

**MOUND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 17, 2015**

The City Council of the City of Mound, Hennepin County, Minnesota, met in special session on Tuesday, November 17, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers of the Centennial Building.

Members present: Mayor Mark Wegscheid; Council Members Kelli Gillispie, Ray Salazar, Heidi Gesch, and Jennifer Peterson

Others present: Interim City Manager Bob Derus, Community Development Director Sarah Smith, Public Works Director Eric Hoversten, Public Works Superintendent Ray Hanson, Finance Director/Clerk/Treasurer Catherine Pausche, Dr. Pam Myers, Jim Dolan, David Goode, John McKinley, Jack Evans, Jim Dustrude, Troy Koopman, Ron Hendley, Bob Koegler, Dean Fleming, Rodney Beystrom, Joe Bruns, Katie Morford, Pat Gorman, Stacy Gorman, John Beise, and Kristin Beise.

1. Meet and Greet

Public spoke with Council Members and Staff.

2. Open meeting

Mayor Wegscheid called the Special Meeting Town Hall to order at 7:00 p.m.

3. Approve Agenda

MOTION by Salazar, seconded by Gesch, to approve the agenda.
All voted in favor. Motion carried.

4. Mayor Mark Wegscheid - Introduction and City Overview

Mayor Wegscheid thanked the public for attending and providing their perspective and input on what the public is looking for in a City Manager. Wegscheid listed a number of highlights of recent accomplishments of city departments.

Joe Bruns, 2630 Settler Circle, asked when Westedge Boulevard will be redone and Hoversten said it will be done in cooperation with Met Council work on County Road 44 and the upgrades to the Met Council facility on Westedge.

Mayor Wegscheid offered Community Development highlights and an explanation about development in Mound. Wegscheid stated Mound needed development of buildings in the City to attract small businesses. He stated there is development interest in Mound and multiple projects are being discussed.

Mayor Wegscheid praised the work of the Mound Fire Department for the high quality and ability to attract and retain volunteers.

Mayor Wegscheid noted that the bonds for the liquor store and public safety facilities will mature by 2022 which will free up funds for tax relief and other priorities.

Mayor Wegscheid stated that Aeon, a non-profit, will be taking over the ownership of Indian Knoll Manor. John McKinley, 5948 Hillcrest Road, asked for the Mayor to clarify if the City would be giving up ownership of Indian Knoll Manor. Pausche said yes, that HUD has created a program that allows the transfer of ownership to a qualified non-profit that

streamlines the administration, provides additional funds for improvements, while keeping the rent formula for the residents the same, noting that it is a win/win. Pausche noted the City is not allowed to profit from a sale because HUD funded the construction and ongoing maintenance of the building.

Mayor Wegscheid stated the Council is looking at everything and taking a fresh view of the City Manager hiring process and is interested in hearing residents' perspectives as the Council makes a decision on the position. Mayor Wegscheid introduced Interim City Manager Bob Derus.

5. Interim City Manager Bob Derus - Overview of City Manager Hiring Process

Derus gave an overview of the hiring process, key responsibilities and attributes of a City Manager and why Mound is an attractive job.

6. Question & Answer Session

A comment card was read which asked how to develop our beautiful port and if the City could change the name of Auditors Road.

Another comment card said the City should promote our school district and City more as the commenter believes our city and are even better than others like Wayzata and Excelsior.

Mayor Wegscheid asked John Beise as a business owner what he looks for in a City Manager. Beise, 3124 Tuxedo Blvd., said a strong understanding of the need for redevelopment and focus on the business community and filling open storefronts.

Mayor Wegscheid said one of the challenges is although the lake attracts interest, it is also an obstacle, because national developers look for the number of "rooftops" or density to support their business. Wegscheid said the City is working with a developer which looks for smaller businesses that are not as dependent on population. Gillispie also mentioned the City is not served by a major highway which has been noted as a concern of national developers. Wegscheid said that the lack of chain type development is also what makes Mound unique and provides the City the opportunity to attract smaller businesses which can create a unique personality for the City and attract surrounding community residents to Mound.

Mayor Wegscheid asked for the qualities of a City Manager that people think are important.

A speaker stated that Mound is diverse, affordable, and open and it makes it unique compared to a City like Minnetonka Beach which is less diverse.

Rodney Beystrom, 4466 Denbigh Road, said he participated in a rental licensing task force and he thinks other communities benefited from such programs by increasing the housing stock and improving community safety and housing quality.

Mayor Wegscheid said there are regulations on the books which need to be enforced more vigorously before the City adds more housing regulations. Wegscheid noted that a new Field Officer started in the past year and has been more diligent than in the past. Gillispie said there is not a way to determine which properties are rentals and the City is working with the County to determine what information they have available before implementing more regulations. Beystrom stated he works in a northern suburb and what they have found out

was that many properties which were classified as homestead through the County were being rented out. Beystrom stated a rental housing program is something the Council should think about starting.

Ron Hendley, 2611 Setter Circle, said he moved to Mound in 1993 after finding the City by going to garage sales. What attracted him was that it was a nice, quiet community and he feels that is still true today. Henley said he doesn't mind paying taxes because of how nice the community is, including the peace and quiet other communities don't have. Wegscheid said he is happy the developers the City is talking to are looking to create affordable space so locals can consider opening a store front in the City.

Jim Dustrude, 2001 Arbor Lane, said he loves the scenic back roads that lead into town. A recent guest of his to the City noted that Shoreline Drive could be improved to make it more appealing to developers and visitors. Dustrude said he loves the City of Plymouth motto of "Adding Quality to Life."

Pam Meyers, 5341 Maywood Road, Westonka Historical Society Board Member, and former Superintendent of Westonka Public Schools, noted the multi-generations of residents in the area who are very proud of where they come from and where they live.

John McKinley stated the new City Manager has to be able to garner the respect of all city employees.

7. Adjourn

MOTION by Gesch, seconded by Salazar, to adjourn at 7:46 p.m. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Mark Wegscheid

Attest: Catherine Pausche, Clerk