- Start Construction                December 2017
- Substantial Completion            November 2018

The Assistant City Engineer stated that no formal action was required this evening.

Mayor Karasek and the City Councilmembers thanked Todd Tuominen for his excellent work on this project, highlighting the tremendous accomplishment achieved through working in coordination with our State Representatives in securing the necessary $6.3 million in funding.

Trout Fishery Management Plan

The Assistant City Engineer stated that a flood control pond was created as part of the Reserve at Elm Creek Development and constructed through the excavation of sand that was used as fill to elevate the landform west of Elm Creek Crossing. The pond is located east of Elm Creek Crossing and south of French Lake Road. As constructed, the pond is a maximum of 32 feet deep, along with fairly steep side slopes. Safety and aquatic benches were constructed around the perimeter of the shoreline. Mr. Darrell Ellison, DNR Metro Fishery Manager, has indicated that the characteristic of the pond does not have good habitat or substantial shallows that benefit a warm water fishery. However, it would serve well as...
a trout (put-n-take) fishery given the cool water temperatures and relatively good dissolved oxygen (DO) levels.

The Assistant City Engineer stated that the pond is unique to the City of Champlin in that the pond contains ground water and storm water that is treated before entering the pond. It is important to recognize that a natural fishery with predatory fish like trout can compete and control the spread of rough fish that may enter the pond. The pond was found suitable as a trout fishery as identified in the Trout Management Plan. (Citation information: U.S. Geological Survey [2016]; Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database; Gainesville, Florida. Accessed [7/14/2016]. The plan has considered management options, legal review and costs of the fishery. Development of the fishery includes assessing the waterbody with respect to physical characteristics, water quality, and existing fish species. This fishery would be supported by annual stocking efforts with no reproduction and minimal growth expected.

The Assistant City Engineer stated that there are two management options for the pond.

1) **DNR Managed Stocking**

The MN DNR suggests that the pond be classified as a stream trout lake, which may not fit the Fishing in the Neighborhood (FIN) program. It could take a period of 8-10 years for the lake to be designated as a stream trout lake; until that time City ordinance would regulate access and fishing on the new pond.

The regulations for a stream trout lake allow for a summer season that runs from May 14-October 31 with a possession limit of 5 combined and not more than 3 over 16”. The winter season runs January 14-March 31 with the same possession and size limits. Note that there are exceptions listed within the regulations. The City of Champlin could pass an ordinance to reflect the same as the DNR regulations or pass more stringent season, possession, and size limits.

MN DNR staff indicated they would like fishing regulations in place before the state would commit any fish to the project. It is unknown as to whether those would be state regulation imposed under the Stream Trout-Lake regulations or City ordinance. If DNR staff prefers to have the lake designated a Stream Trout Lake it may be 8 years before we may be able to get trout from DNR hatcheries.

2) **City Special Event Fishery/ Special Ponds Rules / City Ordinance**

Fishing in the City Pond at Reserve at Elm Creek shall be restricted to special City events. Fishing shall require a special one day Champlin fishing license. The cost of the license fees will be used to fund special fishing events and stocking of trout in the pond.

The Assistant City Engineer reviewed funding, legal and enforcement issues related to both management options.

**Council Consensus**

It was the consensus of the City Council to table a decision regarding a management option for the flood control pond to a future Work Session meeting.

**Hwy. 169 Commercial Parcel Development**

The Community Development Director introduced representatives of Hempel Development who were invited to provide perspective on the future development of parcels along the highway corridor. They recently purchased Parcel #8 and will be developing Parcel #4 with a multi-tenant building anchored by Tim Hortons. Mr. Ben Krsnak, Vice President of Hempel Development stated that the type of uses allowed under the current zoning ordinance for the highway commercial parcels are not in keeping with the type of uses that he has received development inquiries on and he provided examples of the types of uses he has received inquiries about. He stated that being located between Maple Grove and Coon Rapids where there already is a significant number of retail businesses impacts those business interests in opening a second, possibly competing, store in Champlin.
Councilmember Sabas suggested that an entertainment designation be considered for parcel #8 to tie in with the Champlin Theatre redevelopment. He asked Mr. Krsnak to outline his company’s experience with entertainment venue development.

Mr. Krsnak stated that they are currently re-developing the St. Paul Macy’s site for the new Wild hockey practice facility and that the City of St. Paul supported this project financially through the property acquisition agreement.

The Community Development Director stated that tonight he wanted to provide the Council with an opportunity to hear what the market was interested in developing along the highway corridor. No formal action was required this evening and that future meetings would be scheduled to continue the review of the 11 shovel ready parcels.

Adjournment

The Champlin City Council adjourned the Worksession at 6:56 p.m.

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Ryan Karasek, Mayor

Attest:

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Roberta Colotti, CMC, City Clerk