

UNAPPROVED

CITY OF BLAINE
ANOKA COUNTY, MINNESOTA
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
Thursday, December 8, 2016

6:45 P.M.
Cloverleaf Farm Room
10801 Town Square Drive

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ryan at 6:47 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Tom Ryan, Councilmembers Dave Clark, Russ Herbst, Jason King, and Dick Swanson.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Mike Bourke and Wes Hovland.

Quorum Present.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Clark Arneson; Planning and Community Development Director Bryan Schafer; Finance Director Joe Huss; Police Chief/Safety Services Manager Chris Olson; Communications Technician Roark Haver; Senior Engineering Technician Al Thorp; and City Clerk Catherine Sorensen.

3.1 North Suburban Hospital District.

Scott Lepak, legal counsel, provided the Council with an update on the North Suburban Hospital District. He reported the Hospital District has been in place for the past 50 years but is looking to dissolve as it is no longer necessary and that the City is being asked to consider dissolution. He explained assets from this District, in the form of cash and land, would be coming back to the five member cities.

Councilmember Herbst asked what direction Mr. Lepak was seeking from the Council. Mr. Lepak commented he was seeking direction on how to redistribute the funds to the City. Finance Director Huss reported the dollars were general purpose.

Councilmember Swanson questioned if each of the five cities were being approached at the same time. Mr. Lepak stated Allina was going to discuss the Mercy/Unity hospital plans with each city prior to the discussion of dissolution.

Councilmember King asked what the difference would be if the reimbursement were made in dollars paid versus based on population. Mr. Lepak estimated the difference for Blaine was less than 1%. He indicated a total of \$1.2 million had to be distributed to the five member cities, plus proceeds from land sales.

Mayor Ryan inquired how the Hospital District was collecting from Blaine residents. Mr. Lepak commented the Hospital District was collecting taxes as a portion of "Other" on Blaine resident's tax statements. He explained these taxes stopped in 2016 when a no levy was passed.

Councilmember Clark questioned when the \$1.2 million would be disbursed. Mr. Lepak said he believed this would occur after the land was sold which should occur sometime in 2017 or 2018.

Mr. Lepak reviewed a draft resolution with the Council and requested comments. He proposed all funds be distributed back to the City of Blaine by the County on a proportional per capita population of persons residing in the City.

Councilmember Clark suggested this language be changed to taxable market value. He clarified that Blaine was not asking the Hospital District to dissolve but rather that if the Hospital District were to dissolve, that funds be redistributed to the member cities. Mr. Lepak explained the Hospital District was asking to cease conducting business.

Councilmember Clark recommended the resolution state the City was accepting the recommendation or request of the Hospital Board to dissolve the North Suburban Hospital District.

Councilmember King supported this recommendation.

City Manager Arneson reported staff would provide the City Council with a revised resolution for consideration at the December 15, 2016, meeting.

3.2 Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission/MAC Lease.

Eric Johnson, Director of Risk Management for MAC, presented the Council with a proposed lease between MAC and MASC (NSC). It was noted the golf course had a revenue based term within the lease.

Councilmember King discussed Exhibit F and the alignment of 105th Avenue.

Councilmember Clark asked if the City put funds towards the clubhouse. Public Services Manager Therres reported the City had put \$500,000 towards the clubhouse in the form of a grant in 2001 or 2002 and in return, the City has use of half of the time of the clubhouse space.

Councilmember Clark requested further information on the status of the \$500,000 grant.

3.3 2017 Council Liaison Annual Appointments and Boards/Commissions Applicant Interviews.

City Clerk Sorensen stated each year the City Council designates Council and staff liaisons to serve on various boards, commissions, and agencies and given new Councilmembers some discussion may be good prior to appointments in January.

Mayor Ryan requested comment from the Council on the liaison appointments. Councilmember Swanson stated he would like to keep his appointments but noted he would need assistance in January and February with the Cable Commission.

Mayor Ryan encouraged the Council to find a member to attend the Anoka-Hennepin Community Education Advisory Council. He reported this group only met once a month.

Councilmember Clark suggested the Council make the liaison and Commission appointment decisions once the new Councilmembers were in place.

Councilmember King questioned when the application deadline was for commission positions. City Clerk Sorensen reported applications would be taken through the end of the year. She inquired about potential dates for the applicant interviews and Council tentatively set the date for Tuesday, January 31, 2017.

OTHER BUSINESS

City Manager Arneson explained staff just learned of Infinite Campus' grand opening and New Year's Eve event December 31 with a 20-minute fireworks show at midnight. Staff indicated Infinite Campus was told they would need to have a special permit for the fireworks and were advised to hold the show from 10:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Councilmember Clark supported staff's recommendation and stated he did not want to see the police overburdened at midnight.

Mayor Ryan questioned if any Councilmembers would be attending the Infinite Campus event. No Councilmembers were able to attend the event.

Planning and Community Development Director Schafer described the proposed fireworks show and said he believed the show would be quite an event.

Councilmember Clark requested the three adjacent neighborhoods be notified regarding the fireworks display.

City Clerk Sorensen reminded Council of the reception on Thursday, January 5 at 6:30 p.m. where photos of the new Council would be taken. It was noted staff would be sending invitations to all Commission members.

Councilmember Swanson asked if a date for the Council retreat had been set. City Manager Arneson stated a date had not been set but he anticipated the retreat would be held in January or February.

City Manager Arneson reported staff would be recommending the Council change its Public Hearing time from 8:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. as part of the annual orders of business adoption at the first meeting in January in order to better accommodate the public. The Council said they supported this suggestion.

The Workshop was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Tom Ryan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Catherine Sorensen, CMC, City Clerk
Submitted by TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.