

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA
Work Session – Monday, August 19, 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 Monday, August 19, 2019, at 5:00 p.m. in the Chambers of City Hall, Mayor Albrecht presiding.

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

Staff Present: City Manager Nate Mathews, Finance Director Ron Eischens, City Attorney Alan Felix, City Engineer Craig Gray, Community Development Director Steven Jones, City Clerk Michelle Miller

Others Present: Monte Hilleman, St. Paul Port Authority

Mayor Albrecht stated the purpose of the work session was to receive an update on the Rail Corridor Project.

Rail Corridor Update

Mathews stated that the City has submitted a Redevelopment Grant Application to the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development for the Bemidji Rail Corridor Site. Mathews reviewed the first 20 pages of the 130 pages submission. Some highlights of the application are as follows:

- The market assessment focused on multi-family housing;
- The current assessed value is a negative \$45,000;
- A projected assessed value after redevelopment is \$1,115,000;
- Existing buildings on the property are proposed to be demolished;
- Conversations with current tenants will be need in the future;
- Grant would cover half of the public infrastructure costs;
- TIF could also be utilized to match and pay for public utility costs;
- A contamination clean up grant is still being considered; however, staff is currently meeting with tribal authorities before applying in May;

Hilleman stated that he will be spending a couple of days in Bemidji to meet with potential developers.

Adjourn

There being no further business, motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Rivera, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle R. Miller
City Clerk