

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA
Special Work Session – December 16, 2013

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, December 16, 2013, 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 (arrived at 5:40 p.m.), Johnson, Olson, Erickson, Thompson Absent: Hellquist

Staff Present: City Manager John Chattin, Public Works Director/City Engineer Craig Gray, City Clerk Kay Murphy

Mayor Albrecht stated that the purpose of the special work session was to discuss the Lake Avenue assessments and the vacation and sale of Link Street.

Lake Avenue Assessments

Gray stated that City staff is currently working on the feasibility report for the 2014 Street Renewal Program as authorized by the City Council. The project will include the reconstruction of Lake Avenue from Roosevelt Road to First Street SE. He stated that a number of parcels on the south end of Lake Avenue were part of the 2005 SE 40 (aka Lost 40) Utility Project which installed city water and sanitary sewer. Gray stated that due to the unique circumstances of the previous assessments, staff feels that we cannot assess some of the parcels in the project directly according to the city's current assessment policy. Gray reviewed the parcels along the area of Lake Avenue and the recommended assessment for each parcel. Recommendation is as follows:

- Pay actual cost of driveway apron(s) that would be installed - \$500 each
- Pay portion of the cost of new concrete curb and gutter - \$7/lineal foot
- Corner lot provisions would apply for curb and gutter calculations
- Parcels north of 3rd Street that do not currently have sewer would incur a connection charge of \$13,673 in addition to the curb and apron assessments

Councilmembers agreed with the staff's recommendation. Gray stated that he will be bringing a feasibility study for the Council's consideration at a meeting in January. In addition, there will be an open house for the property owners prior to the public hearing.

Link Street

Chattin reviewed three options for the City Council to consider regarding the future of Link Street which was recently turned back from MnDOT. Chattin stated that Corey Klinefelter, who owns the McDonalds franchise, has expressed interest in purchasing some of the property. Chattin noted that Klinefelter does not own the McDonald site. The City could not sell 50 feet of the property to Klinefelter as it would be a substandard lot and not allowed unless some agreement to combine it with the McDonald's parcel could be made.

Discussion ensued regarding potential ideas for the parcel. Johnson suggested that the Council may want to expand the liquor store and may want to keep some of the property for the purpose. The majority of the Council was in favor of selling of 100 feet.

Council requested additional information from staff on the value of the parcel and the cost in making the parcel saleable before making any decisions.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Olson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk