

City Council Goal Setting Session Minutes - October 24, 2012 at 6:30 P.M

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Weaver at 6:30 p.m. Council members in attendance: Aldermen Avci, Beilke, McIvor, Poteraske, Schauer, Seifert, Marchese (Marchese arrived at 8:30). The following were also present: City Administrator Vana, City Treasurer Mike Coren, Clerk Ragona, Police Chief Brown, Deputy Police Chief Cooper, Director of Municipal Services Gombac, Assistant City Administrator Scott Coren

Police Department Yearly Review

Chief Brown provided an overview of his first year assessment with the department. He focused on management changes that have been implemented and future items that will be implemented. The council also discussed the offer made by the Darien Lions Club to raise funds for the purchase of a second K-9. The council concluded that if a second K-9 unit is implemented then the city should fund the purchase with its own revenue source and not take away from the Lions fundraising efforts for other good causes.

Budget Direction - Fiscal Year ending 4-30-14

Vana advised that the council prepared a number of goals for staff to prioritize this year. One goal was to cut 10% from each department in next year's budget. Staff asked the council to discuss this goal and provide additional clarification to the staff. The consensus of the Council was to delete this goal and follow the previous year's process of discussing any cuts during the regular budget meetings when all the financial information is discussed together.

Cass Avenue and 75th Street Development

The consensus was to solicit proposals for a real estate broker to market and sell the remainder of the property not used by Chase. Staff will prepare the RFP for a real estate broker.

Specific Business Recruitment

Alderman Avci asked the Council to discuss if the City should be more proactive in aggressively recruiting certain types of businesses. He said that if the council agrees to do that then they can discuss reserving some of the revenue generated, by the sale of the parcel to Chase, for that purpose. The consensus was to continue the current process of business recruitment which includes working primarily with larger property managers.

Capital Improvements Plan Guidelines

The council was asked to review the capital projects listed in the CIP Guidelines to determine if any projects should be added or deleted during the upcoming budget preparation for FYE 4-30-14. The staff suggested that the council send their comments to Vana within the next couple of weeks since tonight's meeting was running tight on time.

Emerald Ash Borer-Treatment Options

A brief overview was presented regarding options to deal with Emerald Ash Borer. This item was previously discussed by the Municipal Services Committee and the committee wanted feedback from the full council due to the cost of the options. The consensus was to choose an option that would not require cutting down all city owned Ash trees. The council asked this issue to be further discussed by the Municipal Services committee based on comments for tonight's meeting

The meeting adjourned at 9:50pm.

KATHLEEN MOESLE WEAVER, MAYOR

JOANNE E. RAGONA, CITY CLERK

