

CITY OF EXCELSIOR
Hennepin County, Minnesota

MINUTES

City Council Work Session

Monday, April 15, 2013

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Mayor Gaylord called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Councilmembers present: Beattie, Fulkerson, Miller (arrived at 6:05 p.m.),
and Mayor Gaylord

Councilmembers absent: Caron

Park and Recreation
Commissioners present: Craig, Filippi, Honzel, Wolfe, and Chair Rude

Also Present: City Manager Luger, Public Works
Superintendent Wisdorf, and City Clerk Johnson

2. Agenda Approval

Fulkerson moved, Beattie seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried
3/0.

3. Joint Work Session with the Park and Recreation Commission

Mayor Gaylord administered the oath of office to new Park and Recreation
Commissioner Scott Craig.

The Council and Park and Recreation Commissioners discussed 2013 goals.

The Council, Commission, and staff discussed the installation of a sprinkler
system in The Commons. Wisdorf stated that he was in the process of
getting bids for the sprinkler system. Park and Recreation Commissioners
stated that the sprinkler system was their number one priority.

Improving the residential and commercial docks was the next item
discussed. Mayor Gaylord suggested that expanding the docks outward into
the lake might be possible and it would allow more residents to have docks.
With the improvements, the City could probably charge more for the docks.

Rude said that the Park and Recreation Commission has not discussed this.
She asked if this is something that the Council would like the Park and
Recreation Commission to discuss.

Wolfe said he thinks it is inappropriate to charge residents more than what it
costs to take care of the docks. He does not think that the residents who

3. Joint Work Session with the Park and Recreation Commission – (Continued)

have docks should have to help subsidize services that property taxes should be funding.

Miller said that the City has a policy in place for setting rates. The rates are supposed to cover the maintenance and replacement costs. The City has a large waiting list and it might be beneficial to discuss adding another pier.

Beattie said it would be good to know how many docks per resident each of the other communities have.

Luger said that the City had gathered information on costs, amenities, etc. from other communities and marinas a couple of years ago. The Council requested that staff update the data on costs, amenities, number of docks, etc. from other cities and marinas.

The Council and Commissioners discussed exploring the possibility of funding from Three Rivers Park District for The Commons. It was noted that in discussions with Three Rivers Park a couple of years ago, Three Rivers Park District was more interested in passive parks versus active parks. Three Rivers Park also had a policy that they would only take over a park if they took over complete control of the park. Also, the improvements to the park would have been around \$3 to \$4 million.

Rude said that Three Rivers Park just entered into an agreement for a park with the City of Shakopee. She offered to contact John Gunyou from Three Rivers Park to find out what type of agreement Three Rivers Park entered into with the City of Shakopee.

The next item of discussion was the development of an Event Policy. Luger said the question was raised as to how many events are too many for The Commons.

Rude said that the Commission would like to have some input with regard to what events are being held in the park.

Luger said that the City needs to have a policy to assist with the scheduling of the park and events.

The next item of discussion was to research enhancing Excelsior-Studer Park. Mayor Gaylord said that this is an item that he had brought up. He said that people like to come to Excelsior and if the City can come up with an attraction to have at Excelsior-Studer Park it may be worthwhile exploring.

3. Joint Work Session with the Park and Recreation Commission – (Continued)

Honzl said he would like to turn the whole area into garden plots. He lives close and he would prefer that the park did not generate a lot more use.

Rude asked if the Commission could get some specifics on the size and space of Excelsior-Studer Park. If additional parking is required, she did not think there would be much area left for other things.

Rude said that the beautification of The Commons, the waste area in the Port, expanding the sidewalk that goes through The Commons, and landscaping are things that the Commission has spent quite a bit of time on. Beattie said that these items are also priorities of the Council and he's in favor of the Commission working on these items.

Miller said that he would like the Commission to discuss the docks and the possibility of expanding, investigate funding through Three Rivers Park, and look at options that take the refuse out of the park.

Mayor Gaylord said that one item that wasn't mentioned was the decorative kiosks. Wolfe said that a brainstorming session is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 20th at Dunn Bros. Coffee to discuss the kiosks.

Wolfe said the City needs a master plan of what it would like to see long term for the parks. He said there are a lot of things that can be done to enhance to parks that cost little money. Luger said that the City has a Master Parks Plan that was just completed in 2008.

4. Adjournment

Fulkerson moved, Beattie seconded, to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried 4/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheri Johnson
City Clerk