

Cloquet City Council Work Session

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

- Present:** A. Bailey, D. Bjerkness, K. Kolodge, S. Langley, R. Maki
- Absent:** Mayor Hallback, J. Rock
- Staff:** J. Barclay, N. Klassen, C. Peterson, C. Ferrell
- Other:** J. Peterson, Pine Journal; Bob Nelson, HRA; Frank Yetka, City Attorney

2018 Point in Time Count

- Bob Nelson, HRA Section 8 Coordinator, gave an update on the Carlton County Housing & Redevelopment Authority programs and initiatives.
- Mr. Nelson explained the Point In Time Count that will take place in Carlton County January 22-26. This HUD mandate counts the number homeless in Carlton County which can lead to increased funding for homeless programs, greater awareness in Carlton County and could raise a stronger case for a homeless shelter.

Ten Commandments Monument

- Discussion of the 10 Commandments monument that was hit and tipped by a vehicle in December. The city has received a letter from the Freedom from Religion Foundation requesting the monument be moved off public property or no city money be expended on repairs as this would be advocating religion. Staff is looking for direction on whether to repair it onsite in the spring or discuss other options. The insurance company of the driver has contacted the City requesting the cost of repair.
- Mr. Yetka explained that the monument was donated to the City in the 1950's by the Eagles. The monument has been damaged previously in 2005 and 2012, at which times the same correspondence was received. Courts ruled that because the monument was a donation to the city and no city monies were spent on repairs, it can remain on public property. In this latest incident, simply repairing the monument and passing costs on to the responsible party isn't advocating for religion.
- Council agreed to repair the monument on site in the spring and pass the cost on to the driver's insurance company. However, if a church or private entity were to come forward with interest to take the monument, the city should engage in conversation.

SEH CIP Study

- Mr. Reeves recommends acceptance of the proposal by SEH to develop a comprehensive planning document creating a priority list of the major reconstruction projects identified in the 5 year CIP budget. SEH will identify and collect data while adding their review and work with staff on a priority list as well with Ms. Klassen on the budgeting aspect. This plan will also include the sales tax projects. It will take approximately 3-4 months to gather data and put a plan together at which time Mr. Reeves will present to Council. This will give a big picture of the infrastructure with a more thorough review.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Aaron Reeves
City Administrator