

UNAPPROVED

**CITY OF BLAINE
ANOKA COUNTY, MINNESOTA
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
Thursday, September 15, 2016**

6:30 P.M.
Council Chambers
10801 Town Square Drive

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Tom Ryan; Councilmembers Mike Bourke, Russ Herbst, Wes Hovland, Dick Swanson and Jason King.

ABSENT: Councilmember Dave Clark.

Quorum Present.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Clark Arneson; City Attorney Patrick Sweeney; Planning and Community Development Director Bryan Schafer; Public Services Manager Bob Therres; Finance Director Joe Huss; Safety Services Manager/Police Chief Chris Olson; Communications Technician Roark Haver; Senior Engineering Technician Jason Sundeen; City Clerk Catherine Sorensen; and Recording Secretary Linda Dahlquist.

NEW BUSINESS

3.1 16-53, Spring Lake Park Schools Land Use Discussion – Blaine Site Update.

City Manager Arneson stated the School District is currently negotiating with Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) for the lease of the NSC property and is not ready to present to Council. He said this item will be postponed to a future workshop.

3.2 16-56, 128th Avenue/Dunkirk Street Plat Design Discussion.

Planning and Community Development Director Schafer stated the five-acre property was included with the Harper's neighborhood plats. He stated the property fell out of the development which left an unfinished loop of street, sidewalk and water utilities. He stated the property has a potential buyer with a plat design with a cul-de-sac from the south and four large lots. He noted the City and neighborhood expected the road to connect. He stated staff suggests at a minimum the east side needs to have a turnaround, water needs to extend, the right-of-way platted to keep structures out, and sidewalk extended through the right-of-way. He noted the proposed plan is not preferred and that the through street is the City's preferred plan.

Councilmember Hovland asked why the developer does not want to connect the road. Planning and Community Development Director Schafer replied he believed it is because of cost and traffic. He noted that

the smaller lots could be sold in the future to pay for the road. He stated staff will inform the developer the through street is the preferred plan by Council.

3.3 16-57, Proposed Capital Fund Budget

Finance Director Huss stated the current 2017 Capital requests include replacement equipment and new programs. He stated the Computers and Technology budget includes expansion of VMW virtual server environment; admin workroom copier replacement and City Hall door access system upgrade. He stated the Safety Services Department budget includes two marked squads for the traffic division, body camera system (with Taser replacement), eight Police vehicle replacements, three fire inspection vehicle replacements; 800 MHz radio replacement program, squad video system replacement, and patrol area chair replacement.

Councilmember Bourke asked about the eight police vehicle replacements is standard annually. Safety Services Manager/Police Chief Olson replied yes and the older vehicles are used for crime prevention and park patrol. Finance Director Huss replied some of the vehicles go to auction.

Councilmember Swanson commented cities are having issues with storage for body camera videos. Safety Services Manager/Police Chief Olson replied the Taser system uses Cloud-type offsite storage.

Councilmember Hovland stated the 800 MHz system has been around a long time. He asked about the radio upgrades and if the radios will all be replaced. Safety Services Manager/Police Chief Olson replied the department is in the third year of a six-year replacement cycle. He stated the current radios are obsolete and will not be supported past 2018 and there is no way to repair the old radios. He stated working old radio equipment is rotated through the Fire Department. He noted the equipment is obsolete and when an old radio breaks, there are no parts to repair the radio.

Councilmember Bourke asked if the equipment can be purchased through forfeiture funds. He requested an update on the dollar amount in the forfeiture funds. Finance Director Huss replied there are strict uses for forfeiture funds and it can only be used for enforcement.

Finance Director Huss stated SBM Fire Services budget includes Unit 13 replacement; staff vehicle replacement, security upgrade, Station 2 boiler replacement, general station maintenance; radio replacement program, RMS/computer equipment replacement, and bunker gear replacement program. He noted this budget does not include the new Quint truck.

Councilmember Herbst commented unrestricted funds can be used to purchase the Quint truck.

Mayor Ryan commented it will take a year to bid and build the Quint truck.

Councilmember Hovland commented he is concerned about the constant upgrading of equipment on squad and body cameras. Safety Services Manager/Police Chief Olson replied the department manages technology with the use of support and maintenance agreements.

Councilmember Bourke commented he is in favor of using Cloud storage for squad and body camera video. Finance Director Huss noted that once the City commits to a program, there will be annual costs for operating and replacement costs.

Finance Director Huss stated the Public Services Department budget includes security gate and fence, JD compact utility tractor replacement, City Hall/Police security system, single axle plow/hook truck replacement, two skid loaders, wheel loader, crack sealer, aerial lift truck, two mower replacements, recreational 15 passenger van replacement, and Senior Center copier replacement.

Councilmember Bourke commented he is in favor of contracting mowing services.

Finance Director Huss stated the Community Development budget includes three building inspectors' vehicle replacements. He gave an overview of the five-year plan/outlook. He noted the two traffic vehicles were not included in the five-year plan/outlook. He gave an overview of the Funding Sources from pre-2005 to 2017. He noted the General Fund budget is looking good for 2017. He gave an overview of the next steps.

Councilmember Herbst asked for an update on police officer arbitration. City Manager Arneson replied the City should know arbitration outcome around November 1.

Mayor Ryan asked if the charities are scheduled to present to Council. Finance Director Huss replied the non-profit organizations will be at the October 13 workshop.

Mayor Ryan commented Good Shepard is closing their doors and are requesting \$7,500 annually for the food shelf. Finance Director Huss replied the Council will want to budget for the funds to go to another food shelf.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Swanson stated the Tourism Board has created a new contract position to promote sports marketing within the seven cities. He noted the Board has the funds to pay for the position due to higher hotel occupancy rates.

Mayor Ryan stated the senior apartment buildings transition to Lang-Nelson has been successful.

Councilmember King requested a status on the traffic study on Rice Creek Parkway. City Manager Arneson replied the traffic counts has been completed and will be forwarded to the Council.

Councilmember Bourke said he received a request for a flashing stop sign on 111th Avenue and Jefferson Street, noting the resident has volunteered to pay for it. City Manager Arneson said he will forward the request to Engineering for follow-up.

Councilmember King stated he continues to receive emails from residents regarding 129th Avenue and requested a workshop to review the ordinance.

City Manager Arneson stated there is a water issue on Marmon Street but it is not related to Walmart construction. He stated there is an elevation issue behind Home Depot that the Watershed District will work on next year.

Councilmember Bourke requested an update on the aerator issue at Amen Corner.

The Workshop adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Tom Ryan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Catherine Sorensen, City Clerk

Submitted by TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.