

UNAPPROVED

CITY OF BLAINE
ANOKA COUNTY, MINNESOTA
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
Thursday, May 17, 2018

6:30 p.m.
Cloverleaf Farm Room
10801 Town Square Drive

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ryan at 6:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Tom Ryan, Councilmembers Dave Clark (arrived at 6:53 p.m.), Andy Garvais, Wes Hovland, Julie Jeppson, and Dick Swanson.

ABSENT: Councilmember Jason King.

Quorum Present.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Clark Arneson; Planning and Community Development Director Bryan Schafer; Public Works Director Jon Haukaas; Police Chief/Safety Services Manager Brian Podany; Finance Director Joe Huss; Public Services Manager/Assistant City Manager Bob Therres; City Engineer Jean Keely; Water Resources Manager Rebecca Haug; City Attorney Patrick Sweeney; Communications Technician Roark Haver; Senior Engineering Technician Al Thorp; and City Clerk Catherine Sorensen.

3.2 St. Cloud State University Presentation on Stormwater Pond Sampling.

Water Resources Manager Rebecca Haug stated St. Cloud State University (SCSU) and the Coon Creek Watershed District (CCWD) partnered with the City of Blaine over the winter to conduct core sampling of one of the City's stormwater ponds. The pond that was selected is part of the Pleasure Creek stormwater system. The sampling is being completed as part of the City's stormwater program to help assess the amount and type of sediment that is being deposited in ponds to determine how the sediment will be handled when the pond needs maintenance. The CCWD and the City will be using the information gathered by SCSU to target educational needs for the area as well as work together on maintenance and water quality needs.

Kate Pound, Professor of Geology at SCSU, reviewed the results of the sampling that was completed by her students from a stormwater pond. She noted seven core samples were taken from the bottom of the pond in order to assist her students with better understanding how quickly sedimentation occurs. She discussed how stormwater ponds were used during periods of heavy rain. She described how land uses were changing, how storm ponds were created and the expected life cycle for stormwater ponds. She explained how the sediment samples were studied and commented on the location of the samples within the stormwater pond. She discussed the types of materials that were found in the core samples. She thanked the Council for allowing her students to complete this real work project and hoped that this venture could continue into the future.

Councilmember Hovland asked how much sediment had to be in place before the City would consider dredging. Water Resources Manager Rebecca Haug reported the City was participating in this study in order

to learn about how fast its stormwater ponds were filling with sediment. She reported this pond had no PAH and therefore did not have to be dredged. She commented on how other cities were managing stormwater pond dredging.

Councilmember Garvais stated he supported this partnership continuing between the City and SCSU.

Council consensus was to recommend the City continue their partnership with SCSU.

3.1 Bebeau Property Drainage Issues.

City Manager Arneson stated the Bebeau and Drieman property consists of approximately 20 acres and did not develop in 2007 when all of the surrounding property developed. He reported Willowbrook developed to the east and noted these homes were three to four feet higher than the Bebeau/Drieman land. He explained the concern was that drainage was flowing from the new homes onto the Bebeau property. He stated there was some concern if the infiltration basins within the Willowbrook development were done correctly. He indicated staff has visited with Mr. Bebeau on several different occasions to discuss the concerns he has with the water drainage issues. He reported the City needed to spend \$2,500 to study the area of concern to determine if it was a wetland. In addition, it would benefit the City to get into the backyards of the adjacent homes to make a determination of whether or not they were graded correctly.

Councilmember Hovland asked how a determination would be made if an area is a wetland versus a portion of land taking on extra water from improper drainage. Mr. Arneson explained this would be determined by the soil samples. Ms. Haug commented further on the characteristics of soils found within wetlands.

Further discussion ensued regarding how the City and adjacent homeowners would have to work together to correct the soil conditions, if a problem was found.

Councilmember Clark supported the wetland delineation being completed along with the soil corrections.

Councilmember Garvais agreed and asked if the Bebeaus would support the testing of their soil.

Mr. Bebeau discussed how his property has changed since the development to the east was constructed. He stated his biggest concern was that the City would not correct the problem.

Councilmember Clark asked if a wetland credit was an option. Mr. Arneson stated this may be an option.

Councilmember Garvais commented that the change in elevation did not create this wetland. He noted if this area was a wetland it was created 100 years ago.

Councilmember Jeppson recommended the neighbors on both sides of this project be notified of the City's course of action.

Council consensus was to direct staff to schedule wetland delineation and soil identification work then establish correction options.

3.3 Minnesota Department of Public Safety Grant Opportunity for a DWI Officer.

Police Chief/Safety Services Manager Podany stated the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS), Office of the Traffic Safety (OTS) is seeking grant applications from law enforcement agencies for a full time DWI officer. The DWI officer will work the peak nights and times when drinking and driving occurs. The City of Blaine qualifies to apply for the grant. The term of the grant is expected to be two years. The grant will pay for the officer, but the City would be responsible for the needed equipment. Adding this officer would be a way to increase our traffic enforcement in the evenings as this position is DWI specific and the officer's hours have to be between 5:00 pm and 5:00 am. By utilizing the grant, it would be more cost effective than adding another officer to the Traffic Unit. It was noted that at the end of the grant term, the City would be responsible for the officer. Staff is supportive of allocating the DWI officer to the Traffic Unit after the two-year term. Chief Podany said the application included a resolution of support and would be on this evening's Council agenda should consensus be reached to apply for the grant.

Councilmember Hovland stated he does not like being forced into keeping a position after a grant runs out. Chief Podany described how the existing officer could be brought back into the department by leaving a vacancy after the grant ran its course after two years.

Councilmember Garvais indicated he supported the City pursuing the grant.

Councilmember Jeppson supported the City pursuing this grant as well as it would provide the Blaine Police Department with a unique opportunity.

Councilmember Swanson also supported the request.

Council consensus was to recommend the Police Department pursue the DWI grant opportunity.

3.4 Update on the City of Blaine Emerald Ash Borer Management Program.

Action on this item was postponed to the Thursday, July 12th workshop meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

The Workshop was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Tom Ryan, Mayor

ATTEST:

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