

Cloquet City Council Work Session

Wednesday, January 2, 2019

Present: W. Carlson, D. Koski, S. Lamb, K. Kolodge, S. Langley, L. Wilkinson, Mayor Maki

Absent: None

Staff: Reeves, Barclay, Hansen, Klassen, Peterson

Review of City Council Values Statement and City Council Handbook

Councilor Wilkinson suggested the Value Statement and Handbook be acknowledged at this first meeting as well as be revisited throughout the year. Information in the handbook will be updated.

Councilor Kolodge questioned whether or not we follow Roberts Rules? Mr. Reeves answered it is up to the Council to decide to follow or not. Council agreed to be flexible.

Acting Mayor

Administrator Reeves explained the role of acting Mayor. Councilor Kolodge agreed to be appointed as Acting Mayor for 2019.

Mr. Reeves reviewed the Boards/Commissions that require Council representation. He also explained some are voting seats and others are liaison. Councilors Lamb and Wilkinson agreed to serve on EDA, Councilor Koski agreed to be the Library Board liaison, Councilor Kolodge will be liaison on the Park's Commission, Councilor Carlson will serve the 3-year term on CAFD and Councilor Lamb will serve as alternate on CAFD. Appointments will officially be made at the January 15th meeting.

CAHA Agreement Update

Mr. Reeves provided history and current agreement status with CAHA. Mr. Reeves explained the previous Council directed staff to put together an agreement that would have the City taking over ownership and maintenance of the arena with CAHA handling the operations. There have been a number of maintenance items identified that need to be dealt with over the coming years. Conversation of what those maintenance needs and expense are. Conversation took place on long term funding, options for green energy, and the city's sales tax legislation being amended in order to use sales tax dollars.

Mr. Reeves discussed operational costs of the building and the revenue it takes in from Wilderness games, the school district, rink time fees, in addition to the hotel and restaurant revenues.

Mr. Reeves stated that CAHA can continue as it is now, but there are big maintenance issues that will require city assistance.

The city is currently working on a contract with the Wilderness and already has a 3 year contract with the school district. If Council approves a contract with CAHA, the budget will be amended to reflect the major capital improvements to the arena.

Mr. Reeves recommends a contract be put into place for the City to take over the arena and Council agrees. An agreement will be on the January 15th Council agenda for approval. Mr. Reeves clarified the agreement will not have an end date and will be reviewed annually. Either party can reopen for negotiation.

Other Discussion

The Library received a \$784,000 grant from the state for the library expansion. Review of the project and cost will take place by the library staff this week. This will be a Work Session agenda item on January 15th.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aaron Reeves
City Administrator