



City of Blaine  
Anoka County, Minnesota  
Minutes - Final

10801 Town Square Dr.  
Blaine MN 55449

City Council Workshop

*\*While this is a public meeting where interested persons are welcome to attend, it is a work session for Council and staff to discuss issues before them. It is not for the purpose of receiving public input.*

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Thursday, February 9, 2012

6:30 PM

Cloverleaf Farm Room A

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Meeting Number 12-11

**NOTICE OF WORKSHOP MEETING**

*The meeting was called to order by Councilmember Swanson at 6:30 p.m. on behalf of Mayor Pro-tem Kolb.*

*Quorum Present.*

*ALSO PRESENT: Clark Ameson, City Manager; Pat Sweeney, City Attorney; Bryan Schafer, Community Development Director; Bob Therres, Public Services Manager; Joe Huss, Finance Director; Jean Keely, City Engineer; Chris Olson, Safety Service Manager/Police Chief; Roark Haver, Communications Technician; Jane Cross, City Clerk; and Recording Secretary Linda Dahlquist.*

**Present:** 6 - Councilmember Clark, Councilmember Kolb, Councilmember Bourke, Councilmember Herbst, Councilmember Hovland, and Councilmember Swanson

**Absent:** 1 - Mayor Ryan

2. [ORD 12-2243](#)

**PROPOSED MESSAGE THERAPY ORDINANCE**

**Sponsors:** Cross and Safety Services Manager / Police Chief Olson

**Attachments:** [Blaine Massage Therapy Ordinance Draft 3-12-12](#)  
[Blaine Massage Therapy Ordinance Draft 3-12-12](#)  
[Proposed Fees Massage Therapy](#)  
[Proposed Fees Massage Therapy](#)

*Safety Services Manager/Police Chief Olson stated the City's massage ordinance is out of date and definitions have changed and does not appropriately recognize the professional massage therapist and industry standards. He stated massage therapists have been exempt from licensing in the City of Blaine since 1989. He stated that numerous massage therapy enterprises have opened in the City over the past couple of years. He stated in order for the City to be aware of the enterprises and individuals that are practicing massage therapy in Blaine, staff is recommending the City conduct background checks and issue licenses to massage therapy enterprises and individual massage therapists.*

*Safety Services Manager/Police Chief Olson stated the license fees would be set at a level to cover the administrative costs for supplying applications and renewal forms, reviewing of documents by staff, preparing agenda items for Council approval,*

preparation and issuance of a photo I.D. and the license. He stated the background investigation fees would cover the Police Department's time for completing the background checks and making a written recommendation as to the issuance or non-issuance for the City Council.

Safety Services Manager/Police Chief Olson stated there are exemptions in the proposed ordinance for therapists who are duly licensed to practice medicine, surgery, chiropractic, physical therapy, podiatry, beauty culturists and barbers, places licensed or operating a hospital, nursing home, hospice, sanitarium or group home established for hospitalization or care of human beings; and students who are performing massage services in a clinical component of their program.

Safety Services Manager/Police Chief Olson stated the City will hold pre-licensing meetings with businesses, therapists and City staff where the new ordinance will be reviewed, applications will be distributed, and pro-rated applications and license fees will be processed.

Councilmember Herbst asked if there has been any trouble with the enterprises in the City. Chief Olson replied no issues have been reported.

Councilmember Hovland asked about employees that do not meet the schooling requirements. Will these employees be allowed to continue to work or would they be required to go to school. City Clerk Cross replied staff has not looked at this scenario. She stated the schools require 500 hours. She stated this scenario will be reviewed with the City Attorney.

Councilmember Bourke asked about other required licenses by the state and county. City Clerk Cross replied there are no licenses that are required. She stated the state does not regulate massage therapists at this time, but there is pending proposed legislation.

Councilmember Herbst gave a scenario of a person who got in trouble in the past and a background check discovers this information. He inquired how will this affect the person's ability to license. Chief Olson replied an allowance will be given if competent effort was made for rehabilitation. He stated the issue has to pertain to the massage therapy background.

Councilmember Kolb arrived at 6:45 p.m.

City Clerk Cross stated the first reading will be on March 1, second reading will be on March 15. She stated the proposed licensing start date will be July 1, 2012.

Councilmember Clark stated he is in favor of the ordinance; although he does not agree with a mandatory 500 hours training requirement. City Clerk Cross commented the 1989 ordinance required a minimum of 100 hours of training. City Clerk Cross also stated that nationwide the majority of laws now require the minimum of training is set at 500 hours.

