

# **Maple Grove City Council Work Session**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**January 19, 2021**

### **Call to Order**

Pursuant to call and notice thereof, a City Council Work Session was held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at the Maple Grove Government Center/Public Safety Facility, Hennepin County, Minnesota and online via WebEx. Present was Mayor Steffenson and Councilmembers Leith, Hanson and Barnett and attending remotely were Councilmembers Karen Jaeger. Present also was City Administrator Heidi Nelson, Public Works Director/City Engineer Ken Ashfeld, Police Chief Eric Werner, Police Commander Jon Wettarnach, Finance Director Greg Sticha, Community and Economic Director Joe Hogeboom, Economic Development Manager Brett Angell, and Human Resources Director Denise Thul.

Mayor Steffenson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

### **Police body cams/in-squad cameras**

Police Department staff discussed with council a proposal and process to implement body cameras for the Police Department as well as replace in-squad cameras. Council consensus was to move forward with implementing body cameras and in-squad camera replacement. Contracts with the vendor, Axon, will be brought forward to the February 1<sup>st</sup> Council meeting for consideration. A public comment period will be scheduled for February for the body camera policy.

### **Local option sales tax**

Staff discussed the process for requesting legislation authorization for a local option sales tax to provide funding for the expansion/renovation of the Maple Grove Community Center. The imposition of a local option sales tax for this project helps to diversify the funding sources and more closely distribute the costs of the project to the users of the facility. The passing of a local resolution is the first step in a multi-year process, which includes a local referendum regarding the imposition of the tax, in obtaining the enactment of a special law authorizing the city to impose a local sales tax. The deadline for submittal of a city resolution to be considered in the 2021 legislative session is January 31, 2021. The resolution for consideration was included as part of the January 19, 2021 regular agenda.

### **Acting Mayor**

The appointment of Acting Mayor was raised at the January 4 council meeting and referred to a work session for further discussion. Staff provided information about the current ordinance regarding Acting Mayor as well as past practice of the city. Council consensus was to remain with the current ordinance, with Acting Mayor being the most senior member of the Council.

### **Contributions to non-profits community organizations**

The contribution to the Maple Grove Arts Center was pulled from the January 4 consent agenda and referred to a work session for further discussion. Staff provided information regarding contributions to non-profit and community organizations for discussion. Council consensus was to not provide a contribution to the Maple Grove Arts Center for 2021 citing concerns with the contribution being an annual contribution vs. one-time.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Steffenson at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heidi Nelson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "H" and "N".

Heidi Nelson  
City Administrator