

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA
Work Session – Tuesday, June 4, 2019

Pursuant to due call and notice, a work session of the City Council of the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, was held on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. in the Chambers of City Hall, Mayor Albrecht presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Albrecht, Meehlhause, Johnson, Rivera, Erickson, Thompson. Absent: Beard

Staff Present: City Manager Nate Mathews, City Attorney Alan Felix, Finance Director Ron Eischens, City Clerk Michelle Miller

Others Present: Venuworks: Jeff Kossow, Jackie Meixner, Joe Romano, Russ Ferguson

Mayor Albrecht stated the purpose of the work session was to provide input regarding the Hiring Process for the Sanford Center Executive Director.

Sanford Center Executive Director – Hiring Process

Albrecht stated that this is an opportunity to provide council feedback/input regarding the qualities they would like to see in a new director. Joe Romano, Venuworks Executive Vice President stated that they had 24 applicants, both from inside and outside the industry. They reduced that to 10, then 5 and now have three finalists. Romano stated that Beard provided written feedback since he could not be at this meeting. Important to both council and Venuworks is stability and retention both in this position and other positions.

Qualities discussed include, but are not limited to, interact effectively with the public, business community, promoters, industry, council and board members. Fitting into the community is also a consideration in hiring someone. A positive narrative about the Sanford Center from city officials, as well as a spirit of cooperation was discussed as ways the City can help the new director and the facility succeed. Advocating the pyramid of success for the venue as a community asset was also discussed.

Romano stated that while an interim executive director will be named, the company will continue to staff various areas if needed. He concluded by stating that Venuworks hopes to make an announcement on June 25.

Adjourn

There being no further business, motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Rivera, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle R. Miller
City Clerk