

City of North Saint Paul
July 19, 2022
Approved City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Furlong called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The meeting was conducted at City Hall in the Council Chambers, and also via Zoom.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Thorsen
Council Member Petersen
Council Member Wong
Council Member Cole
Mayor Furlong

Staff: Interim City Manager Brian Frandle, Assistant to the City Manager Jennie Kloos, Finance Director Dan Winek, Public Works Director Ron Ritchie, Public Works Supervisor Randy Miller, Police Chief Phil Baebenroth, Fire Chief Jason Mallinger, Communications Consultant Kari Erpenbach

III. ADOPT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Petersen, seconded by Council Member Wong, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to approve the agenda as presented.

IV. TOPIC(S)

A. 2023 Levy and Budget Workshop – General Fund

Finance Director Winek stated the purpose of tonight's meeting is to review the 2023 goals, review the draft of mission, vision and strategic priorities, review the 2023 levy target from the last workshop, review the driving factors for 2023, review the 2023 preliminary levy, review the 2023 preliminary general fund budget, review options for additional staffing and discussion with the department heads. The 2023 goals were reviewed from a prior workshop earlier in 2022 and information from the last city council meeting. To summarize the goals, there were basically three ideas which include: North St. Paul branding and customer service to our residents, investment in North St. Paul's infrastructure, and investing in staffing resources equitability so each departments needs are met.

Fire Chief Jason Mallinger presented the city council with a proposal of adding a full-time Fire Inspector to provide redundancies that can support the current Fire Inspector and Fire Chief positions. This position would assist in providing better services in areas of the fire inspection, code compliance, administration and day time Fire and EMS response by having the consistency of more than one full time position on staff at a time.

Council Member Thorsen inquired if contracting code compliance and zoning to another agency would help with the workload to prevent the burden of full time staff covering the duties if part time staff is unavailable. Or if the duties could be transferred to the Community Development.

Fire Chief Mallinger commented that traditionally services of code compliance and zoning are traditionally not provided by the Fire Department.

Council Member Cole questioned if Chief Mallinger could continue to staff the part time code compliance officer in addition to the requested full time Fire Inspector? Chief Mallinger stated the work load within the department would be able to staff both positions.

The general consensus of the city council was to approve the request for a full time Fire Inspector in addition to keeping the part time Code Compliance Officer in the 2023 budget for the time being.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Council Member Wong, seconded by Council Member Cole, with all present voting aye (5-0), Mayor Furlong adjourned the workshop meeting at 6:27 p.m.

/s/ Terrence J. Furlong, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Brian Frandle, Interim City Manager/ Clerk