

**WORKSESSION OF THE ANOKA CITY COUNCIL
ANOKA CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION ROOM
FEBRUARY 16, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rice called the Worksession to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Rice, Councilmembers; Anderson, Freeburg, Schmidt & Weaver.

Staff: City Manager Greg Lee, Finance Director Lori Yager, Planning Director Carolyn Braun, and Attorney Scott Baumgartner.

COUNCIL BUSINESS AND/OR DISCUSSION ITEMS

3.1 Discussion related to Personal Property (i.e. chairs, blankets, etc.) left on parade routes.

Planning Director Carolyn Braun presented information at the meeting regarding private property being stored on public property; specifically the placement of chairs on City sidewalks prior to the parades held in town.

Last year the City received numerous complaints regarding chairs being placed on the sidewalk days in advance of the parades.

Anoka Halloween conducted an informal survey about such practice.

The results of the survey indicated that the majority of the survey participants indicated that chairs should not be allowed to be placed on the sidewalks sooner than 4:00 a.m. on the day of the parade. 35% of the survey participants were Anoka residents. The Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce concurred with the results of the survey.

Braun informed the Council that staff has spoken with representatives from Anoka Halloween and the Parade Chairperson regarding the City renting two large bleachers along the parade route for the 2016 Parades. The City could rent seats at a cost of \$5-\$10 per seat. It's estimated that the cost of renting the bleachers (2) would be about \$2,000. The money collected from the seat rentals would be used to offset the cost of the bleachers. A volunteer would be needed on the parade day to verify that the people sitting in the bleachers have a valid seat ticket.

Braun and Attorney Baumgartner reviewed some proposed language to incorporate into the City Code, Chapter 22, Article XI; Parades, with the City Council. City Council directed staff to draft an ordinance proposing the new Code language.

3.2 Discussion; Riverplace Counseling Center.

Braun reviewed a staff report with the City Council regarding this agenda item.

Braun advised that the City had previously conducted a study of the South Ferry Street Corridor. That study identified a number of goals within the corridor:

- Improving the first impression of Anoka
- Increasing pedestrian usage
- Increasing use of the area as a recreational corridor with trails and access to the rivers
- Increasing recognition and use of Peninsula Point Park
- Increasing recognition as a historic resource corridor

Braun advised that to-date, the following tasks in the corridor have been completed:

- A new overlay zoning district and standards for the corridor have been established
- Additional parking has been added to Peninsula Point Park
- The City acquired and demolished Carpenter's Hall and improved the site for area parking
- The City acquired, upgraded and leased the historic Woodbury house, which is now being leased by The Mad Hatter Restaurant & Tea Room

Braun advised that based on City Council direction to staff, staff has been working with Riverplace Counseling Center on a plan to relocate their facility.

Braun reviewed the details of the relocation plan with the City Council. The plan is to relocate Riverplace Counseling Center to 6058 Hwy 10. The new facility would include an office building and five duplex residential units.

Braun provided the proposed financial information on the project:

- The City would acquire the existing Riverplace Counseling Center property on South Ferry Street for \$2,950,000.
- Cost of new project construction (per current construction plans) \$3,550,000.
- Riverplace Counseling Center/Dennis & Beverly Medved, contribute their duplex property at 205 Fremont St to City (valued at \$200,000).
- Riverplace Counseling Center/Dennis & Beverly Medved contribute \$400,000.
- Any costs over \$3,550,000 will be a project cost paid by the Medveds.

Geoff Martin of Kimley Horn presented a Powerpoint presentation illustrating the vision for the South Ferry Corridor.

The Council discussed the project and directed staff to proceed with preparation of the necessary legal documents for formal approval and acceptance of the project.

Meeting adjourned at: 7:00 p.m.

Prepared and submitted by: Amy T. Oehlers, City Clerk

Approval Attestation:

Amy T. Oehlers, City Clerk