

**WORKSHOP
OAKDALE CITY COUNCIL
July 23, 2019
5 PM**

Attendance

The City Council held a workshop on Tuesday, July 23, 2019, at Oakdale City Hall, 1584 Hadley Avenue North, Oakdale, Minnesota.

Present: Mayor Paul Reinke

Council Members: Jake Ingebrigtsen
Susan Olson
Colleen Swedberg
Kevin Zabel

Absent: None

Also Present: Susan Barry, City Clerk
Bart Fischer, City Administrator
Linnea Graffunder-Bartels, Senior Community Development Specialist
Alyssa MacLeod, Communications Specialist
Chelsea Petersen, Administrative Services Director
Dallas Pierson, Planning Commission
Emily Shively, City Planner
Bob Streetar, Community Development Director
Julie Williams, Recreation Specialist

Ciara Schlichting, Toole Design

Bike and Pedestrian Planning Process

Community Development Director Streetar provided an overview of the proposed bike and pedestrian planning process, a component of the city's comprehensive plan. He commented on the importance of connecting the city's bike and pedestrian routes. Community Development Director Streetar reviewed the project timeline and that Toole Design would assist with plan preparation.

Council Member Zabel questioned the need for the project to be done at this point in time.

Community Services Director Streetar commented on the value of developing a detailed plan that can be factored into Washington County's plan, which is being developed over the next year. He further commented that the County plans to do minimal community engagement in the development of their plan; thus, Oakdale's plan would provide valuable input.

Council Member Ingebrigtsen supported holding off on developing a plan until such time that the former 3M site and Helmo Gold Line developments are finalized and the needs of Independent School District (ISD) 622 are identified.

Community Services Director Streetar noted that the City Council has approved the plans for the Helmo Gold Line area and that ISD 622 would be a stakeholder by participating in the city's planning process, particularly to provide input on routes for students.

Mayor Reinke added that the developer of the former 3M site will need to submit a plan that is in substantial conformance with the Small Area Plan approved by the City Council that shows streets and walkways.

In response to questions from Council Member Zabel, Community Development Director Streetar noted that the cities of Maplewood and North Saint Paul would also be stakeholders in Oakdale's process and that the city would work with the Minnesota Department of Transportation on ways to make Highway 120 more pedestrian friendly. He also noted that comprehensive plan projects are eligible for funding requests.

In response to a question from Council Member Ingebrigtsen, Community Development Director Streetar noted whether or not the Helmo Avenue station area develops, an overall plan is needed to connect routes throughout the community.

In response to questions from Council Member Zabel, Community Development Director Streetar noted that the plan would speak to the connectivity of the main trails and walkways throughout the city as well as trail maintenance, including snow storage.

Ciara Schlichting, Toole Design, discussed their services.

Community Development Director Streetar asked that the City Council authorize the process to commence the development of a bike and pedestrian plan.

Council Member Ingebrigtsen expressed concern that additional staff time or funds could be requested after the plan is finalized.

Community Development Director Streetar noted that once a plan is in place, it would be utilized similar to the annual street improvement program, whereby portions of the trail system would be developed each year. He added that as part of the process, the City Council would determine locations, width, upgrades, etc., as well as cost information and public input.

Council Member Zabel asked for additional time to learn more about the plan because of its long-range impact.

Council Member Ingebrigtsen agreed with needing additional time.

The City Council was invited to meet individually with Community Development Director Streetar to learn more about the plan.

In response to a question from Council Member Olson, Community Development Director Streetar noted the cost would be contingent on several factors but provided an estimate of between \$27,000 and \$85,000.

Mayor Reinke directed staff to bring the matter back to another work session.

Tanners Lake Redevelopment Site

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Also Present: Gary Borglund, Spring Street Ventures
Doug Rohde, LHR Hospitality Management
Brian Wheeler, Arcana Capital

The City Council reviewed a request to build a 100-unit hotel with a restaurant and coffee shop at the Tanners Lake Redevelopment site at 235 Geneva Avenue.

Gordie Jones, Lakeview Terrace Condominiums/329 Geneva Avenue, commented on the excitement of the condominium owners at the prospect of the site developing.

The City Council supported the Oakdale Economic Development Authority entering in to a preliminary development agreement with Spring Street Ventures.

Tax Increment Financing

Community Development Director Streetar provided an overview of tax increment financing.

Advisory Boards and Commissions: Term Limits and Removal

The City Council discussed eliminating language relating to limiting advisory board members and commissioners to serving a maximum of three consecutive terms. They also discussed attendance requirements for same.

Staff was directed to eliminate language relating to term limits.

The City Council determined that council liaisons to advisory boards and commissions would work in concert with board and commission chairpersons to address any attendance matters.

Council Member Swedberg requested that staff bring forth a policy that would provide a consistent process for designating a new chairperson following the resignation of a chairperson.

Adjournment

The workshop adjourned at 6:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Barry, City Clerk