

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING, JUNE 26, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Pro Tem Chad Cummings with the following members present: Larry Janssen, Chris Kielblock, Dennis Weber, Amy Ernst.

Members Absent: Mayor Rick Von Holdt.

Staff present: Steve Robinson, City Administrator; Matt Selof, Community Development Director; Mindy Eggers, City Clerk.

Others Present: Sam Martin, The Globe; Ryan McGaughey, Radio Works.

**CANNABIS LICENSING AND REGULATORY AUTHORITY APPROVED**

Matt Selof, Community Development Director, said in 2023, the State of Minnesota legalized recreational marijuana including retail sales, cultivation, and other businesses. There are State licenses and many specific requirements that must be adhered to for any retail sales, cultivation, etc. The State is targeting the beginning of 2025 to begin issuing the first retail licenses.

In conjunction with State issued licenses and requirements, there is significant authority granted to local governments with respect to licensing and other requirements (such as zoning regulations, amount of local licenses, hours of operation, distance/location requirements, and other powers).

Mr. Selof explained Nobles County extended an offer to enter into a joint powers agreement which would allow for the County to be the licensing and regulatory authority over the City. This would be similar to tobacco licensing.

Staff recommends that the City should retain licensing and regulatory authority over cannabis within the City. He noted additional decisions will need to be made at later dates following the decision.

Steve Robinson, City Administrator, said that the City is mandated to have one dispensary but is not limited to one.

The motion was made by Council Member Ernst, seconded by Council Member Kielblock and unanimously carried to remain as the regulatory authority over cannabis within the City.

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION ACTION ITEMS DISCUSSION**

Mr. Selof said staff and the City's consultant, SRF Consulting Group have been working on significant portions of Our Worthington 2045 Comprehensive Plan. A plan outline has been developed along with drafted objectives for each section along with implementation actions. The basic format of the plan will be as follows:

Chapter 1: Introduction  
Chapter 2: Issues and Opportunities  
Chapter 3: Goals and Policies  
Chapters 4-10: Plan Elements  
Chapter 11: Implementation

A power point presentation was reviewed and the implementation action items were discussed. He noted the implementation actions were developed based on community engagement. These implementation actions are connected to each section of the plan along with the objectives for each plan element.

Council made some suggestions for changes in different sections. Mr. Selof said the changes would be made and the plan will be brought back to Council for final approval.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The motion was made by Council Member Kielblock, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:14 p.m.

Mindy L. Eggers, MCMC  
City Clerk