

MEDINA CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF
JUNE 16, 2015

The City Council of Medina, Minnesota met in special session on June 16, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Medina City Hall, 2052 County Road 24, Medina, MN.

I. Call to Order

Members present: Mitchell, Anderson, Cousineau, Martin, Pederson

Members absent:

Also present: City Administrator Scott Johnson, Public Works Director Steve Scherer, Finance Director Erin Barnhart, Hamel Fire Department Chief Jeff Ruchti, Hamel Fire Lt. Ryan Gregor, and City Planner Dusty Finke

II. Proposed 2016 Hamel Fire Budget

Hamel Fire Department Chief Jeff Ruchti provided an overview of the proposed Hamel Fire Department Budget for 2016 and responded to questions on the proposed budget. Council Member Anderson informed the City Council that the Loretto Fire Department has turned off auto aid with the Hamel Fire Department and is no longer asking Hamel to assist on calls. He also informed the City Council that he discussed auto aid changes with Long Lake Fire Chief James Van Eyll and Plymouth Fire Chief Richard Kline. Anderson was greatly concerned about the competence level of the Hamel Fire Department based on the conversations. Anderson also said he would not support the proposed budget until Hamel and Loretto Fire Departments agreed to consolidate as soon as possible. Council Member Pederson confirmed he was informed of the auto aid change and encouraged consolidation between the Hamel and Loretto Fire Departments. Staff was not notified of the auto aid change by the Loretto Fire Department. Council Member Martin cautioned against making a leap in judgment based on the decision made by the Loretto Fire Department. Staff was directed to discuss the issues with the Loretto and Hamel Fire Departments and Ray McCoy. Staff will report back at the next Council Meeting and bring back the proposed 2016 Hamel Fire Department Budget for discussion at the July Work Session.

Council Member Martin requested information on the increase in bond expenses for the proposed 2016 Medina Budget.

The Work Session was recessed at 7:02 PM

III. Mediacom Build-out Summary

City Planner Dusty Finke provided an update on the discussions with Mediacom. Council directed staff to work cooperatively to reach mutual agreement on the construction plans to make sure all shared mileage is in the public ROW, allow Mediacom to determine where their 15 miles of buildout will be located and request a cost share for the remaining miles to complete the plan.

IV. 2016 Budget Discussion

Finance Director Erin Barnhart provided the City Council with the proposed budget for 2016. Staff provided a proposed budget that includes a 6.5% General Fund Increase. The City also added bonding for the Tower Drive project which resulted in a total proposed levy increase of 7.8%. Barnhart received direction on proposed personnel additions/changes, added maintenance funds for roads and parks, a proposed cost of living increase of 2.5%, and the need to maintain quality service levels. Council directed staff to bring back information on the proposed personnel changes and to keep the City Tax Rate flat for 2016.

Adjournment

Mitchell closed the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

Bob Mitchell, Mayor

Attest:

Scott Johnson, City Administrator-Clerk