

MINUTES
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE WORK SESSION
January 17, 2017
City Hall Conference Room

PRESENT: Mayor Thomas Stiehm, Council Members Laura Helle, Paul Fischer, Jeff Austin, Steve King, Judy Enright, David Hagen and Council Member-at-Large Janet Anderson

ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert, Public Works Director Steven Lang, Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace, City Clerk Ann Kasel

ALSO PRESENT: Austin Daily Herald, Public

Mayor Stiehm opened the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

Item No. 1 – Subdivision Regulation Changes

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace requested the Council update language in Chapter 13-Subdivision Regulations to be compliant with State Statutes regarding safe routes to school for eligibility of grants. The modified language would provide for complete streets for all modes of transportation. Ms. Wallace stated the department also updated the ordinance for relevancy.

Council Member Austin asked with the complete streets provisions as part of the ordinance how will that affect the requests from citizens for the removal of their sidewalks.

Ms. Wallace stated there will be some flexibility because the provisions allow for reasonable changes.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated he also added substance to general items of engineering design standards and redesigned portions of the ordinance for readability.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, recommending approval of subdivision ordinance changes. Carried.

The item will be placed on the February 5, 2017 Council agenda.

Item No. 2 – ADA Transition Plan

Public Works Director Steven Lang provided a follow up for the ADA transition plan. Engineering staff completed an inventory of all the pedestrian ramps in the City and found 437 to

be compliant; 304 to be nearly compliant; 907 to be non-compliant with a curb opening but no truncated dome and improper grades and 330 to be non-compliant with no curb opening, no truncated dome and improper grades. The city plans to upgrade the non-compliant intersections either during street projects or as a separate project. The compliant intersections and nearly compliant intersections will not be addressed.

In the 5-year capital improvement plan 270 of the non-compliant ramps will be replaced. When the streets are replaced the pedestrian ramps are also replaced but are not assessed to the adjacent property owners.

Mr. Lang added that since the City does not assess for them, the payment obligation would be under the tax levy. The cost per intersection is \$5,000 to \$7,000 and to replace them all would be approximately \$7 million.

Mr. Lang stated the next steps would be to gather input from the community and draft an ADA transition plan. He stated he would bring the plan back in approximately six months for Council review. The plan will need to detail the City's plans for bringing all non-compliant intersections into compliance.

For Council information only, no Council action needed at this time.

Item No. 3 –Administrative Report

City Administrator Craig Clark stated the County Board is meeting on the Economic Development package next week. He also stated the Rec Center project is moving forward with the \$5 million local campaign kicking off soon.

Item No. 4 – Open Discussion

None.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, adjourning the work session at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Ann M. Kasel
City Clerk