

Proposed Minutes Special Council Meeting April 30, 2013

Mayor Slavik called a Special Meeting of the Plymouth City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Medicine Lake Room of City Hall, 3400 Plymouth Boulevard, on April 30, 2013.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Slavik, Councilmembers Wosje, Black, Stein, Willis, Johnson, and Bildsoe.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Ahrens, Park and Recreation Director Evans, Community Development Director Juetten, Administrative Services Director Callister, Fire Chief Kline, Police Chief Goldstein, Director of Parks and Recreation Evans, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation Northway, Finance Manager Bursheim, Accounting Supervisor Berg, and City Clerk Engdahl.

Preliminary Budget Discussion

A significant amount of discussion was held on the RFP process for the purchase the Begin farm property which is a 39.5 acre parcel in Northwest Plymouth. This process is being handled by a legal firm representing the Begin family. The discussion centered around the following points:

- The expectation and/or need for a 10th playfield.
- Public/private partnership with potential developer(s).
- Financing to purchase the property which would include open space bonds and other revenue sources.
- The need to update the 2012 appraisal on the property.
- The current LAR-2 guiding of the property.

Following this discussion, the Council scheduled a closed session of the Council on May 7 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the purchase of the Begin farm property.

Administrative Services Director Callister discussed the 2012 year end surplus of \$2.36 million and requested direction from the Council on where to direct those funds. The projects mentioned for those funds were the repair of West Medicine Lake retaining wall, Peony Lane and Vicksburg Lane projects, and 10th playfield. The majority of the Council also stated that they could support a 2% increase in the levy, which would include implementing the franchise fees.

He stated that MN/DOT has proposed improvements to I-494 in 2015 which is the same year that the City is redoing Vicksburg Lane. Therefore, MN/DOT has requested that the City delay the

Vicksburg Lane project for one year. The Council stated that they would proceed with the Vicksburg Lane project as scheduled.

A discussion was held on where crosswalks are placed and the enforcement of those crosswalks, especially on four lane roadways instead of two lane roadways that provide a safer crossing environment. It was noted that Hennepin County no longer marks crosswalks. The Council requested staff to provide a report on the criteria that's used on where they are placed as well as the pre and post improvement and cost benefit.

Administrative Services Director Callister provided a handout that compared Minnesota fire relief associations that have over \$3 million in assets. This information was requested at a previous study session where members of the Plymouth Fire Relief Association requested an increase in their pensions. The City is above market and salary; however, staff is concerned about the long term viability, especially with State funding. He stated that the Legislature is currently considering a bill that would impose a surcharge on individuals' private insurance, and that revenue would fund the State's allocation of funds for fire relief associations.

City Manager Ahrens informed the Council of a meeting to discuss the final report and summary of the North Hennepin County Fire Shared Services Study on May 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Crystal Community Center.

Police Chief Goldstein discussed a two proposed initiatives in the Police Department. The first initiative would be the cities of Plymouth and Maple Grove purchasing an armored police vehicle that would be used in natural disasters and other situations. Mayor Slavik suggested that staff also approach the City of Minnetonka to see if they would be interested in purchasing this vehicle. The cost of the vehicle is \$275,000 which would be divided between Plymouth and Maple Grove. Staff would pursue the lease to own option which would cost the City \$21,721.61 per year for seven years. The City's share would be financed internally and be included in the replacement plan.

The second initiative is establishing a physical fitness program for the Police Department. This program would assist in making the police officers more physically fit thereby reducing workers compensation claims and reducing sick time. The officers would participate, or work out, before or after work, or during their lunch break. The Council supported both of these police initiatives.

At 9:17 p.m., the Council took a five minute break.

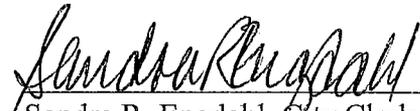
Parks and Recreation Director Evans discussed the need to repair the West Medicine Lake retaining wall. A consultant has provided a variety of options to repair or replace the wall. At this point, no funding source has been identified. The Council was in agreement that this wall needs to be repaired as this is a heavily used trail on the east side of the city.

She also briefly highlighted the Council on improvements that have been previously discussed for the Plymouth Ice Center as well as constructing the dry land training facility. She noted that there will be energy grant opportunities to assist in the funding of some of those improvements.

Staff included a proposed budget calendar that outlined dates to discuss the 2014/2015 budget and CIP. Council approved those dates, and they canceled the July 23 regular Council meeting.

Adjournment

Mayor Slavik adjourned the meeting at 10:15 p.m.



Sandra R. Engdahl, City Clerk