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

The Ramsey City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 11, 2018, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor John LeTourneau
Councilmember Jill Johns
Councilmember Mark Kuzma
Councilmember Debra Musgrove
Councilmember Chris Riley
Councilmember Melody Shryock

Members Absent: None

Also Present: City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich
Finance Director Diana Lund
Fire Chief Matt Kohner
Police Chief Jeff Katers
Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Mark Riverblood
Public Works Superintendent Grant Riemer
Administrative Services Director Colleen Lasher
Community Development Director Timothy Gladhill
City Engineer Bruce Westby

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor LeTourneau called the regular meeting of the Ramsey City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor LeTourneau.

2. PRESENTATION

2.01: Rumriver Arts and Ramsey Park and Recreation's 2018 Report to the Community

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood provided background information noting that the collaboration began three years ago on a small scale and programming has been added each year.

Susan Yee, Rumriver Arts, provided background information on the organization that began in 2009 with afterschool programs and then expanded in 2011 to include additional programs and then began a non-profit in 2012. She stated that in 2017 the organization began to collaborate with the Ramsey Parks Department. She reviewed the mission of the organization to offer

programming to people of all ages and ethnicities. She stated that the organization began with 900 square feet and now has over 5,000 square feet between three studios.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that the programming in the City spans different locations to reach out to different areas of the community. He stated that the Art Fair continues to grow in success with very little hard cost to the community. He stated that by using the parks for these programming events, it also helps to bring residents to different parks and expand their knowledge of the parks system.

Ms. Yee stated that they have been impressed at how the Art Fair has almost tripled in size from year to year and is an opportunity for local artists to showcase their art. She reviewed the different focuses of her organization in continuing to feature local art exhibitions and demonstrations and providing affordable opportunities for families to participate in art activities.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that staff is open to input from the community on additional programming they would like to see or opportunities that staff may be missing.

3. CITIZEN INPUT

None.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Johns, seconded by Councilmember Shryock, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- 4.01: Receive Cash and Investments for Period Ending November 30, 2018
- 4.02: Approve Licenses
- 4.03: Adopt Resolution #18-253 Approving Cash Disbursements Made and Authorizing Payment of Accounts Payable Invoicing Received During the Period of November 21, 2018 through December 5, 2018
- 4.04: Adopt Resolution #18-266 Calling for a Special Election to Fill the Vacancy in the At-Large Council Seat and Direct Staff to Proceed with the Special Election Process
- 4.05: Adopt Resolution #18-267 Establishing Precinct and Polling Locations for 2019 Election Year
- 4.06: Adopt Resolution #18-252 Approving Architectural Plans for Parkside Village; Case of Centra Homes, LLC
- 4.07: Adopt Resolution #18-258 to Enter into a Residential Recycling Program Agreement with Anoka County to Receive SCORE Funds for 2019
- 4.08: Adopt Resolution #18-259 Authorizing Final Payment to Douglas-Kerr Underground, LLC for Improvement Project #17-10, Puma Street Utility Improvements
- 4.09: Adopt Resolution #18-260 Authorizing Partial Payment No. 3 to North Valley, Inc. for Improvement Project #17-02, Rivers Bend Street Reconstruction
- 4.10: Adopt Resolution #18-261 Authorizing Partial Payment No. 3 to North Valley, Inc. for Improvement Project #18-00, Stanhope Terrace Street Reconstruction

- 4.11: Adopt Resolution #18-262 Authorizing Partial Payment No. 2 to North Valley, Inc. for Improvement Project #18-03, 2018 Street Overlay Improvements
- 4.12: Report from the Public Works Committee Meeting dated November 20, 2018:
- 1) Authorize Architectural Design Services for Municipal Pumphouse #3 – *Ratify the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to direct staff to prepare an RFP for Architectural Design Services for Pumphouse #3*
 - 2) Consider Initial Direction on Development of Policy for Private Improvement within Public Rights of Way – *Ratify the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to make no changes to the existing policy and continue to approach requests on a case by case basis.*
 - 3) Staff Updates on Improvement Projects and Items of Interest – *Ratify the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to continue to use GPR on the spring road projects and to add a requirement of new development to include the use of GPR and provide that data to the City prior to turning the roadway over to the City.*

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor LeTourneau, Councilmembers Johns, Shryock, Kuzma, Musgrove, and Riley. Voting No: None.

5. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor LeTourneau, Councilmembers Riley, Kuzma, Johns, Musgrove, and Shryock. Voting No: None.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

6.01: Public Hearing to Consider 2019 Tax Levies and General Fund Budget – Adoption of Resolution #18-254 Adopting the 2018, Payable 2019 Municipal Tax Levy; Adoption of Resolution #18-255 Adopting the 2019 General Funds Budget; and Adoption of Resolution #18-256 Adopting the 2019 Economic Development Authority (EDA) Budget

Presentation

City Administrator Ulrich noted that tonight's presentation represents over six months of the Council and staff working together to comprehensively develop an approach that would meet both the needs of the community and the proposed budget.

Finance Director Lund reviewed the staff report and recommendation to adopt Resolution #18-254 adopting the 2018, payable 2019, municipal tax levies (General, EDA and Debt Service) in the amount of \$11,831,336; adopt Resolution #18-255 adopting the 2019 General Fund budget in the amount of \$12,838, 782; and adopt Resolution #18-256 adopting the 2019 EDA budget in the amount of \$109,163.

Mayor LeTourneau thanked Finance Director Lund for the thorough presentation.

Councilmember Riley referenced the difference between the amount approved as the preliminary budget and the decrease of \$75,000 that has been made and presented tonight and asked for additional input on that decrease.

Finance Director Lund noted that a current police officer resigned from his position and there were also changes to the coverage amount selected by employees.

Councilmember Riley asked for more details on the cost savings for the police officer position.

Finance Director Lund explained that the previous employee was a 12-year police officer to an officer that is starting at step one.

Public Hearing

Mayor LeTourneau called the public hearing to order at 7:29 p.m.

Citizen Input

Spencer Butler, 17405 Nowthen Boulevard, stated that he has a 14.9 percent increase in his property taxes this year. He stated that he can pay that amount but is unsure that is a sustainable rate of increase. He stated that the value of his home was increased by 17 percent, noting that his home is 100 years old, and acknowledged that is probably due to the amount of land he owns as well. He asked whether this rate of increase will increase and what that amount would then be in five years. He realized that new homes in the community have higher values and believed that the increase in value on his home was steep. He noted that he is not on a fixed income, but these increases might become too steep for those people on fixed incomes. He thanked the Council for taking his comments.

Mayor LeTourneau thanked Mr. Butler for this input. He stated that some property owners are experiencing an increase in their tax rate while others are seeing a decrease and asked staff for additional input.

Finance Director Lund explained that the lower priced homes are not staying on the market and therefore people are paying more than what the home is worth. She explained that the property assessor is using the sale prices of the homes to determine the value of the properties.

Mayor LeTourneau stated that a number of years ago during the recession, the tax amount was decreasing as the property values were decreasing. He explained that property values tend to ebb and flow with the market. He stated that he would not expect property values to continue to increase at the same rate each year but noted that it is market dependent.

Finance Director Lund stated that the school levy was added to the property tax levy in 2018 and continues on in 2019 as well as the loss of the market rate exclusion.

Motion by Councilmember Shryock, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to close the public hearing.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor LeTourneau, Councilmembers Shryock, Johns, Kuzma, Musgrove, and Riley. Voting No: None.

The public hearing was closed at 7:37 p.m.

Council Business

Councilmember Shryock asked and received confirmation that if residents do not believe the value of their property to be correct, they can speak with the County assessor and appeal that value at the Board of Appeals and Equalization in 2019. She also reviewed the distribution of property taxes, noting that of each dollar paid, 42 cents are received by the City of Ramsey while the County and other entities are receiving the remaining 58 cents per dollar.