#### **Discussed**

#### 1. [WS 12-09](#)

### **UNIVERSITY AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS DISCUSSION**

**Sponsors:** Therres

Public Services Manager Therres stated Anoka County is proposing improvements to University Avenue (CSAH 51) from 109th Avenue to 125th Avenue that is scheduled for construction in 2014. The preliminary improvement plans include four lanes,

*medians, trails and sound walls.*

*Councilmember Clark arrived at 6:52 p.m.*

*Andrew Witter, Jason Orcutt, and Matt Parent from Anoka County were in attendance to present the proposed University project. Mr. Witter stated the University Avenue project includes rebuilding University Avenue into a four lane divided roadway with left and right turn lanes, signalize intersections, noise walls, and trails on both sides of University. The County has scheduled a public meeting for the affected residents on February 15 in the City Hall Atrium.*

*Councilmember Herbst asked if any of Blaine's roads will be cut off from University Avenue. Mr. Orcutt replied none of Blaine's roads will be closed to University Avenue.*

*Mr. Orcutt stated realignment will be completed at 111th and the intersection will have full access with a signal. He stated the entrance to the Four Seasons will remain open. He commented trails will be on both sides of University Avenue. He stated full access with a signal will remain at 117th and the bridge will be replaced along with the culvert. He stated there will be a right in right out at 118th and 120th.*

*Councilmember Hovland asked what happens if the residents do not want a sound wall. Mr. Orcutt replied a sound wall will go in unless the majority of residents say no. He stated property renters will get one half vote and property owners will get one full vote per unit. Councilmember Kolb asked about the mobile home park and the renters. Mr. Orcutt replied the renters would get one half vote.*

*Councilmember Bourke asked about existing utilities. Mr. Orcutt replied the County will work with the City on locating the utilities and moving utilities if needed.*

*Councilmember Herbst asked how many notices were sent out. Mr. Orcutt replied 3,100 notices were mailed and some notices were hand delivered.*

*Councilmember Herbst asked about the response to the mailing. Mr. Orcutt replied he has received several calls, but none from Blaine residents. He stated he has received 15-20 calls from Coon Rapids residents have concerns about the proposed medians and the amount of construction.*

*Mr. Witter stated some of the homes south of 111th may need to be relocated due to the construction of the new road.*

*Councilmember Clark asked if the 111th and University intersection will be realigned with the school's access. Mr. Witter stated the signal will be shifted north remain in place and the intersection will be upgraded.*

*Councilmember Clark asked about the Four Seasons intersection. Mr. Orcutt stated the intersection at Four Seasons is full access without a signal. He stated when vehicles stop at 111th, there will be time for the vehicles to pull out at the Four Seasons intersection.*

*Councilmember Clark asked if the signals on University Avenue will be timed. Mr. Orcutt replied the lights on University Avenue will be interconnected through fiber optic technology.*

*Councilmember Kolb asked about the new trails. Mr. Orcutt replied the new trails will be eight feet wide, paved and tied into the other trails. Mr. Whitter replied the trails*

*will be tied into the school's trails.*

*Councilmember Hovland questioned if the cemetery will be affected. Mr. Orcutt replied the cemetery's traffic will need to be rerouted.*

*City Manager Arneson asked if the bridge can be constructed one side at a time or will University be closed. Mr. Orcutt replied University may be closed at times to complete the work on the bridge.*

*Councilmember Clark asked if the project's timing will be for one season. Mr. Orcutt replied the project will take one and a half seasons to completely finish.*

*Public Services Manager Therres asked about access to the Four Seasons, can a second access be created. Councilmember Kolb responded the neighbors do not want a second access to the Four Seasons. She stated the property was designed to have a second access. Councilmember Hovland commented a second access is stated in the Comprehensive Plan.*

*Councilmember Bourke asked if complete cross walks will be built. Mr. Orcutt replied crosswalks and school zones will be created. He stated the County will work with the school district.*

**Discussed**

**OTHER**

*Public Services Manager Therres stated on Lexington Avenue the proposal is for a 138 foot section of standard sound wall and no color concrete in the median. Discussion took place about the area and the Council's consensus was to move forward with standard noise walls and no colored concrete in the median.*

**ADJOURN**

*The Workshop adjourned at 7:35 p.m.*

**Adjourned**