

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

The Ramsey City Council conducted a City Council Work Session on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Ryan Heineman
Councilmember Kirsten Buscher
Councilmember Michael Olson
Councilmember Eric Peters
Councilmember Chris Riley
Councilmember Dan Specht
Councilmember Shanna Stewart

Also Present: City Administrator Brian Hagen
Police Chief Brad Bluml
Parks and Assistant Public Works Director Mark Riverblood
Economic Development Manager Sean Sullivan
Recreation Coordinator Abby Proulx
Patrol Officer Robert Pullar

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Heineman called the City Council Work Session to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

2.01: Large Format Retailer NDA Discussion

City Administrator Hagen reviewed the Staff report in regard to a large retailer who has expressed interest in the COR who is seeking an NDA.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan asked the Council if they are comfortable entering into discussions and an NDA with this retailer, who is interested in developing in the COR.

Councilmember Riley asked if they would be considering one large user for this site rather than multiple smaller retailers.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan said they do not know for sure how this site will develop.

Councilmember Olson asked if there would be a financial difference for the City by moving forward with one large retailer rather than multiple smaller retailers.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan said that it varies based on the types of buildings and uses.

Mayor Heineman asked if they were to move forward with this NDA, if the Council would be able to have a say in what business comes in.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan said yes and explained that the City owns this land. He noted that the City and PSD would have to come to an agreement on the price of the land, and if they do not wish to sell it to this retailer, they can say no.

Mayor Heineman stated that he would be comfortable moving forward with this NDA, knowing that they have the controls to say yes or no to who the retailer is.

Councilmember Buscher agreed.

The consensus of the Council was to move forward with entering into an NDA with a large-format retailer.

2.02: Consider a Municipal Farmer's Market for 2026

Parks and Assistant Public Works Director Riverblood reviewed the Staff report concerning bringing back the municipal Farmer's Market at The Draw.

Recreation Coordinator Proulx shared that she conducted research on bringing back the Farmer's Market to the City. She shared their goals for the market and the impact it would have on the community. She noted that the Farmer's Market would have little to no overhead costs and would not have an impact on the General Fund. She added that the Ramsey Community Foundation has volunteered to Staff this event every week.

Councilmember Stewart asked about parking and if it would be an issue with other events being held at The Draw.

Recreation Coordinator Proulx said that they would have the Farmer's Market on a different day than concerts in The Draw so that parking would not be an issue. She noted these would be held on Tuesday evenings. She said she does not see parking being an issue; however, if it becomes one, they can reexamine. She added that they could even discuss parking with the businesses in the area to see if their lots could be used.

Councilmember Specht asked if they just redid all of the curbing in this area.

City Administrator Hagen said no.

Councilmember Buscher thanked Recreation Coordinator Proulx for all of her hard work and creativity that she has put into this. She said she is supportive of this.

The consensus of the Council was to direct Staff to move forward with plans for bringing back the Farmer's Market in the summer of 2026.

2.03: Council Meeting Active Threat Training

Police Chief Bluml and Patrol Officer Pullar conducted an active threat training with the Council.

2.04: 2026 Legislative Priorities

This item was moved to the next Work Session Meeting.

2.05: Consider Ramsey Christmas Market

This item was moved to the next Work Session Meeting.

3. TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

3.01: Review Future Topics / Calendar

Noted.

4. MAYOR / COUNCIL / STAFF INPUT

None.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The Work Session of the City Council was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian S. Hagen
City Administrator

ATTEST:

Katie M. Schmidt
City Clerk

Drafted by Ava Major
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.