

**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Ramsey City Council conducted a City Council Work Session on Tuesday, May 17, 2011, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Bob Ramsey
Councilmember Randy Backous
Councilmember David Elvig
Councilmember David Jeffrey
Councilmember Colin McGlone
Councilmember Jason Tossey
Councilmember Jeffrey Wise

Also Present: City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich
Deputy City Administrator Heidi A. Nelson
Finance Officer Diana Lund
Public Works Director Brian Olson

Fire Chief Dean Kapler
Police Chief James Way

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ramsey called the City Council Work Session to order at 7:52 p.m.

APPROVE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

COUNCIL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

1) Review Long Term Public Opinion Survey

Senior Planner Gladhill reviewed the staff report.

Discussion ensued regarding certain questions about home ownership and City maintenance on sidewalks/trails.

Senior Planner Gladhill explained there will be a press release once the questionnaire is approved.

Consensus was reached to move forward with the release of the survey after the Memorial Day holiday.

FUTURE TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

1) Review Future Work Session Topics/Calendar

Councilmember Backous requested a discussion take place regarding the ambassador, or official voice, of the Council in lobbying and meetings with other cities. He inquired how members are chosen to represent the HRA and Council, as he had some interest in lobbying.

City Administrator Ulrich explained the number one point of contact is the Mayor. He is the person that would conduct lobbying. If he is unavailable, the hierarchy is/are the person(s) with an interest in the topic is/are offered to participate. Then the persons who are available are asked next. When there is a need for testifying, all these factors are taken into consideration plus the consideration of who has experience in lobbying. He noted if anyone else has an interest to get involved, they should make their interest known.

Councilmember Backous questioned how Councilmembers are chosen to work with the Development Management Team.

Development Manager Lazan responded while he cannot spend billable time calling each member; he is open to other ways to make sure there is consistent communication. He added that some Councilmembers have been working on certain development issues with him since project origination, and it adds consistency to keep working with them. He emphasized there are no negotiations in such meetings; they are for discussion only. He offered to monitor his communication methods and ensure all members get information.

Consensus was reached that each Councilmember and the Mayor will informally notify other members of meetings they are or have been involved in.

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF INPUT

None

ADJOURNMENT

The Work Session of the City Council was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurtis G. Ulrich
City Administrator

ATTEST:

Jo Ann M. Thieling
City Clerk

Drafted by Chris Moksnes
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.