Councilmember Riley stated that he is against the proposed budget. He stated that the City should look to compare the City's increase in taxes with the consumer price increase and future inflation rates. He stated that he is also concerned that the increases in this budget build in automatic increases in future years. He explained that the levy is being bought down by about two percent by using the revolving fund. He stated that if the budget is adopted as proposed there are partial year employees that will be added and will be fully funded employees in 2020. He stated that any new and existing positions also receive COLA and step increases. He stated that without even making a decision on 2020, there would already be an increase of four to five percent just because of the additions to this budget. He stated that within five years the City is looking at hard decisions, using the example of the public works facility and street reconstruction funding. He explained that the increases in the budget this year make it much harder to plan for those items in future years. He stated that he will not support the proposed budget.

Councilmember Shryock stated that the Council has had thorough discussions at the worksession meetings and there are tough decisions. She stated that there are staff that are being overworked and staff that are unable to respond to resident calls because of the current staffing level. She stated that at the last worksession she made the comment that if these positions are needed because staff is being stretched thin, she would want to ensure that the current staff is being treated correctly and not stretched too thin. She stated that staff has said that these are needed positions that will help alleviate the stress and extra hours that other staff members are putting in. She stated that at the last worksession she made the comment that she would support these positions but then there needs to be an understanding that additional positions may not be approved in 2020. She stated that she will support the budget as the City is in a position of catch-up and is short staffed, but the City needs to be mindful in the years to come as there are big decisions to be made in the future. She noted that road debt continues to add a large amount to the budget. She stated that in mid-January a road funding discussion will begin to determine the different options for road funding, as that element continues to have a huge impact on the budget.

Councilmember Johns stated that the Council has worked with staff on this budget for six to nine months and has reviewed a number of scenarios. She stated that puts you in the position of giving up a firefighter that then has an impact of having a response time of five minutes compared to two minutes, which makes a difference if your home is on fire. She stated that there is a lot of opportunity to expand the tax base and the City is putting itself in the position to prepare for the future. She agreed that there should be continued discussions on road funding and hoped that everyone remains openminded on the options available at that time. She stated that she will be supporting the budget.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that his biggest concern is safety. He noted that the community is continuing to grow, and the City needs to have appropriate staffing levels to accommodate the needs of the community. He stated that roads need to continue to be addressed because that was not a focus of past Council members. He stated that the growth of the City also adds more maintenance responsibility. He stated that he will be supporting the budget.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to Adopt Resolution #18-254 Adopting the 2018, Payable 2019, Municipal Tax Levy, to Adopt Resolution #18-255 Adopting the 2019 City of Ramsey General Fund Operating Budget, and to Adopt Resolution #18-256 Adopting the 2019 City of Ramsey Economic Development Authority Fund Budget.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor LeTourneau, Councilmembers Kuzma, Johns, and Shryock. Voting No: Councilmembers Musgrove and Riley.

Mayor LeTourneau thanked staff for the amazing amount of work and thought that goes into the budget each year. He also thanked the new member and elected member of the Council that provided input. He explained that a number of hours have been spent discussing the budget prior to tonight's meeting. He stated that he looks forward to continuing to bring forward consistent City services.

6.02: Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of Resolution #18-257 Adopting the City's 2019-2028 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Presentation

Finance Director Lund reviewed the staff report and recommendation to adopt the 2019-2028 Capital Improvement Plan, noting that this is a forecasting tool and not actual, committed projects and expenditures.

Public Hearing

Mayor LeTourneau called the public hearing to order at 7:56 p.m.

Citizen Input

There was none.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to close the public hearing.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor LeTourneau, Councilmembers Riley, Johns, Kuzma, Musgrove, and Shryock. Voting No: None.

The public hearing was closed at 7:56 p.m.

Council Business

Councilmember Johns stated that she loves the document, as it is such a good planning tool that allows the City to layout strategic items. She stated that the addition of prioritizing items from the previous year made the document much more user friendly. She acknowledged the amount of work from staff that is needed to create and keep this document updated.

Councilmember Riley stated that he is opposed to the water treatment facility found in the years 2027 and 2028. He noted that there is not a study that states the City will need that and the City is also currently looking at a surface water treatment facility. He noted that the City is also part of a study that states that because of conservation efforts that treatment facility may not be needed.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Musgrove, to Adopt Resolution #18-257 Adopting the 2018-2027 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), with the removal of the water treatment facility removed from 2027 and 2028.

Further discussion: Councilmember Shryock stated that the CIP is simply a planning document and by keeping those items as placeholders in the future it reminds the City of the things that may be needed in the future. She acknowledged that the City is taking part in studies and perhaps when the results of those studies are known the item could be removed, but until then would feel more comfortable keeping that item included on the CIP. Councilmember Kuzma stated that he likes to have options, and this is simply a planning document. He noted that there is a possibility that the City may not be able to dig more wells, and would then have a shortage and should therefore continue to have the item in the CIP until additional information is known.

Motion failed. Voting Yes: Councilmembers Riley, and Musgrove. Voting No: Mayor LeTourneau, Councilmembers Johns, Kuzma, and Shryock.

Motion by Councilmember Johns, seconded by Councilmember Shryock, to Adopt Resolution #18-257 Adopting the 2018-2027 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Further discussion: Mayor LeTourneau stated that it is important to have options and currently the City does not have the information it would need to make the decision on whether that facility would be needed in the future.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor LeTourneau, Councilmembers Johns, Shryock, and Kuzma. Voting No: Councilmembers Riley and Musgrove.

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS

7.01: Review Sketch Plan for Harvest Estates 2nd Addition; Case of Meadowbrook Development (Project #18-161)

Community Development Director Gladhill reviewed the staff report and stated that the purpose of the case is to review the Sketch Plan prepared by Landform in collaboration with Meadowbrook Development for the purpose of creating 15 new lots next to the Harvest Estates development at 15153 Nowthen Boulevard NW. The site is home to the old municipal center and was platted with the previous Harvest Estates project as Lot 25, Block 1 of Harvest Estates.

Councilmember Kuzma asked if a new traffic study has been done as this proposal would include additional homes.

Community Development Director Gladhill noted that while a traffic study was not done for this specific project, there were updated traffic figures from the Comprehensive Plan process. He stated that this would be a 15-home development and all roads would continue to operate at an acceptable rate.

Councilmember Musgrove stated that this is located in her ward and there was a comment that the County would like to have the development entrance and 151st equal and asked staff for input. She stated that the terrain between the existing homes and the area proposed to be filled has a steep slope and asked for details on water retention.

Community Development Director Gladhill confirmed that the County and City would like to see alignment between the entrance and 151st. He stated that would not happen at this point but would be part of a long-term vision for the Nowthen corridor. He noted that the realignment would require working with a property owner that would lose a portion of their property to make that possible. He stated that the area is fairly depressed and stated that the grade of the existing stormwater pond would be maintained and the stormwater for this portion of the site would remain onsite and would not impact the existing homes.

Mayor LeTourneau confirmed the consensus of the Council in support of the 65-foot lot widths and sketch plan as proposed.

Community Development Director Gladhill noted that fill will begin to be brought to the lot in the next week and advised that residents in that area have been notified. He stated that there will be a number of opportunities for residents to provide input on the process in the future as this case moves forward formally.

7.02: Consider Purchase Agreement on Lot 25, Block 1, Harvest Estates for Harvest Estates 2nd Addition (former Municipal Center); Case of Meadow Creek Builders (Portions of this case may be closed to the public)

Community Development Director Gladhill reviewed the staff report and recommendation from the EDA to execute the Purchase Agreement with Meadow Creek Builders, Inc., which provides flexibility on the final determination of the site layout.

Mayor LeTourneau noted that the Council would have the option to go into closed session if desired.

Councilmember Riley asked if there has been negotiation on the purchase price or whether this was the offer price.

Community Development Director Gladhill explained the negotiation process that occurred between the developer and the Economic Development Manager. He stated that there was also verification that this is a fair market price that falls within the City's deal range.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to approve the Purchase Agreement for Lot 25, Block 1, Harvest Estates.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor LeTourneau, Councilmembers Riley, Kuzma, Johns, Musgrove, and Shryock. Voting No: None.

7.03: Consider Adoption of Resolution #18-265 Approving Alternatives AKM Farms (Paxmar) for Revision to the 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update

Community Development Director Gladhill reviewed the staff report and requested direction from the City Council as to what alternatives should be included in the final version of the Comprehensive Plan Update. He began with the discussion on the eastern portion of the parcel.

Councilmember Johns stated that when the Council last talked about this, she stated that she could support this if there was a buffer to the east but was concerned with the density to the north because of the low density. She stated that she would prefer the L shape to go north and east rather than east and south.

Allen Roessler, Paxmar, stated that he was asked to bring back a draft plan for further review. He confirmed flipping the higher density to the south could be an option to pursue, as the south is adjacent to industrial properties. He stated that they attempted to meet the concerns of the residents to the east to provide a buffer and meet the low-density buffer requirement on that side. He stated that there have been some concerns with traffic and they are also concerned about traffic, but have to defer to the City and County as those elements are out of their control.

Councilmember Johns asked if there would be a possibility to flip the lower density from the south to the north.

Mr. Roessler stated that he thinks that would be acceptable if desired by the Council. He stated that the reason those lots were placed to the south were to avoid the business of Alpine but did not believe that locating those homes near Alpine would affect the home values much.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that he could support either option.

Councilmember Riley stated that the existing homes adjacent to the north actually have side yards that face Alpine and therefore does not see an impact if the higher density homes are placed to the north. He asked for details on the trail that was negotiated.

Community Development Director Gladhill stated that this parcel has been sold and is coming forward under straightforward zoning, whereas the previous request was for a PUD and therefore a trail was a negotiation tool of that project. He stated that the tool to require a trail with this project is not available. He noted that there is a trail along Bunker Lake Boulevard and Puma Street, but the segments of the Lake Itasca Greenway are not in place in this area. He confirmed that there is a trail along Alpine.

Councilmember Shryock asked if there would be options to work through park dedication.

Community Development Director Gladhill confirmed that would be a negotiation tool with Hagman Holdings when that site develops separate from this project.

Councilmember Shryock stated that she is comfortable with the project as proposed which is mindful of the residents to the east. She agreed that the larger lots would make more sense on the southern portion of the lot rather than the north. She stated that as projects in this area move forward in the southern border area, she would want to ensure that staff keeps its eye open for Itasca Greenway options.

Mayor LeTourneau asked whether the homes along the eastern boundary now align with similar lot sizes to the existing homes.

Community Development Director Gladhill stated that the proposed homes would be quarter acre lots whereas the existing homes are one acre lots on private well and septic. He explained that the dimensional standards of the existing zoning of the parcel are met through this request, including the density transitioning requirement.

Community Development Director Gladhill provided additional input on the plans from Paxmar for the western portion of the property.

Councilmember Riley asked about zoning to the east of this property.

Community Development Director Gladhill noted that property would be zoned for medium density residential and would match what is approved for the Capstone development.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that this development would back up to the golf course.

Community Development Director Gladhill stated that given the extensive amount of input that was received during the last public input process, there was a much higher rate of resident support for this project than the first project.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Shryock, to Adopt Resolution #18-265 Approving Paxmar Alternatives to be Included in the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor LeTourneau, Councilmembers Kuzma, Shryock, Johns, Musgrove, and Riley. Voting No: None.

