

# Maple Grove City Council Work Session

## Meeting Minutes

February 1, 2021

### Call to Order

Pursuant to call and notice thereof, a City Council Work Session was held at 6:15 p.m. on Monday, February 1, 2021 at the Maple Grove Government Center/Public Safety Facility, Hennepin County, Minnesota and online via WebEx. Present was Mayor Steffenson and Councilmembers Karen Jaeger, Phil Leith, and Judy Hanson and attending remotely was Councilmember Kristy Barnett. Present also was City Administrator Heidi Nelson, Public Works Director/City Engineer Ken Ashfeld, Finance Director Greg Sticha, Community and Economic Director Joe Hogeboom, and Planning Manager Peter Vickerman.

Mayor Steffenson called the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m.

### Forest Preservation Area Update

Community and Economic Director Joe Hogeboom provided an update to the Council regarding the Forest Preservation Areas, and discussed some of the research that the Arbor Committee is doing regarding forest preservation. He indicated the Arbor Committee would like some additional time to review information recently received from the City Attorney as well as Hennepin County. He anticipated this item will be brought back to the City Council for further discussion this spring. He also noted that some misconceptions exist in the community and that staff and City Councilmembers were receiving calls and emails from residents who thought that the city was developing the Forest Preservation Area. He stated that there is no development happening in the forest preserve.

### Tree Preservation Zone Changes

Planning Manager Peter Vickerman discussed with City Council potential modifications to the Tree Preservation Zone Ordinance. The proposed modifications to the ordinance reflect current best management practices. The draft ordinance has been recommended by the Arbor Committee and the Planning Commission. Arbor Committee Chair Mary Parenteau and Vice-Chair Frank Kempel provided further comment on the need for the proposed ordinance language. Council consensus was for staff to bring the proposed ordinance language to a future City Council meeting for consideration, following discussion with the Arbor Committee regarding staff suggested revisions.

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Steffenson at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Heidi Nelson, City Administrator