

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA
Special Work Session – January 25, 2016

Pursuant to due call and notice, a special work session of the City Council of the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, was held on Monday, January 25, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of City Hall, Mayor Albrecht presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Albrecht, Meehlhause, Johnson, Olson, Erickson, Larson Absent: Hellquist

Staff Present: City Manager Nate Mathews, City Attorney Alan Felix, Parks & Recreation Director Marcia Larson, City Clerk Kay Murphy

Others Present: EAPC and Associates - Craig Clark

Mayor Albrecht stated that the purpose of the special work session was to review the plans for South Shore Park.

Director Larson provided background stating that a comprehensive public input process, the Master Plans for South Shore Park were adopted by the City Council on July 9, 2012. Based on available funding and priorities areas an updated Concept Plan for South Shore was recommended by the Parks & Trails Commission and approved by the Council on September 28, 2015. In November of 2015, the Council approved a contract with EAPC and Associates for design and bidding services. The Parks & Trails Commission met on January 21, 2016, to review a preliminary South Shore Park design and unanimously recommended the preliminary design for Council's consideration.

Craig Clark, EAPC, reviewed the access to the park, general layout of the park, park amenities. He noted that an area for a future playground has been delineated as a placeholder as funds become available. Clark further stated that the fire department requires that the building be accessible within 200 feet or 400 feet (if sprinkled) for emergency vehicles. He stated that sprinkling the building and heating a small closet area would be less expensive than construction of a 20 ft. access road or construction of a drop-off/parking area. The consensus of the City Council was to sprinkle the building at this time.

Director Larson stated that there are no funds to complete the drop off area or a parking lot. Councilor Larson expressed concerns about the distance from the parking lot to the entrance to the park. Discussion continued regarding the drop off area and Council consensus was to budget its construction in five years.

Director Larson stated that the staff will work with Prairie Restoration as part of the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage funds project on placement of natural vegetation in the park.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Meehlhause, approving the preliminary layout/design for South Shore Park and approve construction and closeout services contract with EAPC in the amount of \$8,400 (hourly not to exceed). Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Olson, seconded by Larson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk