

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

The Ramsey City Council conducted a City Council Work Session on Tuesday, June 5, 2012, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Bob Ramsey  
Councilmember Colin McGlone  
Councilmember Sarah Strommen  
Councilmember Jason Tossey  
Councilmember Jeffrey Wise

Members Absent: Councilmember Randy Backous  
Councilmember David Elvig

Also Present: City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich  
City Engineer Tim Himmer  
Fire Chief Dean Kapler  
Parks Supervisor Mark Riverblood  
Senior Planner Tim Gladhill  
Management Analyst Patrick Brama  
Development Manager Darren Lazan

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ramsey called the City Council Work Session to order at 6:41 p.m.

**2. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

**2.01: Policy for Disposition of Surplus City Owned Land**

Management Analyst Brama reviewed the staff report.

Mayor Ramsey asked why the policy includes the term “disposition” rather than “sale.”

Management Analyst Brama explained that in some cases the City may give the land back instead of selling it.

Mayor Ramsey noted the policy is also addressing acquisition of land so it needs to meet all criteria: to sell, to give back, or to trade land.

Councilmember McGlone stated he supports the use of the term “disposition” because not all land will be sold and it can be returned to the property owner.

Councilmember Strommen noted Section 4 relates to how to generate the inventory and Section 5 relates to how the Council makes decisions on parcels in the inventory. She suggested it may be helpful in Section 5 to use the term “inventory” so it is clear there is a different and separate process. Councilmember Strommen also suggested reformatting to list the three criteria separately so it is clear there are three sets of considerations. She questioned Policy Statement Criteria (17), regarding the dedication of parks and open space that states preference to take cash instead of dedication and asked how it would that apply in this consideration (disposition).

Councilmember McGlone stated it would apply to a situation like Legacy Christian Academy where the City did not want to add land or parkland to the current inventory so instead it took land with no encumbrances so the Council could then decide what to do with that parcel.

Councilmember Strommen noted the City already has land in inventory and the Council is trying to decide whether to dispose of it. She asked how criteria 17 factors into that consideration.

Management Analyst Brama suggested removing criteria 17 from the Disposition Policy but leaving it in the Acquisition Policy.

Councilmember Wise stated he supports leaving criteria 17 in both policies because it helps explain the policy.

Mayor Ramsey stated he supports the revisions suggested made by Councilmember Strommen.

The consensus of the Council was to direct staff to bring forward an updated “Policy for the Disposition of Surplus City Owned Lands” to the next regular City Council meeting.

## **2.02: Consider City Land Acquisition Policy**

Management Analyst Brama reviewed the staff report.

Councilmember Strommen suggested combining Section I: Purpose, and Section II: Objective, so it was consistent with the Policy for Disposition.

The consensus of the Council was to direct staff to make amendments to the proposed City Land Acquisition Policy and schedule it for further consideration at future City Council Work Session.

## **3. FUTURE TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

### **3.01: Review Future Work Session Topics/Calendar**

City Administrator Ulrich reviewed topics scheduled for June Work Sessions including: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), Personnel Committee cases, and discussion of chain of command.

Councilmember McGlone asked about Discussion of the Leash Law and stated his support to remove reference to cat licenses and fees since the Police Department does not respond to calls to pick up cats.

City Administrator Ulrich explained that Police Chief Way will bring that topic directly to the City Council to address Code conflicts and definition of when an animal is considered to be under control.

Councilmember Tossey noted Old Town Hall Relocation is on the list of future Work Session topics but he is not interested in funding that project.

Mayor Ramsey stated he has heard from residents who are willing to contribute funds to move the old Town Hall but agreed it does not need to be discussed any time soon.

#### **4. MAYOR / COUNCIL / STAFF INPUT**

None

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mayor Ramsey, seconded by Councilmember Strommen, to adjourn the Work Session meeting.

The Work Session of the City Council was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kurtis G. Ulrich  
City Administrator

ATTEST:

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Jo Ann M. Thieling  
City Clerk

Drafted by Carla Wirth  
*TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*