7.04: Review Concept Plan for Hotel/Multifamily Development in The COR; Case of Allied Development

Community Development Director Gladhill reviewed the staff report and explained that the purpose of the case is to review a high-level concept of a potential hotel/multifamily development in The COR across from the Ramsey Municipal Center. The developer, Allied Development, is considering a project for 2019, but before they commit to a Purchase Agreement with the property owner, PSD, LLC, they seek general feedback from the City. He noted that currently there is no request for financial assistance, but such a request is a possibility as the project pro-forma is developed.

Tom Hanson, Allied Development, stated that there would be a vision for the street level to include a hotel lobby, conference rooms, pool and amenities. He stated that they would look to also have a taproom and outdoor patio on one end, and on the other end a co-op space, which could act as a business incubator, and possibly a maker space.

Councilmember Johns stated that in her opinion this would be exactly what the City is looking for.

Councilmember Musgrove stated that she attended the Planning Commission meeting where a more in-depth presentation was given and there was a lot of excitement. She stated that there had been a question about a dining or meeting area and the comment was made that there would most likely not be a similar space to the Fountains of Ramsey. She stated that it might be a nice addition to have a space where a dinner and conference could be held.

Mr. Hanson stated that they see the Fountains of Ramsey as being a feeder for the hotel and do not want to compete with that business. He stated that perhaps the conference space in the hotel could accommodate 30 to 50 people whereas the Fountains can accommodate more like 300 people.

Councilmember Kuzma asked if a parking component would include a parking ramp.

Mr. Hanson noted that phase one could easily be accommodated by surface parking and explained that phase two would have a need for additional parking.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that he believes that parking will be an issue in The COR, noting the current building under construction across from City Hall.

Councilmember Shryock stated that she does like this concept. She stated that parking would also be a comment of hers but wanted to ensure that there would not be a huge corner of parking.

She stated she would want the design to be mindful and have parking screened to keep the comfort feel of The COR. She stated that she likes the mix of different opportunities.

Mayor LeTourneau stated that he is excited that this could potentially be part of the community. He stated that the concept about what is occurring in the area and where this is planned to be built is naturally progressing towards this type of product. He asked why Ramsey and why now.

Mr. Hanson stated that good groundwork has been laid by the City in creating a great framework with infrastructure and a quality of environment in The COR. He stated that this is a nicely constructed area, near the NorthStar.

Councilmember Shryock stated that she coordinates events at her job and if Ramsey could coordinate between meeting space available at City Hall and the Fountains, with the availability of a hotel, Ramsey could compete with some new conference opportunities. She noted that there would also be an attractive element in providing a place to stay and easily take the NorthStar to an event in Minneapolis.

Community Development Director Gladhill noted that staff has received the desired input from the Council, noting that both the Planning Commission and EDA were also supportive of the project. He stated that ultimately the decision to move forward will be up to the developer.

7.05: Consider Adoption of Resolution #18-263 Selecting Highway 10 Alternatives for Additional Study and Design

Angie Bersaw, Bolton & Menk, played a short video on improvement of the Highway 10 corridor, which explained the progress that has been made thus far and the planned improvements, as well as current congestion and traffic accident information. She stated that the technical advisory committee spent a lot of time to develop a list of the goals and objectives, which then tie back to the City's strategic vision. She stated that they are halfway through the schedule of this project. She reviewed the concept evaluation process and the different tiers of that process. She provided a snapshot of the recommendations that arose from the 2014 study. She stated that the intent is to find lower cost, high benefit improvements that improve situations on Highway 10 without going to a full freeway option right off the bat. She stated that the previous study did not include which combination of options would work well together. She stated this provides clarity to the City and to business owners and also allows the City to begin to look for funding. She explained that the previous study did not anticipate traffic forecasting and only looked at current conditions, noting that this study took into account future traffic forecasting. She stated that the assumption is that the Elk River and Anoka projects on Highway 10 will be completed by 2025.

Ms. Bersaw reviewed the west end universe of concepts that were reviewed, including concepts that were dismissed and conflicting goals. She provided an example of a signalized RCUT intersection at either Jarvis or Alpine Drive and stated that they will continue to carry forward concepts for a right-in/right-out at Bowers Drive, as well as frontage road connections.

