

BAXTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Special Meeting
November 12, 2014

Mayor Darrel Olson called the Special City Council Meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Darrel Olson and Council Members Jim Klein and Todd Holman

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Cross and Rob Moser

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Gordon Heitke, Public Works Director/City Engineer Trevor Walter, and Assistant City Administrator Kelly Steele

APPROVAL OF THE EXCELSIOR RIGHT-OF-WAY PLAT

Scott Hedlund of SEH reviewed the right-of-way corridor for the Excelsior Road project. Mr. Hedlund explained the City would be acquiring permanent easements from seven parcels. A number of parcels contained within the plat are already owned by the City of Baxter. The City parcels are included in the plat to aid in future identification. Mr. Hedlund explained the location of each platted parcel. The council inquired if the plat has changed since the last time they review it. Mr. Hedlund explained parcel number six now shows a trail and utility easement, on prior plats only the bridge was depicted. The council discussed the level of notification the property owners have received. Mr. Hedlund explained he would meet individually with each property owner after the council approves the offers. The recourse available to the property owners is to reject their offer. The right-of-way plat will provide adequate room for utilities.

MOTION by Council Member Holman, seconded by Council Member Klein to approve the Excelsior Right-of-way plat. Motion carries unanimously.

Mr. Hedlund explained a gap was found along parcel 19 in the plat where the property boundaries do not meet. City Attorney Person has recommended the city seek a quiet title action to secure ownership of the gap within the right-of-way plat. The gap outside of the right-of-way plat will remain.

DISCUSSION OF LAND ACQUISITION NEGOTIATIONS. Closed Session under MN Statute 13D.05, Subd. 3(c)(3) to develop an offer for the purchase of real property

City Administrator Heitke recommends the council close the meeting under Minnesota Statute 13D.05, Subd. 3 (c)(3) to discuss land acquisition negotiations.

MOTION by Council Member Holman, seconded by Council Member Klein to close the meeting. Motion carries unanimously.

Mayor Olson opened the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

City Administrator Heitke explained staff is asking for a council motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-88 authorizing the presentation offers. City Administrator Heitke further explained the offers would be based on appraisals.

MOTION by Council Member Klein, seconded by Council Member Holman to approve Resolution No. 2014-88 authorizing the presentation of offers to property owners and to acquire the property areas needed either by negotiation of condemnation for the Excelsior Road Improvement Project. Motion carries unanimously.

Mr. Hedlund explained the City would need an easement from BNSF for trail connection from the Paul Bunyan Trail to Fairview Road. The easement is approximately 335 square feet. Mr. Hedlund believes it will be a 99-year lease.

MOTION by Council Member Holman, seconded by Council Member Klein to adjourn at 6:06 p.m. Motion carries unanimously.

Approved by:

Respectfully submitted,

Darrel L. Olson
Mayor

Kelly Steele
Assistant City Administrator/Clerk