

## **Cloquet City Council Work Session**

Tuesday, December 17, 2019

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

**Absent:** None

**Staff:** J. Barclay, N. Klassen, C. Peterson, D. Randall

### **Pine Valley/Northwoods Arena Discussion**

Representatives from McKinstry were present to discuss the facility audit report done for the Northwoods and Pine Valley Ice Arenas. Areas audited were the refrigeration and floor system replacement and dehumidification improvements. The recommendation is a phased plan to fix the most critical component and leave the rest until funds are available at a later date.

Phase 1 recommendation is to convert the Pine Valley arena refrigerant system to an indirect system utilizing the existing compressor plant.

Phase 2 recommendation is to convert the Northwoods Arena to an indirect system and install a new shared compressor plant connected to each rink. This represents an overall 30+ year solution for the arenas.

Next discussed were dehumidification improvements. The current unit was not designed to provide ventilation 12 months a year making it undersized for the current operation of the building. Recommendations include refurbishment of the unit or adding an additional dehumidification unit to supplement the current operation of the building.

Conversation followed regarding the pros and cons of the recommendations, the volatility of R22, budgeting and the next steps of a detailed engineering study which would start to identify 70-80% of the scope of work. Caleb Peterson, Public Works Director stated there are unallocated funds budgeted through sales tax that would cover this. Council agreed to take the next steps with the flooring and dehumidification system.

### **PLA/Private ED Projects**

Holly Hansen, Community Development Director brought forward discussion from the EDA for Council to consider amending City Code 9.2.02, Project Labor Agreements, by removing private economic development projects from PLA. There is one private development project that is currently being affected by the PLA, Trails Edge 2.

Craig Olson, President of the Duluth Building and Trades was present and addressed the Council. Mr. Olson provided information including a list of cities who have PLAs, myths about PLAs, guarantees of no work stoppages, rates of pay and the potential loss for union employees if the Council amends the ordinance.

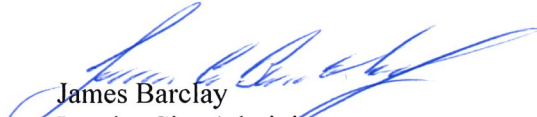
After discussion, Council majority agreed to retain City Code as it now reads, Councilor Kolodge is in favor of deleting the language pertaining to private developments.

**Police Officer Car Update**

Interim Chief Randall provided information to Council so they are aware of the change of what was approved for police vehicles purchase on October 15, 2019. Randall reviewed the October 15, 2019 Council approval. Since that time, Dodge cancelled the order due to high demand. The department has reached out to other agencies on vehicle preference and to gain feedback. The result of research and lack of availability of the Dodge Charger is to purchase the Dodge Durango SUV for the budget amount.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

  
James Barclay  
Interim City Administrator