

City of Excelsior  
Hennepin County, Minnesota

MINUTES  
EXCELSIOR CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

November 2, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Gaylord called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Beattie, Caron, Carlson, Miller, and Mayor Gaylord

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Luger, City Attorney Staunton, Finance Director Tumberg, Public Works Superintendent Wisdorf and City Clerk Orlofsky

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Carlson moved, Caron seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5/0.

3. REVIEW 2016 SPECIAL REVENUE, DEBT SERVICE, ENTERPRISE FUND AND CAPITAL PROJECT FUND BUDGETS AND 2016 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Tumberg explained that the Parking Lot Maintenance Fund budget is similar to previous years. Tumberg added that there were some minor changes to wages and benefits for staff.

Tumberg also spoke about the changes in the Dock Fund. Commercial dock lease revenues increased in the preliminary 2016 Dock Fund budget by two percent based on the commercial boat leases, which call for an annual increase of the greater of Consumer Price Index (CPI) or two percent. Because CPI has been low, it's not expected that it will be more than two percent.

Tumberg explained that staff recommends that Public dock revenues are increased for the 2016 budget due to the addition of a charter boat company utilizing the City's transient dock. Tumberg asked the Council to discuss increasing the transient dock fees because they have not been increased for a number of years. Tumberg added that the current excursion boat fee is \$3,680 annually.

Tumberg added that another item the City Council should discuss is the fee Al and Alma's pays for their excursion boats. Historically, they have paid for one excursion boat permit for all of their charter boats, however, a couple of residents have expressed concerns that their six boats frequent the Excelsior transient docks often to pick up passengers, which makes Excelsior the place where many vehicles are parked. Conversely, Paradise Charter Cruises has two boats that frequent the City's transient dock and they pay fees for each boat. Staff suggests that the City charge an excursion boat, parking surcharge and surface water quality fee for each of Al and Alma's boats that utilize the City's dock. This would either lower the number of their boats that utilize the dock or will compensate the City for their frequent use of the

3. REVIEW 2016 SPECIAL REVENUE, DEBT SERVICE, ENTERPRISE FUND AND CAPITAL PROJECT FUND BUDGETS AND 2016 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN – CONTINUED

dock and public parking for their passengers. For 2015, Al and Alma's paid a total of \$5,747.75 for their excursion boat fee, parking surcharge and surface water quality fee. If they paid for each of their boats, the total fee would have been \$33,328.56.

Miller stated that he feels we should hold the rates for the transient slips. He believes that the City has a competitive rate and he doesn't want to lose the business.

Caron asked how long it has been since the fee was raised.

Miller added the last time the City Council raised the rate on transient slips, the City lost half their transient slips on the lake and took a financial hit. That is when the City Council decided to flat line the fee.

The Council agreed to keep the excursion boat permit fee the same as 2015, but charge Al and Alma's for each of their boats in 2016.

Dock expenses for 2016 have increased due to the reallocation of staff time and an increase in the allocation for the City's dockmaster.

Mayor Gaylord expressed interest in increasing the monitoring of the commercial and public docks and checking boat registrations on the residential docks more frequently.

City Council asked staff to tighten up the dock permit policy.

Gaylord asked staff to consider ways to tighten up the security down at the docks. Wisdorf stated that he would add a sign that reads "Private Docks" to help make the boating traffic aware.

Tumberg also explained that the City has had a large interest in bouys this year. Currently the policy allows residents to have a slip and a bouy. Those on the bouy waiting list are non-residents.

Council advised staff to allow residents to utilize bouys first, and then open them up to the non-residents. And, to remind the non-resident that if a resident wants a bouy the following season that the non-resident could be removed.

Tumberg also explained that the Dock Fund's unrestricted net position as of December 31, 2014 was \$236,502. If the Council wishes to do so, the Council could discuss an additional transfer out of the Dock Fund to either the General Fund, Park Improvement Fund or Capital Improvement Fund. The Fund is projected to end 2015 with an additional \$40,000 increase to the unrestricted net position, so there are some funds available to transfer, if the Council chooses to do so.

Caron added that she would like to see some of these funds transferred to help with The Commons.

3. REVIEW 2016 SPECIAL REVENUE, DEBT SERVICE, ENTERPRISE FUND AND CAPITAL PROJECT FUND BUDGETS AND 2016 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN - CONTINUED  
Gaylord mentioned that the City may want to allocate some to the City Hall improvements as well.

Miller agreed with transferring funds to both if possible; but he also wants the City to hold onto enough money in this fund to lengthen the docks.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Beattie moved, Carlson seconded, to adjourn at 7:04 p.m. Motion carried 5/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Orlofsky  
City Clerk