

## CLOQUET CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

**Present:** Bjerkness, Kolodge, Maki, Rock, Wilkinson, Mayor Hallback

**Absent:** Langley

**Staff:** Fritsinger, Barclay, Butcher, Cottingham, Klassen

**Others:** Scott Boedigheimer, Lori Stigers, Jamie Lund, Pine Journal

### **Residential Rental Housing Licensing**

- Mr. Cottingham gave a brief review on the history of the Rental Housing Licensing discussions.
- A Rental Housing Task Force was developed in 2013 and the rental housing registration process was developed in 2014 and adopted by the Council on March 1, 2015. The plan was to look at implementing a residential rental housing licensing policy in possibly 2017.
- Mr. Cottingham stated if the Council wishes move forward with a rental housing licensing process, it will require an additional staff position. As we start the 2017 budget season, it needs to be included. Mr. Cottingham estimates the licensing fees would come close to covering that position's salary/benefits.
- Licensing fees would include a \$25/annual fee and a \$100 inspection fee every 4 years. There is no current fee for registering rental properties.
- Ms. Wilkinson stated the greatest number of complaints to Council members are regarding rental properties.
- Mr. Kolodge explained how Duluth has a crime free/drug free ordinance that includes administrative fees and "3 strikes" before revoking a rental license.
- The rental housing position would not have to be a City employee as there are a number of contractors available. Mr. Bjerkness suggested to have an analysis done on which would be more beneficial.
- Council agrees to continue moving incrementally towards the licensing process as entering the 2017 budget season.

### **Scanlon Cloquet Consolidation Study Discussion**

- Mr. Fritsinger explained the intent of tonight's discussion is to see what has been done to this point and discuss how to move forward. Council had requested more detail from Ehler's after the last presentation. The biggest challenge has been Mark Ruff leaving Ehlers and those taking over the project understanding why and what has been done to this point.
- Not many significant changes with this most recent draft and no change in the context of the recommendation. Mr. Ruff was very adamant in his recommendation to consolidate and both Liz and Todd from Ehlers agree to proceed.
- Knife Falls is addressed as a 6 year phase-in, but also addresses there are no legal reasons it has to be over 6 years.
- Mr. Kolodge questioned the increase in Cloquet's water bill shown in one of the graphs. Mr. Fritsinger answered the increase shown has to do with inflation and future infrastructure improvements.
- The Council agreed to hold a joint special meeting and have Ehlers present the updated study.

### **Miscellaneous**

- Sherman Associates has gone back to revisit the parking issue. They will present their new plan at the May 24<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting. It will then go to Council on June 7<sup>th</sup> if approved by the commission.
- Discussion on miscellaneous items that need completion at Pinehurst Park.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Fritsinger  
City Administrator