

City Council/Manager

December 10, 2019 – 6:30 pm

Council Conference Room
Golden Valley City Hall
7800 Golden Valley Road

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The meeting began at 6:30 pm in the Council Conference Room.

Present: Mayor Harris and Council Members; Rosenquist, Schmidgall, Clausen and Fonnest.

Staff present: City Manager Cruikshank, Human Resources Director Santelices, Physical Development Director Nevinski, and Planning Manager Zimmerman.

1. Downtown Study Update

Planning Manager Zimmerman presented the staff report on the Downtown Study Update including the different phases of the study and their implementation timeline.

Staff from the City's contractor Hoisington Koegler Group Inc. (HKGi) provided a summary of their work so far, focusing on the potential for future downtown changes and the foundations for development of new projects in the downtown area: including the potential for development on both residential and commercial projects.

HKGi staff identified prospective walking and biking connections, identified in the online survey and the community open house. Some of the recurring takeaways included the complications of crossing and biking across HWY 5 and Winnetka Avenue.

The Council discussed opportunities for collaborating with Hennepin County to renovate and upgrade the downtown Library. The Council also discussed the four quadrants surrounding Winnetka Avenue and Golden Valley Road, in particular the North West quadrant as an option for redevelopment, reinvestment and placemaking in the downtown core.

2. Highway 55 BRT Discussion

Physical Development Director Nevinski presented the staff report including a timeline of studies completed by the Metropolitan Council, MNDOT and Scott County in relation to HWY 55's potential to develop as a Bus Rapid Transit Corridor. Nevinski elaborated on a series of steps identified by Hennepin County, the Metropolitan County and neighboring cities, as necessary to advance the development of BRT on HWY 55. Mainly, additional analysis of the corridor to develop a proof concept, which could provide regional funding to run pilot bus routes to evaluate ridership demand.

The Council discussed the possibility of enacting a resolution supporting BRT on HWY 55 as well as the financial implications that come with such participation of further analysis of the corridor.

3. Employee Handbook Updates Discussion

Human Resources Director Santelices presented her report. She explained changes reflected on the employee handbook in order to comply with all state and federal regulations. Some of the changes include expanding the City's Tobacco, Drug and Alcohol Policy to reflect new federal regulations - The Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse (required for City's CDL drivers). Updating the City's time tracking procedures for employees (transitioning from paper timesheets to electronic time keeping). Creating a new section of the handbook called "Employee Travel" (and remove Employee Travel from the Expenses Policy section) which describes in detail the circumstances under which employees may travel for business purposes and the reasonable use of expenses for travel.

The Council asked about recurrence of trips for staff, and out of state conferences approval. City staff defines a budget every year and allows for travel according to the approval of the supervisor, Human Resources Director, and City Manager.

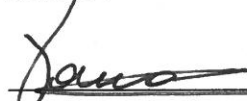
4. Council Review of Future Draft Agendas: City Council December 17, 2019 City Council January 7 and Council/Manager January 14, 2020

No changes were submitted for future drafts agendas.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.


Shepard M. Harris, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tomas Romano, Assistant to the City Manager's Office



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