Councilmember Riley stated that he would be resistant to adding lights and would want to hear more about that in the future.

Councilmember Musgrove referenced Alpine and the RCUT intersection, stating that it does not appear to do anything for the south side of Highway 10. She stated that Jarvis Street has more connections and may be a better fit.

Ms. Bersaw stated that there are additional plans for the future that are a part of the study, noting that Elk River may have a future connection to Jarvis.

Councilmember Shryock stated that there has not been a lot of interaction with Elk River through the Highway 10 Coalition. She asked if there have been conversations with Elk River as part of the study. She stated that in the past the City has tried to work with Elk River. She noted that the other partners to the east have been very willing to work with the City as partners on the Highway 10 Coalition.

Ms. Bersaw stated that an Elk River staff member is part of the technical advisory committee. She noted that she and City Engineer Westby also met with Elk River staff to have continued discussions. She stated that this is split between two different MnDOT Districts, MnDOT Metro and MnDOT District 3.

Councilmember Shryock stated that she wants to ensure that the City continues the mission that have been expressed through the Coalition.

Ms. Bersaw continued with the east end universe of concepts noting that the ultimate goal would be signal removal at Sunfish and Ramsey Boulevards. She reviewed some of the concepts that have been dismissed and conflicting goals.

Councilmember Riley asked if the decision to not do traditional grade separations at both Sunfish and Ramsey Boulevards is driven by funding.

Ms. Bersaw confirmed there would be a higher cost to have traditional grade separations at both intersections. She noted that there is also a smaller footprint at Sunfish and a traditional grade separation would have an impact on more businesses in that location. She was also unsure if MnDOT would approve traditional grade separations for both intersections because of required spacing.

Ms. Bersaw continued with railroad underpass options noting that it would be ideal to have grade separations at both Sunfish and Ramsey, but noted that there would be a distinction between an underpass and overpass for the railroad crossings. She explained that in order to construct an underpass, a shoofly, which is a temporary rail, would need to be constructed and removed. She explained that for Sunfish Lake, a rail crossing shoofly would impact and require the acquisition of four properties and would also impact power lines and therefore they would not like to continue to review an underpass for that crossing. She stated that the option of an underpass is a possibility for the Ramsey rail crossing and they would like to continue to review that option. She summarized the list of concepts that they would like to carry forward in the study for both

Sunfish Lake Boulevard and Ramsey Boulevard. She reviewed the next steps in the process which would include drawing out concepts that could be shown to the public during the public input process to follow. She reviewed the different build scenarios and the impacts that would occur at the different intersections.

Community Development Director Gladhill acknowledged that this was a lot of information to digest.

Councilmember Riley stated that the eastern concepts seem to make sense but stated that the western concept does not feel intuitive and he would not feel comfortable moving forward on that.

Community Development Director Gladhill stated that perhaps what was missing is the grade separation at Jarvis/Alpine and whether the Council would feel comfortable including that option.

Councilmember Riley stated that he is not comfortable with the options being dismissed for that western section.

Community Development Director Gladhill stated that the project management team will focus more on the west end and could hold a workshop setting to provide additional clarity and discussion on the west end.

Mayor LeTourneau agreed that additional screening would be needed for the western end. He was unsure how the stoplights would work on that end and felt that he would need more information. He stated that he would also hope for another alternate option as he was unsure how stoplights would help.

Ms. Bersaw agreed that there was not enough time tonight to go through all the details, noting that the plans go together with the plans from MnDOT and Elk River. She confirmed that more information could be provided.

Councilmember Shryock agreed that the options should be left open for the western side, noting that all options should be left open on that end. She wanted to see more time spent putting information out to the public, as only about one third of the community receives the Elk River paper, which has provided a different perspective to those residents. She wanted to ensure that the whole community is receiving the same information and is able to provide input. She stated that the City has been working diligently on the aspects to the east with the Highway 10 Coalition and does not want the City to detract from the progress that has been made with those communities. She stated that she would be hesitant to put too much effort on the west end at this point.

