

MOUND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 19, 2016

The City Council of the City of Mound, Hennepin County, Minnesota, met in special session on Wednesday, April 19, 2016, 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: City Manager/Public Works Director Eric Hoversten, Community Development Director Sarah Smith, Public Works Superintendent Ray Hanson, Liquor Store Manager John Colotti, Fire Chief Greg Pederson, Finance Director/Clerk/Treasurer Catherine Pausche, Orono Police Chief Correy Farniok.

1. Open meeting

Mayor Wegscheid called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Approve the agenda

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

Council Member Gillispie arrived at 6:39 pm.

3. Department Head Annual Reports

Annual reports were presented by Department Heads with discussion following.

A. Orono Police Department – Police Chief Correy Farniok

Police Chief Farniok presented highlights including an upgrade of the Records Management System and portable radios, working with local business, a potential grant from State Farm for a speed trailer and message board to help with issues on Highway 12. Farniok also noted an increase in theft from autos so reminded everyone to lock cars, don't put outgoing mail in home mail box, and noted fine revenue decreasing as compliance has increased and officers focusing on education before issuing a traffic violation.

B. Liquor Store – Manager John Colotti

Colotti said the implementation of the new point of sale and credit card processor is complete and that the new website is near completion. Colotti noted Total Wine in Chanhassen will be opening and impacts on sales in other areas has been significant initially, but appears to rebound eventually. Wegscheid asked about savings in electric bills with the cooler lighting retrofit project. Gillispie asked about how gross profit and operating income compares to industry and Colotti said the State Auditor publishes this information for municipal liquor stores and his gross profit is above average.

C. Fire & Rescue/Emergency Response – Fire Chief Greg Pederson

Chief Pederson said the primary focus is on staff and recruitment, developing a long-term strategic/financial plan and the current shared services study. Pederson noted the reduction in building rent will allow for equipment purchases without a large increase in costs. Wegscheid asked when the 2016 vehicles will be put into operation and Pederson said it is typical to hold a

ceremony to launch a large apparatus like the aerial fire ladder truck and that will take place in September.

D. Community Development/Planning/Zoning/Building Inspections –
Community Development Director Sarah Smith

Smith said the number of permits issued did not change but the value doubled as more infill of existing lots takes place. Smith said code enforcement continues to be a priority and that a multi-pronged approach is needed to give teeth in instances that are more difficult to enforce and compel progress. Smith said special event permitting continues to show value and that Staff and the Planning Commission has nearly completed a holistic review of the zoning code and that additional changes for brew pubs and lake shore leading to public water will be brought forth in May. Smith said the comp plan update will include a public input process from key stakeholders and that Mound's interagency partnerships are strong. Smith forecasted an uptick in redevelopment and noted the challenge to manage simultaneous projects.

E. Public Works (Parks) Operations & City Projects - Public Works Superintendent
Ray Hanson and City Manager/PWD Eric Hoversten

Hoversten highlighted the multiple construction projects that are planned, the favorable bidding environment thus far, the challenge of staff vacancies that has been partially mitigated by the good weather, and forecasted a need to focus on facilities, including the deteriorating Island Park Hall, in the near future. Discussion on whether to add more projects in the favorable bidding environment and what is a manageable work load ensued. Council Members were encouraged to read the Mayor's updated letter on the homepage regarding construction logistics.

Council Member Peterson departed at 7:25 pm.

F. Finance & Administration/Docks Administration – Finance Director/Clerk/Treasurer
Catherine Pausche

Pausche noted the 2015 budget to actual had been included and that vacancies helped to produce favorable results. Pausche noted the audited financials will be issued in June and that bonding will be delayed until fall as cash on hand is adequate and more refundings for interest rate savings will be possible. Pausche said she will focus on fee structures and procurement activities once the transition of Indian Knoll Manor is complete. Discussion on specialized services versus commodity like services ensued as well as the length of contracts and need to focus on defining service levels and terms.

4. Adjourn

MOTION by Gesch, seconded by Gillispie, to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Mark Wegscheid

Attest: Catherine Pausche, Clerk