

BAXTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

**Work Session
January 17, 2017**

Mayor Darrel Olson called the Work Session to order at 6:30 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Darrel Olson, Council Members Todd Holman, Quinn Nystrom, Steve Barrows, and Mark Cross

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Community Development Director Josh Doty, Assistant City Administrator Kelly Steele, Public Works Director Trevor Walter, Chief of Police Jim Exsted, and Finance Director Jeremy Vacinek

EXCELSIOR/EDGEWOOD TAX INCREMENT FINANCING UPDATE

Finance Director Vacinek provided a schedule of events for the development of TIF District No. 14. Mr. Vacinek reviewed the area and the test to determine the boundary.

Consensus of the Council was to continue moving forward with the TIF District and schedule a public hearing.

EXCELSIOR ROAD RESIDENTIAL FEASIBILITY REPORT

City Consulting Engineer Welch reviewed the existing conditions of the roadway and proposed improvements. Mr. Welch explained the pavement evaluation has dropped over the past three years and full depth reclamation is recommended as per the pavement management plan.

There is a significant drainage issue located between Firewood Drive and Forest Drive where the area experiences seasonal flooding during rain event due to high groundwater table and surface runoff. The drainage issue will be addressed as part of the improvements project.

The next step would be the improvement hearing scheduled for February 2, 2017.

WSN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR SIMULTANEOUS MUNICIPAL AND PRIVATE PROJECTS

City Consulting Engineer Wernberg requested comments relative to WSN providing professional services to Onecorp at the Fruth property location on Fairview Road and Excelsior Road. The Fruth property directly abuts the proposed new City project area and would strictly be for professional design and site development services. They have asked us to do the wetlands, surveying, and civil work including water, sewer, parking, and lighting.

Council Member Holman stated his struggle was not with the firm's integrity but being consistent and separate these items. Mr. Wernberg stated it almost put the firm at a disadvantage for being

local since the firm has been here for the past 40 years. He understands the concerns but strongly values the firm's relationship with the City of Baxter and holds our loyalty to providing professional services with the City of Baxter.

Council Member Holman clarified his comments were if the firm was engaged with the developer in a contract at this time. Council Member Nystrom stated the letter laid everything out for transparency and felt comfortable was long as it remained that way and Council Member Barrows agreed with her comments. Council Member Cross stated he was in agreement with Council Member Holman.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Council Member Barrows, seconded by Council Member Cross to adjourn to the regular council meeting at 6:59 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Approved by:

Respectfully submitted,

Darrel Olson
Mayor

Mary Haugen
Administrative Assistant