Motion by Councilmember Shryock, seconded by Councilmember Riley, to Adopt Resolution #18-263 Approving Options to Carry Forward for the Highway 10 Plan, keeping all options open for the western portion of the Highway 10 Corridor.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor LeTourneau, Councilmembers Shryock, Riley, Johns, Kuzma, and Musgrove. Voting No: None.

7.06: Consider Adoption of Resolution #18-264 Approving West Riverdale Study as an Official Planning Document

Community Development Director Gladhill reviewed the staff report and recommendation to adopt the study as an official planning document.

Motion by Councilmember Shryock, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to Adopt Resolution #18-264 Approving West Riverdale Study as an Official Planning Document.

Further discussion: Councilmember Riley asked if there is any reason the City would not do this, or something the City is not considering. Community Development Director Gladhill stated that it will come down to cost and that would be included in the next steps. He stated that the study includes the preferred alternative but also includes two additional options. He did not see a downfall in moving forward in the next steps with this as a planning document.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor LeTourneau, Councilmembers Shryock, Johns, Kuzma, Musgrove, and Riley. Voting No: None.

7.07: Consider Adoption of Resolution #18-246 Approving Plans and Specifications and Authorizing Advertisement for Bids for Riverdale Drive Utility Improvements, Improvement Project #18-14

City Engineer Westby reviewed the staff report and recommendation to adopt Resolution #18-246 approving plans and specifications and authorizing advertisement for bids for Riverdale Drive Utility Improvements, Improvement Project #18-14.

Councilmember Kuzma asked if winter construction would add to the construction cost.

City Engineer Westby confirmed that would add to the cost. He stated that winter construction cost would be included in the bids as a lump sum item, stating that cost is typically 10 to 20 percent more. He stated that typically a winter utility project would be avoided. He confirmed that LazyDays RV would be covering the additional winter construction costs.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to Adopt Resolution #18-246 Approving Plans and Specifications and Authorizing Advertisement for Bids for Riverdale Drive Utility Improvements, Improvement Project #18-14.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor LeTourneau, Councilmembers Kuzma, Johns, Musgrove, Riley, and Shryock. Voting No: None.

7.08: Consider 2019 Legislative Platform

City Administrator Ulrich stated that a large portion of the discussion can be deferred to a future worksession. He invited Elwyn Tinklenberg to come forward and discuss the City's continued number one priority, which is transportation. He reviewed the additional priorities included in the platform as proposed and recommended that the Council defer action to a future worksession.

Elwyn Tinklenberg stated that it was great to hear the person proposing the hotel, whom stated that the reason that makes sense is because of the groundwork the City has done. He noted that the same can be said about transportation. He noted that a priority of the Chair of the Transportation Committee is to continue the NorthStar to St. Cloud. He recognized the importance of the work that Bolton & Menk is doing by completing the study, which will put Ramsey in a great position as improvements are being planned and will occur in both Anoka and Elk River. He believed that there would be significant progress around issues that Ramsey has been promoting for years, and that will be a moment bright with opportunity.

Mayor LeTourneau expressed appreciation for the continued input and support from Mr. Tinklenberg.

City Administrator Ulrich stated that Mr. Tinklenberg also represents the City on multiple other groups and committees.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Riley, to defer the 2019 Legislative Initiatives to a future worksession.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor LeTourneau, Councilmembers Kuzma, Riley, Johns, Musgrove, and Shryock. Voting No: None.

8. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF INPUT

City Administrator Ulrich announced upcoming meetings and events.

Mayor LeTourneau noted that this is the last calendar meeting for 2018 and is also the last meeting that Councilmember Johns will participate in. He thanked her for her service to the community and noted that it has been a pleasure serving with her. He also recognized incoming candidate elect Heinrich that will join the Council in January.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Johns, seconded by Councilmember Shryock, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurtis G. Ulrich
City Administrator

ATTEST:

Katie M. Schmidt
Administrative Assistant

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.