

MEDINA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 17, 2007

The City Council of Medina, Minnesota met in special session on July 17, 2007 at 6:03 p.m. in the Medina City Hall. Mayor Crosby presided.

I. Call to Order

Members present: Weir, Crosby, Smith, and Cavanaugh

Members absent: Johnson

Also present: City Administrator Chad Adams, Finance Director Jeanne Day, Office Assistant to Administration Jodi Wunsch, City Engineers Kevin Hoglund and Tom Kellogg, SRF Consultants Kristi Herman and Rick Brown, John Griffith from MnDOT, and Jim Grube from Hennepin County

II. Highway 55 Corridor

Jim Grube and Rick Brown provided an overview of the Highway 55 Corridor “recommended preferred layout” throughout Medina and from I-494 in Plymouth to CR19 in Medina. Recommended interchange/intersection design concepts were individually discussed for Townline Road, Tamarack Drive, CSAH116 and CR101.

Discussion was held on safety concerns at Townline Road and Tamarack Drive if a traffic signal is not incorporated in the design. MnDot does not want to put a traffic signal in the design because they do not want to support the concept until it has gone through the process of a cost benefit analysis. Other items that were discussed addressed access closures, road alignment, and the possibility of a future park and ride.

Brown suggested that a decision be made sometime between November 2007 and January 2008 by the Council to pass a resolution of endorsement for a “recommended preferred layout” which could serve as an appendix in the City of Medina’s Comprehensive Plan.

III. Flexible Spending Accounts/Health Benefit Overview

Jeanne Day introduced the idea of adding Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) as a health benefit option to city employees. FSA’s provide a benefit to the employee and employer through tax-free health and dependent care. There is a small risk involved to the employee because it is a lose it or use it plan and to the employer because if the employee used their full amount and left employment before the payment term was completed, the city would get stuck with the additional cost. Overall the benefits outweigh the cost.

Staff was seeking direction from the Council on moving forward with this initiative through engaging in an agreement with a provider, drafting the plan, and educating staff prior to January 1, 2008. Council consensus was to move forward with the FSA Plan.

Jeanne Day briefly discussed LOGIS and changes in health providers starting in 2008. She also sought direction on the City's contribution to the employees' health benefit options. The Council was short on time and tabled the discussion to the July 31st work session.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

T. M. Crosby, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Chad M. Adams, City Administrator-Clerk