

## **Cloquet City Council Work Session**

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

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

**Absent:** None

**Staff:** Reeves, Klassen, Peterson, Hansen, Ferrell

### **Utility Extension – Washington Avenue Reconstruction Project**

Public Works Director Peterson previously discussed with Council incorporating underground infrastructure improvements with the county's Washington Avenue reconstruction project, giving the city a substantial savings if done at the same time. The extension of sewer line extends 700 feet west of 14<sup>th</sup> Street.

Previous discussion with Council was in regard to what the proper assessments to residents affected would be. There are 4 parcels that are currently unserved, 2 of which have aging septic systems. No action was taken by Council at that time.

Mr. Peterson explained there are two different assessment formulas, a reconstruction formula and an extension formula. The assessment formula proposed for this project is a hybrid formula because of its uniqueness.

One of the resident's septic system has recently failed. They can tie into the new line for a \$2,000 connection fee whereas the extension assessment would be \$12,000. The long term result of this tie-in connection isn't beneficial for either the resident or City. Staff met with the resident and proposed a compromise by using the reconstruction formula instead of extension formula making it approximately \$5,000.

Mr. Peterson asked Council to weigh in on if the hybrid formula is a reasonable approach. Council agreed with the proposed assessment amount.

### **Council Goals and Objectives**

Council members stated their individual goals and objectives. Many of the goals were consistent with council members. Common goals include:

- Restore trust with the community
- Improve partnerships with FDL, Carlton County and Cloquet Chamber
- Increased use of renewable energy
- Involvement in the Legislative process
- Community Center development
- Animal Shelter
- Support the library expansion
- Communicate Council vision to department heads
- Continued work on the 2014 housing study
- Continued learning by Council members
- Street infrastructure funding
- Local Sales Tax CIP
- Police Department operations study and continued follow up on status

City Administrator Reeves will provide Council a finalized list of the goals discussed tonight and how staff will address them at the May 21<sup>st</sup> Council meeting.

### **PD Operations Study**

City Administrator Reeves reviewed the 3 proposals received for the Police Department Operations Study. Proposals were received from The Novak Consulting Group, CPSM, and Matrix Consulting Group. Acting Police Chief Carey Ferrell stated he has reached out to other departments who have had studies done by these consulting companies to see if they were satisfied with the results and received positive feedback.

Mr. Reeves explained the study will be a thorough review of the police department including everything from the structure of the department to the department culture, review of practices, etc. Current and past issues will be relayed to the firm chosen to conduct the study. Priorities and benchmarks will be identified and an implementation plan will be provided. The chief will provide regular updates to Council.

Mr. Reeves stated the study is not in the budget but will be paid for by the General Fund.

Council agreed to accept the Novak Group's proposal to conduct the study and will approve it at the regular meeting.

### **Other Discussion**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aaron Reeves  
City Administrator