

City of North Saint Paul
August 25, 2020
Adopted 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 via Zoom.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Scott Thorsen
Council Member Candy Petersen
Council Member Tom Sonnek
Council Member Jan Walczak
Mayor Terry Furlong

Staff: City Manager Scott Duddeck, Deputy Clerk Jennie Kloos, Fire Chief Jason Mallinger, Police Chief Tom Lauth, Electric Director Brian Frandle, Public Works Director Nick Fleischhacker, Public Works Superintendent Ron Ritchie, Finance Director Jason Zimmerman, Communications Consultant Kari Erpenbach, Community and Administrative Services Director Debra Gustafson

IV. TOPIC(S)

A. Budget.

Finance Director Jason Zimmerman updated the council stating that he had received the tax capacity statement from Ramsey County. Showing that the overall tax capacity was rising faster than the rest of the 7 County metro cities and discussed the tax impact on resident's property values. Further discussion was held regarding the 3 tax levy scenarios as discussed from the August 11th and 18th City Council workshops along with the explanation of fiscal disparities. Manager Duddeck stated that staffing adjustments will still need to occur regardless of which scenario is chosen. In addition to the General Fund and Debt Service, staff is seeking Council input on the Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA) and Economic Development Authority (EDA) levies for 2021. Council Member Thorson requested information at the next budget meeting for staff to present the council with the current cash balances and the value of land owned.

The first deadline of the budget process this year is September 30, 2020, the date by which the City must adopt its 2021 preliminary property tax levy and preliminary budget. Staff is looking for a recommendation at this time for direction on the levy as to have time to figure out details for the September 15th City Council meeting, at which time the levy will need to be set.

After Council discussion and summarizing of the meeting, the consensus is that 3 out of the 5 would vote for a zero percent levy.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Council Member Sonnek, seconded by Council Member Petersen, with all present voting aye (5-0), Mayor Furlong adjourned the workshop meeting at 6:41 p.m.

/s/ Terrence J. Furlong, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Scott A. Duddeck, City Manager/Clerk