

MINUTES
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE WORK SESSION
March 19, 2018
City Hall Conference Room A

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

ABSENT: Council Member David Hagen

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

ALSO PRESENT: Austin Daily Herald, Public

Mayor Stiehm opened the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

Item No. 1 – Sump Pump Ordinance

Public Works Director Steven Lang presented the proposed sump pump ordinance. The ordinance's intent would be to prevent clean rain water from being treated at the waste water treatment plant. It would require sump pumps to have rigid discharge pipes to the exterior and wouldn't allow empty sump pump pits. The ordinance established inspections and fines for violations.

Mr. Lang stated this would be a small cost to homeowners to correct their homes if found to be non-compliant. He stated the City will work to provide information to the citizens. There would be a \$100 fine if you don't get the inspection scheduled in the first thirty days and also another charge if you do not make the required repairs in the allotted time period.

Mr. Lang stated other communities have looked at a stipend for homeowners but the City of Austin is not looking at a stipend at this time. A point of sale inspection may also be implemented for when properties change hand an inspection would be required for continued compliance.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member Enright, recommending approval of a sump pump ordinance. Carried.

The item will be placed on the April 2, 2018 Council Agenda.

Item No. 2 – Highway 105/12th Street SW Project

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated MnDOT is planning a mill and overlay project for Highway 105 South/12th Street SW from Turtle Creek to the City limits in 2020. The City would

be responsible for a pedestrian flashing beacon at 19th Avenue SW, sidewalk improvements adjacent to the service road from 17th Avenue to 21st Avenue and on-road bike symbols.

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

Item No. 3 – Administrative Report

City Administrator Craig Clark stated he attended the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities Conference and met with Tim Walz.

Item No. 4 - Open Discussion

Council Member Austin stated he would like more order to the meetings. He commented on the Council retreat stating he appreciated it being in one night but was disappointed by the lack of open discussion.

Council Member Helle agreed stating she doesn't like the department reports and would like it to be more of an open discussion.

Mayor Stiehm stated more time for open discussion can be allocated at future retreats.

Council Member Austin also stated a performance review on the City Administrator should be done soon.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member Austin, adjourning the work session at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann M. Kasel
City Clerk