

MEDINA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2006

The City Council of Medina, Minnesota met in special session on February 25, 2006 at 9:11 a.m. in the Medina City Hall. Mayor Workman presided.

I. Call to Order

Members present: Brinkman, Weir, Workman, Cavanaugh, Smith

Members absent: None

Also present: City Administrator Chad Adams, Police Chief Ed Belland, Planner Rose Lorsung, and City Attorney Ron Batty.

II. Resignation of Deputy Clerk Laura Sulander

Adams provided the Council with a letter from Laura Sulander that effectively withdraws her resignation from employment. The letter from Sulander addresses a discussion with Mayor Workman and Adams pertaining to providing a 30-day notice in the future. Adams explained the history of the policy that has been decreased from a one-year notice, to the current 90-day notice for retirement health insurance reimbursement. In the case of Sulander, Adams explained that he and Workman discussed this with Sulander and were comfortable with the 30-day notice if it occurs after April 30th. Such a change would require Council approval, unless the policy is changed first. No action was taken on this item.

III. Introduction & Overview of Session

Adams provided an overview of the work session and facilitation, including the theme of this year's work session which is master planning and roles/responsibilities. 2005's theme was level of services desired/level of resources needed.

IV. Emergency Preparedness

Belland provided a presentation on emergency preparedness, particularly as it relates to the Mayor, Council and staff responsibilities in such an event.

- Discussion ensued.

V. Open Space Planning

Lorsung provided a presentation on open space planning, including the work done to date through the Park Commission and other agencies, and possible initiatives for the future.

- The Council discussed the formation of a committee/task force and recommended one more Planning Commission member be added, and discussed the possibility of reducing the citizen representation from three to two.

- The Council reached consensus on hiring a facilitator to conduct open house meetings in 2006 and ultimately prepare an Open Space Plan.
- Discussion was held on revising the maps to be defined as “conceptual” to avoid any negative perceptions.

An eight minute break occurred between 10:26 and 10:34 a.m.

VI. 2010-2030 Comprehensive Plan Process

Lorsung provided a presentation on the 2010-2030 Comprehensive Plan update process, including information available from the Met Council, major functions of the update, timelines that are required, and possible internal review schedule.

- The Council reached consensus that the timeline listed in the presentation was favorable, and discussed limiting Comprehensive Plan Amendments and other initiatives in order to meet the timeline.
- The Council directed staff to move forward with a community survey to be distributed this spring.

Lunch was held at 11:25 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.

VII. Municipal Eminent Domain Authority

Batty provided an overview of a bill that will be considered by the MN Legislature that will limit a municipality’s authority for eminent domain. Batty also stated the League of MN Cities has sponsored a bill. Discussion was held on the matter.

- Staff was directed to provide materials to the Council for discussion at the March 6th regular meeting. (Brinkman was absent for 10 minutes of the conversation from 11:40 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.)

VIII. Public Relations

Adams provided an overview of public relations/communication resources that are currently being utilized. Discussion was held on video-recording and broadcasting Council meetings through LMCC (Mediacom and Internet).

- Consensus was reached to wait on Council meetings until January 1, 2007, but to attempt to broadcast open house meetings on the Comprehensive Plan and Open Space Planning.
- Consensus was reached to hold Medina Preservation Day in September 2006 w/ more entertainment, and to consider changing the 2007 event to May.
- Consensus was reached to change the Council meeting on August 1 to accommodate participation in National Night Out.
- Consensus was reached to promote “good items” not being dropped off to this event, and to provide alternatives
- Consensus was reached to conduct a Citizens Leadership Academy in spring 2007

IX. Council Roles/Responsibilities & Intergovernmental Relations

Adams provided an overview of Council meeting procedures, roles/responsibilities, level of communication w/ staff and as liaisons, and council member compensation for the future.

- Consensus was reached to move the podium in the Council chambers next to the recording secretary/staff table, and to require speakers to address the podium/microphone.
- Staff was directed to provide more statistics/examples of area community Mayor/Council salaries in order to make changes in an ordinance and to be effective January 1, 2007.

X. Public Safety Department Report

Adams and Belland provided an overview of the 2005 accomplishments and 2006 goals.

- Discussion was held on facilitation of fire services, including progress made to date and sharing of services between the departments. Master planning of future fire facilities was encouraged.
- No changes were made to the 2006 goals.

XI. Public Services/Public Works

Adams provided an overview of the 2005 accomplishments and 2006 goals.

- No changes were made to the 2006 goals.

XII. Planning/Zoning Department Report

Adams and Lorsung provided an overview of the 2005 accomplishments and 2006 goals.

- No changes were made to the 2006 goals.

XIII. Administration/Finance

Adams provided an overview of the 2005 accomplishments and 2006 goals.

- No changes were made to the 2006 goals.

XIV. Other Discussion & Goal Setting

- TH 55 Corridor – Consensus was reached to begin intersection design for 116, 101 and 19 to secure possible future funding.
- Master Planning of Public Facilities – Staff was directed to come back to Council in next 30 days with options to proceed forward w/ conducting a master planning of future city facilities, including locations, needs, funding, etc.
- High-speed Internet Wireless – Consensus was reached to continue monitoring LMCC progress on a feasibility study for wireless internet in the area.
- Uptown Hamel Development – Discussion was held on the TIF district and its timing related to public improvements and potential development. More discussion will be needed in about 3-6 months on Uptown Hamel development progress and whether the City will need to become more proactive in marketing

the area. Special assessments continue to be an option if development/TIF increment do not support public infrastructure.

- Trail Easements – Consensus was reached to use park dedication funds to secure easements necessary for trail construction.
- Community Building – Consensus was reached to continue working with the Hamel Lions now that a transition has occurred with representation. The City will re-evaluate the relationship in three months before considering other alternatives, included private operational control through an agreement.

XV. Adjournment

Cavanuagh moved, seconded by Weir to adjourn at 2:07 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Bruce D. Workman, Mayor

Attest:

Chad M. Adams, City Administrator-Clerk