

**City of West St, Paul
Open Council Work Session Minutes
June 13, 2016**

1. Roll Call

Mayor Meisinger called the work session to order at 5:20 p.m.

Present: Mayor Meisinger and Councilmembers Armon, Iago, Bellows, Napier, Vitelli and Halverson.

Others: City Manager Matt Fulton, Assistant City Manager and HR Director Sherrie Le, Community Development Director Jim Hartshorn, Police Chief Manila Shaver, Fire Chief Mike Pott, Finance Director Joan Carlson, Public Works and Park Director Ross Beckwith, Civil Engineer Darin Rezac, City Attorney Korine Land, and Recording Secretary Jennifer Dull.

2. Review And Approve The OCWS Agenda

Council approved the agenda as written.

3. Review The Regular Meeting Consent Agenda

Mayor Meisinger removed item 10.A. Meeting Minutes of 5/23/16.
Clpn. Bellows requested addition of item 13.B. Town Center II Update.

4. Agenda Item(s)

4. A. Closed Session To Discuss Robert Street Property Easement Acquisitions

ON MOTION by Bellows, seconded by Vitelli, to close the meeting pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05, subd. 3(b) for attorney-client privilege. All Ayes: 7/0. The meeting was closed at 5:24 p.m.

ON MOTION by Napier, seconded by Vitelli, to reopen the meeting. All Ayes: 7/0. The meeting was reopened at 5:43 p.m.

4. B. Recycling Program / Discussion Of Recycling Coordinator JPA

City Manager Fulton reviewed the memo to the Council noting Mendota Heights was no longer interested and introduced Jenny Kedward from Dakota County Environmental Resources.

Ms. Kedward provided an overview of the community funding program where the County offers funds to cities to assist Environmental Resources with reaching their goals for waste reduction and increased recycling. She stated the partnership cities could enter into a joint powers agreement which would allow the shared Recycling Coordinator the opportunity to do more if working with other communities. Ms. Kedward reviewed procedures and approval requirements and 2017 recycling goals in which the position could participate and help implement and educate.

Clpn. Armon asked about fiscal impact. City Manager Fulton advised the City would receive a \$25,000 grant to be proportioned toward salary and programs. Clpn. Halverson asked about other costs if West

St. Paul took the lead. City Manager Fulton responded that overhead wouldn't be an issue since the position would share volunteer work space and the Finance Director's time is already accounted for with her regular duties.

Clpn. Bellows suggested that if approved to move forward, a clause should be added to the joint powers agreement for participation of initial costs but to also revisit costs to ensure all participating cities are sharing on a proportionate basis. The Council agreed with the suggestion.

The Council agreed to proceed and directed staff to continue in the development of and participation in a regional recycling program to start in 2017.

4. C. Recycling Program / Organics Pilot Program Review

Renee Burman, Sr. Environmental Specialist for Dakota County, reviewed her memo to the West St. Paul Mayor and Council regarding the County's Commercial Recycling Pilot Program Results. She noted a county business recycling program mandate and the pilot program targeted West St. Paul businesses due to density. Ms. Burman discussed barriers that were identified and results from the six month pilot program. She also presented next steps and planning for the future including an update to the County Solid Waste Master Plan.

The Mayor and Councilmembers inquired about trash haulers picking up organics, school programs, cost savings for businesses, expansion of trash enclosures, single-sort recycling, compostable trash bags, residential organics recycling, and how the City can help.

Ms. Burman stated they have added three trash haulers now picking up organics but not all haulers are doing so. School recycling programs are separate from the business pilot program. She stated that due to the tax on trash, businesses have seen some cost savings by recycling noting that organics was still on its learning curve so additional savings could be obtained. Ms. Burman advised that if the county grant program is approved, it could help businesses expand trash enclosures to include recycle, trash, and organics Ms. Burman responded that residential organics recycling should be picked up weekly much like trash but that compostable bags are recommended and it's best to involve more customers to see lower costs. She also suggested the City could start putting standards into City Code for sufficient trash enclosure space and asked cities to show some leniency with code issues for businesses to get through the learning curve of recycling.

Clpn. Napier noted the significant reduction in trash and suggested recognizing the businesses in the community that participated in the pilot program for their success with recycling. Mayor Meisinger requested staff invite Ms. Burman back for a presentation to the public.

4. D. Discussion Regarding I/I Amendments And Program

This item was moved to the regular agenda due to time constraints during the work session.

4. E. Art Park Discussion Update

Public Works and Park Director Beckwith reviewed the memo to the Council regarding an Art Park update. Clpn. Halverson was not in favor of glowing aggregate and preferred fiber optics. Director Beckwith advised that fiber did not make it in the budget due to cost. Clpn. Halverson confirmed with

staff the proposed budget included a contingency for the retaining wall. Council directed staff to proceed with a request for bids.

5. Adjourn

Finance Director Carlson provided 2015 financial statements to the Mayor and Council for review and requested all questions forwarded to her.

The Open Council Work Session was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Jennifer Dull

Jennifer Dull
Recording

Secretary