



**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.*

Thursday, June 14, 2012

6:30 PM

Cloverleaf Farm Room A

Meeting Number 12-36

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ryan at 6:30 p.m.

Quorum Present.

ALSO PRESENT: Clark Arneson, City Manager; Pat Sweeney, City Attorney; Bob Therres, Public Services Manager; Bryan Schafer, Community Development Director; Joe Huss, Finance Director; Ward Brown, Fiscal Analyst; Chris Olson, Safety Service Manager/Police Chief; Roark Haver, Senior Engineering Technician; Jane Cross, City Clerk; and Recording Secretary Linda Dahlquist.

Present: 7 - Councilmember Clark, Councilmember Kolb, Councilmember Bourke, Councilmember Herbst, Mayor Ryan, Councilmember Hovland, and Councilmember Swanson

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP MEETING

2. [WS 12-31](#)

City Manager Arneson stated task force representatives from Mounds View and Northtown Mall are in the audience tonight. He stated approximately a year ago the City of Mounds View contacted the City of Blaine with the suggestion of changing the name of County Road 10. He stated the Mounds View businesses are in favor of the name Northtown Boulevard. Spring Lake Park Council will discuss this at their meeting next week.

Councilmember Bourke asked if anyone has talked to the owner of Perfect 10. He commented the owner just purchased the car lot across the street.

Councilmember Kolb stated this is a great idea and time to change the name of County Road 10 with the road construction. City Manager Arneson agreed this is a good time to change the name in conjunction with the road construction. He stated there will be local costs with signage associated with the name change.

Councilmember Hovland asked if Coon Rapids is ok with the name change. City Manager Arneson stated Coon Rapids was invited to the meetings, but will continue to use the name Coon Rapids Boulevard.

Councilmember Clark stated he is ok with a name change, but he will not sign-off on it until the business community has embraced the plan and a good communication plan is in place.

Helen Chambers, a task force member from Mounds View, stated the name will be Northtown Boulevard. She stated the road will continue to have the name Ramsey County Road 10. She stated businesses will not have to change their business stationary.

Councilmember Clark asked if any of the Blaine businesses have been involved. Ms. Chambers replied the Blaine businesses are open to changing the name.

Councilmember Swanson stated the businesses want a uniform name, but the Cities could not agree on a name.

Councilmember Clark stated he would like to have a public hearing on changing the road's name.

Councilmember Kolb commented Blaine does not have a lot of businesses on County Road 10.

Councilmember Kolb suggested presenting a resolution at the next Council meeting. Councilmember Clark suggested having a community business meeting during the day. City Manager Arneson stated a meeting with the Blaine businesses on County Road 10 will be arranged and the Council will be notified.

Discussed

1. [WS 12-30](#)

2013 BUDGET UPDATE

Sponsors: Huss

Finance Director Huss stated the 2011 budget had a few adjustments, but the unrestricted and uncommitted reserves have not changed. He stated the raw data from the County remains incomplete. The valuations are under review and there are no TIF valuations or fiscal disparities information currently available. He gave an overview of the 2013 budgeting process. The budget will be program-based, employ a zero based budget method, will have defined assumptions for the numbers and have a system to prioritize/rank the items.

He stated the budget will be departmental to identify programs/activities, the required resources and the costs. Director Huss gave an overview of the proposed 2013 budget calendar.

Mayor Ryan commented on an article in the newspaper said the homebuilders are complaining that home appraisals are too low.

Councilmember Clark commented the market valuations will not turn around until 2014.

Councilmember Bourke asked if staff has pursued data from the County. Finance Director Huss stated the County's data is in a state of flux.

Councilmember Bourke asked when the County's numbers will be ready. Finance Director Huss replied the final numbers are available at the end of October. He stated the City does receive reliable estimates from the County in July. Councilmember Bourke asked if the raw data can be used. Finance Director Huss replied the City has a learning curve with interpreting the County's raw data. He stated the County uses terms that are different than the appraisers. He commented the County has been more cooperative with sharing information than it has been in the past.

Councilmember Swanson stated the latest Sherriff's sales report was positive and asked if the report is reliable. Finance Director Huss replied he did not know. He stated there is a sizeable inventory of homes waiting to come on the market and the report shows 96% of homes in Blaine are occupied.

Councilmember Clark suggested changing the mission of the Special Board of Review to include a survey on property values to get their opinion on where property values are going. Discussion took place on the use of a survey.

Councilmember Clark stated the Council's direction to staff is to look at what it will take to reorganize the Board of Review to do a market projection, look at the process for appointing the Board of Review members and setting up terms, and report back at the Council Workshop in July.

Discussed

OTHER BUSINESS

Blaine Residents Raising Chickens

Councilmember Swanson stated residents would like to own and raise chickens within the City.

Councilmember Herbst commented residents would raise hens for fresh eggs.

City Manager Arneson stated Shoreview allows residents to have four

chickens. He stated staff will report to the Council in August on ordinances for chickens in neighboring cities.

Community Development Director Schafer stated chickens are allowed in FR designated areas.

Natural Resource Board

Councilmember Kolb stated the chairman of the Natural Resource Board contacted her about the Board's charge to write an environmental policy. She stated the Board is asking for a directive from the Council on whether the Board should or should not write a policy.

Councilmember Clark asked for a copy of the Natural Resource Board's charge.

Councilmember Kolb will arrange a meeting with the Natural Resource Board.

Tent at TPC

Councilmember Kolb stated a County Commissioner contacted her with his concern about separate tents for the City and County at the TPC.

Councilmember Swanson stated last year the County had their own agenda that interfered with Blaine's agenda. Discussion took place on the arrangement issues from last year.

Councilmember Clark commented that Hollis Cavner may charge for changing arrangements at this time.

Councilmember Bourke commented he would like Blaine to have its own tent this year.

City Manager Arneson stated he will contact the County about their plan.

Councilmember Clark stated staff needs to find out if the tent can be shared.

Fogerty

City Manager Arneson stated the fence and lights are being removed at Ball Field 1.

He stated the Free to Be Chamber event will be held next week.

He stated the public hearing for the bond sale is scheduled for July 19. He stated the ground lease needs to be amended.

The new ball field will cost \$300,000 and the Fogerty Board has agreed to pay

half. He stated Fogerty is adding 90 parking spaces, which staff values at \$1,000 per space or \$90,000 total. Discussion took place on Fogerty's financial responsibility. City Manager Arneson stated the Council's directive is for Fogerty to repay the full amount with \$90,000 credit for the additional parking spaces.

Councilmember Kolb requested a payoff ceiling be established. Finance Director Huss suggested Fogerty payoff the bond in 20 years after the first payment in year four.

Councilmember Clark suggested after year seven, interest start to accrue and to offer a discount for early repayment.

City Manager Arneson will write a letter of entry for Fogerty to use with the bank.

Road Work on 131st

Councilmember Herbst stated the pavement on 131st is not cut around the manhole covers. Public Services Manager Therres stated staff will go look at the road.

ADJOURN

The Workshop adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Adjourned