

Worksession
May 27, 2015
Municipal Center – EOC

- Call to Order The Champlin City Council met in Worksession and was called to order by Mayor ArMand Nelson at 5:45 p.m.
- Roll Call Present were Mayor ArMand Nelson and Councilmembers Eric Johnson, Ryan Karasek and Bruce Miller.
- Excused Absent: Councilmember Kara Terry.
- Staff Present: City Administrator Bret Heitkamp, Community Development Director John Cox, City Clerk Roberta Colotti, City Engineer Tim Hanson and Police Chief Dave Kolb.
- Approval of Agenda
(May 27, 2015)
Motion Motion by Councilmember Karasek and seconded by Councilmember Miller to approve the agenda for the May 27, 2015 Worksession as amended to include topics #16 Park Facility Rental Policy and #17 Gonyea Development Pond. Voting in favor were Mayor Nelson, Councilmembers Johnson, Karasek, and Miller. Voting against: none. Motion carried.

Work Plan Priority
Planning Session #3

Topic #1
Social Media/Community Communications/Citizen Engagement Update

The City Administrator presented updated statistics for the City’s website, Facebook page and E-mail blast program. He reported that social media has been well utilized by the public. The City Administrator reported that electronic Council packets are targeted to be available beginning January 1, 2016.

Council Discussion

The Council expressed their appreciation regarding the range of different department Facebook posts. The Council discussed options for possibly initiating a text messaging program in light of the high percentage of people who access the City’s website via a mobile device. It was identified that this would be most beneficial for real-time snow plowing information. The City Council expressed concerns regarding the recently redesigned website. Concerns included not being user friendly, inability to locate desired information and inability to navigate the community calendar.

Topic #2
Business Recruitment/Business Networking/Roundtable Forums

Requested Follow-up

The City Council requested the Community Development Director prepare a menu of options for future business round-table discussions. The discussions should be informational and should be targeted to either a shared business interest or geographic area. The purpose of the meetings is to solicit input on ways the City may assist their businesses.

Topic #3
2015/2016 Public Improvement Projects

The City Administrator outlined the South Diamond Lake Road/Depue Drive/Mississippi View Estates project meeting schedule, with neighborhood meetings beginning in June of this year and construction identified for April 2016.

Requested Follow-up

The City Council requested that staff prepare an analysis of four different funding scenarios (Taxes, Fees, Assessments, and a combination of revenue sources) for not only this current project but for future infrastructure improvements as outlined in the City’s Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). It was further directed that the report include information on a range of home values. Staff was also directed to provide information as to how adjacent communities fund public improvement projects.

Topic #4
Mississippi Crossings

The Community Development Director reported that Doran Companies is anticipated to be bringing forward their concept plan in two weeks and the report will be submitted to the Economic Development Authority for review at the first available meeting.

The Community Development Director reported that the City did not receive funding for the Hwy. 169 road improvements through the Metropolitan Council this funding cycle. He stated that the City would be re-applying during the next funding cycle. He noted that the Elm Creek Bridge repairs being coordinated by MNDOT include constructing a temporary fix by this fall that will allow truck traffic to return and then scheduling a permanent repair in 2016.

Council Consensus

The Council requested that staff present financial information for the Mississippi Crossings project as well as future uses for the middle section and south end of the project in relation to the Doran Companies proposal that is identified for the north end of the property.

Topic #5
City Advisory Commissions

The City Administrator stated that there has been a suggestion by a resident that the Council form a Citizens Review Board for the Police Department.

Requested Follow-up Discussed

It was the consensus of the City Council to not consider the establishing of a Citizen Review Board, but staff was directed to prepare a report clarifying the resident approval process for concerns received regarding the Police Department practices, policies and procedures.

Topic #6
Community Bus Tour

Requested Follow-up

The Council was in favor of offering future bus tours and directed staff to identify target audiences (i.e. business community, seniors, residents). Staff was also directed to explore opportunities for a sponsor of the bus tour to defray future costs.

No Action Taken: Topic #7 “Police Department - Image/Community Perception”

No Action Taken: Topic #8 “Budget/CIP Process – 2015 and/or 2016”

Topic #9
Mill Pond Water Quality/Fishery Restoration and Habitat Improvement

The City Administrator reported that State Representative Mark Uglem reported that he anticipates that there will be at least partial funding available for the Mill Pond Water Quality/Fishery Restoration and Habitat Improvement project included in the 2016 Bonding Bill.

Topic #10
Sawatsky Property Acquisition/Elm Creek Trail Corridor

The City Administrator updated the Council on the acquisition discussions, noting that the property owner was most interested in a land sale vs. a sale of the home.

Topic #11
Champlin Elementary (Lil Newton)

The Community Development Director reported that an early education center is proposing to purchase the vacant Champlin Elementary building. He reported that they currently have a center in Plymouth

and are looking to open one in Maple Grove as well.

Requested Follow-up

The Council requested that staff evaluate the traffic and parking plan associated with this project.

No Action Taken: Topic #12 “Joint City Council Meetings”

Topic #13

Establish Next 2015/2016 Work Plan Priority Planning Work Session

Thursday, August 27th at 5:30 p.m. was identified by the Council for the next Work Plan Priority Planning Work Session.

Topic #14

Overnight Truck Parking: Follow-up

The Community Development Director reported that staff will be sending letters to businesses along Hwy. 169 soliciting their interest in allowing overnight semi-truck parking.

Requested Follow-up

The Council requested a copy of the list of business and letter.

Topic #15

Bees

The City Administrator reported that a proclamation supporting natural bee habitat and a reduced use of pesticides would be presented for consideration in June.

The Community Development Director stated that the issue of allowing agricultural bee keeping in residential areas would be presented at the June 22nd Council Work Session.

Topic #16

Park Facility Rental

The City Administrator stated that an amendment to the ordinance governing park facility rental and occupancy limits would be presented to the Council for formal action in June.

The Council discussed controlling park use including amplified sound. The Council discussed options for controlling park use by general users vs. through rental agreements. The City Council recommended the Parks and Recreation Commission consider establishing occupancy limits for Veteran’s Memorial Park as well.

Topic #17

Gonyea Development Pond

Councilmember Karasek asked the Council to consider the allocation of future park funds for the development/improvement of fisheries habitat in the holding pond on the east side of the Elm Creek Crossing adjacent to the Reserve at Elm Creek subdivision.

The Community Development Director stated that Gonyea plans to begin grading their residential development including the planned pond this summer.

Requested Follow-up

The Council requested that the Parks and Recreation Commission with review by the Environmental Resources Commission explore the issue of establishing more suitable fishing habitat in the future. Specifically addressing the opportunity to install footings and design the pond grading at this time to accommodate future development of the pond as a fishing site.

Adjournment

The Champlin City Council adjourned the Worksession at 8:25p.m.

ArMand Nelson, Mayor

Attest:

Roberta Colotti, CMC, City Clerk