

## **CLOQUET CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION**

Tuesday, July 7, 2015, 5:30 p.m.

### **Meeting Minutes**

Present: Bjerkness, Kolodge, Langley, Maki, Rock, Wilkinson, and Mayor Hallback

Absent: None

Staff: Fritsinger, Butcher, Klassen, C. Peterson, St. Arnold

Other: Ken Scarbrough, ISD #94 Superintendent, Jamie Lund, Pine Journal

### **Middle School Reuse Presentation**

Ken Scarbrough, Cloquet ISD #94 Superintendent, reviewed and updated on the future potential uses of the Middle School. Highlights are as follows:

- The committee (consisting of school board members, private citizens, the police chief, city and county personnel) is in the process of gathering information from staff for needs and is working on the land survey and any issues that may come up. Specifications will be done by the middle of next year and bids will go out for early spring. Estimated move into new building is fall of 2017.
- There is a \$500,000 budget for tear down, the promise made to the public is to turn the building into an asset or tear it down. A potential community center has received much discussion. There is also a need for lower income housing in the community. Some discussion of various non-profit organizations. The committee needs to interact with the community for input and is the process of scheduling a public meeting August 6<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will consist of a tour of the school and presentation of concepts, asking for input.
- Mr. Scarbrough noted the committee is meeting July 21<sup>st</sup> to refine the RFP indicating priorities for developers. Chief Stracek discussed management and the city may have codes to enforce proper management.
- Mr. Fritsinger noted 7-8 years ago a local committee discussed the development of a community center. The YMCA educated the committee on how they function and the message was they cannot bring any funds to the table, but can bring programs and management.
- More discussion on low income housing and the issue with off street parking. Demolition will be necessary to make the building useful. The committee would need to hear what a developer would do. The scope of the project may change depending on the outcome of the use. Developers will be the ones to determine if the visions can be met.

### **Storm Water Management Ordinance Amendments**

Caleb reviewed the Storm Water Management Report and the need to need to update the Storm Water Management Ordinance. After tonight's review and with feedback, the plan is to propose ordinance changes at the July 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Caleb then reviewed the draft version of Chapter 18 of City Code dealing with storm water issues. The draft is the attempt to meet the most current laws put into place in 2014. The goal

is to meet the requirements by doing the minimum. Caleb discussed the 3 areas the state addresses: Illicit discharge, construction sites, post construction.

Other issues discussed were the financial security and drafting language for fines or creating public nuisances. Caleb will continue to work with the attorney and bring back to the July 21<sup>st</sup> meeting for approval.

### **OTHER/FUTURE AGENDAS**

- Question about the gate installed on the north side of the river road to prevent people from getting to the power station. This is a public road and part of park system, access cannot be closed to the trail. It's on city public property.
- July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration - All positive feedback from PD; the City will get a percentage of the carnival money. There is a committee recap meeting on July 9th.

There was no other discussion on future agenda items.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m. The Council reconvened the meeting at 7:20 p.m. to discuss the 2016 preliminary budget and CIP.

### **2016 PRELIMINARY BUDGET AND CIP**

City Administrator Brian Fritsinger provided a brief overview of the re-prioritized Park Sales Tax Projects. The projects were re-prioritized based upon the consensus of the Council at the last meeting. He noted the Parks Commission has reviewed the projects and has no changes. They did have questions on Pine Valley, the skate park, the dog park, and CARC.

The Council raised a number of questions on the skate park and the \$100,000 price tag. They questioned if this was enough money; whether the project could be considered year by year similar to a conditional use permit; if more research is necessary to explore the attributes of other successful parks; and whether a parental board/association should be created to oversee the park.

Mr. Fritsinger then reviewed a summary spreadsheet of all sales tax projects and the related expenditures. The Council had a number of questions on parks versus infrastructure as Mr. Fritsinger reviewed the challenges of finding funding and bonding.

The Council discussed the current draft CIP for 2016-2019 and the changes being proposed for 2016 related to street overlays. The Council was concerned about the cost of the projects, impacts on the tax levy and condition of the streets. Mr. Fritsinger indicated these were legitimate and the reason why with all of other studies done now, capital investment needs to be carefully considered. If you look at public facilities and other wild card projects, it even becomes more challenging to look at the long term fiscal impact. Numerous questions from the Council on projects, findings, the availability of sales tax monies and other items. Staff hopes to come to the next meeting with more details on all of these items.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Brian Fritsinger  
City Administrator