

City of West St. Paul
Open Council Work Session (OCWS)
November 14, 2016

1. Call to Order

Mayor David Meisinger called the work session to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Mayor David Meisinger, Councilmembers Ed Iago, Dave Napier, Dick Vitelli, John Bellows, Pat Armon and Jenny Halverson. Others present: City Manager Matt Fulton, Fire Chief Mike Pott, City Attorney Korine Land, Assistant City Manager Sherrie Le, Community Development Director Jim Hartshorn, Public Works Director Ross Beckwith and Finance Director Joan Carlson and City Clerk Chantal Doriott. Patty Kettles from Springsted, Inc. was also present

3. Review the Regular City Council Meeting Agenda

Council consensus to amend the agenda and approve the following:

- Add 12. G. Fire Board appointment discussion;
- Remove item 10.F. and move to 12.H. Wetland Conservation Act Administration; and
- Amend City Council minutes of October 24 under Council comments – Clpn. Napier didn't make Sperl comment but rather Mayor Meisinger did.

4. Agenda Item(s)

4.A. Closed Session to Discuss Robert Street Easement Acquisitions

Motion was made by Clpn. Napier and seconded by Clpn. Bellows to close the meeting pursuant to MN State Statute 13B.05 Subd. 3(b) for attorney-client privilege. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Most of the city staff also removed themselves from this part of the meeting.

Motion was made by Clpn. Napier and seconded by Clpn. Bellows to open the meeting at 5:30 p.m. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

4.B. Utility Rate Study

City Manager Matt Fulton gave an overview. The City contracted with Springsted, Inc. to analyze the sewer fund operations and provide recommendations for future rates. Patty Kettles from Springsted provided a presentation of the study which is available on the city website or by contacting Finance Director Carlson.

4.C. Enterprise Fund Budgets

Finance Director Joan Carlson gave an overview of the following 2017 proposed budget documents with summary and detail for:

- Storm Sewer
- Sanitary Sewer
- Golf Course
- Ice Arena
- Swimming Pool
- Sports Dome
- Enterprise Capital
- Proposed Utility Rates

The detailed information is available on the city website or by contacting Finance Director Carlson at 651-552-4100. This will be addressed again during the public hearing in December when the 2017 budget is presented for final approval and adoption. Comments:

- Finance Director Carlson suggested moving forward with the utility rate increase as proposed for one year and reviewing again later next year.
- Mayor Meisinger suggested we could have a policy to increase 3% each year as needed.
- It's significant to raise or lower anyone's bill, as a policy decision.

Clpn. Bellows would like us to think about regarding I/I on rentals and how they are treated differently as to when they need to do the I/I repairs (if needed). They have to do this now rather than a single family versus duplex and other large complexes. Should we review the time line? Manager Fulton explained rental properties get 24 months from when they get their rental license renewed. Homeowners have 12 months from the sale of the property. Clpn. Bellows would like to review this timeline. Manager Fulton is concerned to reopen this issue. Clpn. Vitelli likes the way this is structured, as a landlord. Clpn. Bellows would like to do the repair at the time of sale because there are typically funds available.

The Open Council Work Session adjourned at 6:30 p.m.



David Meisinger
Mayor
City of West St. Paul