

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING, AUGUST 15, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Mike Kuhle with the following Council Members present: Larry Janssen, Alan Oberloh, Chad Cummings, Amy Ernst, Mike Harmon.

Staff present: Steve Robinson, City Administrator; Brian Kolander, Finance Director; Jason Brisson, Director of Community Development, Planning, Zoning and Building Services; Todd Wietzema, Public Works Director; Janice Oberloh, City Clerk; Kevin Flynn, Police Captain.

Others present: Julie Buntjer, The Globe ; Kevin Donovan and Todd Frager; Marty Seifert, Chris Kielblock.

COALITION OF GREATER MINNESOTA CITIES (CGMC) PRESENTATION AND UPDATE

Mary Seifert from the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities provided an update to Council on the CGMC's priorities during the past legislative year and how they moved through the session. When questioned on what their priorities would be in the upcoming year, Mr. Seifert responded that it will be discussed at their upcoming fall conference, but they probably won't be much different than this past year.

Council thanked Mr. Seifert for the update and Mr. Seifert thanked Council for the opportunity.

MOVIE THEATER DISCUSSION

Steve Robinson, City Administrator, noted that two proposals had been received for a movie theater project, and both would require substantial investment on the City's part. One of the proposals called for the City to provide the facility, and the theater group would install the equipment necessary for the theater and operate the business. The second proposal called for the City to furnish and own the facility and theater equipment. Both proposals included a minimum of five screens.

The first proposal, from Frager and Donovan, called for the least investment from the City - it was not site specific and was open regarding the number of screens. Both proformas projected sales of \$550,000 the first year, and both would require approximately \$3 million investment from the City. The annual debt payment for the City could be \$260,000 annually, resulting in a 5% to 7% increase to the City's levy. Council Members suggested that the City's survey question regarding its involvement in a theater project needs to explain how a 5% to 7% City levy increase does not necessarily translate into a 5% to 7% property tax increase, and suggested that a property tax calculator be available. Kevin Donovan said his calculations showed an owner of a commercial building who pays \$635 in property tax would see an increase of \$38 per year. The taxes on an average home in Worthington would see a tax increase of \$24 per year.

Todd Frager said he would request an option to buy on the building, as that's what he intends, but

is looking to lease for three years to allow him to acquire the operating numbers needed to go to a bank. Larry Janssen questioned that we would be putting up a building that everyone could use, but the citizens of Worthington would be paying for it. Council Member Harmon said that this is obviously the way the City needs to go. Council Member Cummings said we need to stop the current survey - there are not enough answers. Council Member Oberloh suggested we get the correct information out to the radio and newspaper, with the tax calculator, and then take feedback. Mr. Donovan asked that Council just vote on it. Following additional discussion, Council determined the decision could be made in a week to 10 days.

ATV'S ON CITY STREETS

Staff was requesting that Council have a discussion regarding the use of All Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) on city streets. Steve Robinson, City Administrator, distributed a couple of model policies regarding the issue, one from the League of Minnesota Cities and the other from the City of Luverne, which they later rescinded because it was not being enforced.

Police Captain Kevin Flynn said currently, unless the City would enact a law, the vehicles are only allowed on State roads and County/State Aid roads. The Police Department was asking for direction from Council on the issue, do we allow them or not allow them. Mr. Robinson said staff wants to work on this if Council directs them, we have ideas on what should go in the ordinance, maybe go beyond the state law and require helmets, age restrictions, registrations and others. Worthington has several businesses that sell the vehicles so it could have an economic impact. Staff will work with the Public Safety Department to draft something that will encompass ATV's, golf carts, mobility scooters, motorized scooters, etc. Captain Flynn said the City would issue the permits. Council consensus was to move forward with drafting the ordinance.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was made by Council Member Janssen, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

Janice Oberloh, MCMC
City Clerk