

**CITY OF EXCELSIOR**  
**Hennepin County, Minnesota**

**MINUTES**

**City Council Work Session**  
**Monday, December 19, 2011**  
**Directly Following Executive Session**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Mayor Ruehl called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Council members present: Caron, Fulkerson, Miller (arrived at 6:30 p.m.), Olson, and Mayor Ruehl.

Also Present: City Manager Luger, Public Works Superintendent Wisdorf, Consulting Finance Director Day, City Attorney Staunton (arrived at 6:35 p.m.), and City Clerk Johnson.

**2. Agenda Approval**

Fulkerson moved, Caron seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4/0.

**3. 2012 Enterprise Fund Budgets**

Luger said that staff is looking for comments from the Council on the proposed budgets and recommendations on rate increases for the utilities and dock rates.

Wisdorf reported that the majority of the utility budgets are on track with the 2011 budget. He noted that the City experienced some unexpected expenditures with the sewer maintenance budget.

Luger said that the Council should discuss whether the City should save for future infrastructure improvements or bond. When the City bonded for the street improvement project, a 3% increase in utility rates was anticipated for repaying the bonds.

Day said that she just received the debt service schedule on the utilities for repayment of the bonds, so the debt service payments still needed to be incorporated into the enterprise fund budgets.

The Council discussed the Surface Water Quality Management Fund. Staff stated that the City instituted a 10% increase in rates in 2011 and the fund balance was still low. The Council agreed that this fund need to be built up. The Council agreed that the rates would probably need to be increased another 10% in 2012.

The Council stated that they needed more information before they would be able to comment on any rate increases for the utilities.

**3. 2012 Enterprise Fund Budgets – (Continued)**

Luger asked the Council for direction on the dock rates for 2012. The Council stated that it had adopted a policy for determining the dock rates each year, which took into account capital replacement costs and cost of living increases. The Council directed staff to apply the policy to calculate the dock rates and place them on a future agenda for the Council's consideration.

**4. Planning Commission Membership**

Staunton said that the Council discussed this item at the November 21, 2011 Council Work Session. Following the completion of the work on Chris Jensen's house at 243 Third Street, the Council had wanted to close the loop on the issue of Jensen's membership on the Planning Commission. The Council had requested that staff contact Chris Jensen and ask that he attend this Work Session to speak with the Council about his membership on the Planning Commission. He noted that Jensen is out of town and unable to attend the Work Session.

The Council discussed how to proceed. Some Councilmembers thought it was best to drop the subject now that the work had been completed and let Jensen continue serving his term on the Planning Commission. Other members of the Council were disturbed by Jensen's lack of response to the City's requests and thought it was important to still meet with Jensen to discuss his actions.

The consensus of the Council was to have a conversation with Jensen. The staff was directed to contact Jensen and request that he attend a future Work Session to discuss this item.

**5. Other**

None

**6. Adjournment**

Olson moved, Fulkerson seconded, to adjourn the Work Session meeting at 6:58 p.m. Motion carried 5/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheri Johnson  
City Clerk