

MAYER CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES 6 OCTOBER 26, 2015

Call Work Session to order at 7:05 p.m. by Mayor Thomas

PRESENT: Mayor Thomas, Council Members Osborn, McNeilly, Boder and Stieve-McPadden
ABSENT:

STAFF: City Administrator Ruch-Hammond, Public Works Kuntz and Clerk Maetzold

ALSO PRESENT: Don Wachholz, Ivan Raconteur, Mike Dodge, Gary Hoese and Dale Mack.

1. **Discussion on Boulevard Trees:** Fieldstone Homeowners Association President Gary Hoese addressed the Council asking them to reconsider allowing boulevard trees to be replaced. The Council had removed the ability to replace dead trees in the boulevard of Fieldstone 1st & 2nd additions through a policy approved at an earlier meeting. Hoese had agreed with the original Policy he was presented with so he did not come to the Council meeting. Hoese briefed the Council with the background of the Fieldstone Development which allowed for boulevard trees in these two additions. He explained that by having boulevard trees in Fieldstone Subdivision, not all developments look the same within the City. It has been determined that Fieldstone property owners are responsible for the trees in the boulevard and would also assume replacement. The Council was asked to go back to the initial development agreement requiring one tree in the yard and one in the boulevard. The Council may consider changing the policy with future additions. There were some questions about placement and how wide the boulevard actually is. The matter will be brought back to the next Council meeting.
2. **Review of Personnel Policy:** Staff and the Personnel Committee have been reviewing the City's Personnel Policy. They have taken the League of Minnesota Cities Policy and tailored it to our City. One of the changes would be to convert vacation and sick time to Paid Time Off. Staff will contact other cities for their conversion schedules and bring the matter back to the next Council meeting.
3. **Performance Reviews:** Council Member Boder requested the City Council consider Performance Reviews of the Fire Chief, Officers and members. The Council reviewed two proposed evaluation forms from other cities. It was thought that these reviews would help with Goal Setting and help identify weaknesses such as low percentage of calls and trainings. The Council will move forward for implementation sometime next year.
4. **Further Discussion Public Works Building:** It was reported that the current WWTF property is sufficient for future expansion and there would be no need to expand into the compost property. The question was asked if there would ever be the possibility of a regional fire department with New Germany. Chief Maetzold stated that depending on the location of a joint facility, insurance ratings could be affected.

Public Works Kuntz presented a power point presentation of the current public works building, highlighting safety issues, location, lack of space and no room for growth. There is a need to locate a site. The compost site property is desirable because the City already owns it. Staff will check with the decommissioning plans to see if soil borings were done at the time the property was leveled.
5. **Fire Station Feasibility Study:** Fire Chief Rod Maetzold reported that he was not happy with the feasibility study done by Brunton Architects & Engineers. He spoke with them at the Minnesota

State Fire Chiefs Association conference this past week and was told that they will re-work the study with other options.

6. **Personnel Committee and Boards & Commissions:** Mayor Thomas asked that these items be moved to the next Work Session because of the time.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, a MOTION was made by Council Member Osborn and seconded by Council Member Stieve-McPadden to adjourn the work session at 9:00 p.m.

Gerald W. Thomas, Mayor

Attest: _____
Lois A. Maetzold, City Clerk