

**CITY COUNCIL STUDY MEETING**  
**MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2020**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS/WebEx**  
**BLOOMINGTON CIVIC PLAZA**  
**1800 W. OLD SHAKOPEE RD.**  
**BLOOMINGTON, MN 55431**  
**6:00 PM**

**1.1 CALL TO ORDER – 6:00pm** Mayor Busse called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

All Councilmembers, City Attorney Melissa Manderschied, Council Secretary Denise Christenson, and members of staff are present via WebEx. Official Council attendance taken via roll call:

Present: Councilmembers J. Baloga, J. Carter, N. Coulter, D. Lowman, P. Martin, S. Nelson

Mayor Tim Busse, City Manager Jamie Verbrugge and Assistant City Manager Kris Wilson were in attendance in the Council Chambers.

**2. ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS**

**2.1 COVID-19 Organization and Public Health Update** Public Health Assistant Administrator Dr. Nick Kelley provided an update.

City Manager Verbrugge provided update on local decisions regarding closures and re-openings. Aiming to have Bush Lake Beach open by Friday, but new signage is needed to warn of “No Lifeguards” and “Swim at Own Risk.” Also must get water testing completed this week to make sure it is safe to swim. Port-a-potties need to be ordered and placed. Will not be opening the beach house and are not planning to charge for parking. Still evaluating the amphitheater at Normandale Lake and picnic shelter reservations.

**2.2 External Auditor's Report on 2019 CAFR** Jim Eichten of Malloy, Montague, Karnowski, Radosovich & Co., P.A (MMKR), the City’s external auditors, presented the draft results of their audit of the City’s year-end financial position and results of fiscal operations for calendar year 2019 including: 2019 Required Communications 2019 Audit Results Discussion Points Questions and Answers The final 2019 CAFR financial statement will be distributed and available online in late June 2020.

**2.3 Advisory Board of Health's Tobacco Policy Recommendations** Advisory Board of Health Chair Megan Whittet provided update to the City Council on the Advisory Board of Health's (ABH) tobacco policy recommendations:

1. Restrict sale of flavored products (including menthol and e-cigarettes).
2. Cap the number of tobacco licenses issued by the City.
3. Restrict tobacco sales to specific locations within the city, away from parks and schools.

Assistant Public Health Administrator Dr. Nick Kelley presented information on the fourth recommendation:

4. Require all multi-unit housing properties to prohibit smoking in individual rental units.

Health Promotion Manager Eileen O'Connell spoke on additional elements to consider.

Council discussed the priority order and majority agreed that priority 1 should be highest priority and to move quickly on that priority. All four recommendations should move forward also. Carter urged having recommendation number 4 as next highest priority. Lowman encouraged prioritizing option 4 as highest priority.

**2.4 Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Counseling and Assistance**

HRA Analyst Cherie Shoquist and MN Homeownership Center's Julie Gugin presented the item via PowerPoint. Shoquist added that this information will be presented during the next HRA meeting and will be bringing recommendations back to the City Council after that.

**2.5 I-494: Airport to Hwy 169 Study Update and Proposed Project A**

Civil Engineer Amy Marohn presented the discussion item on the MnDOT Proposed Project A.

MnDOT is seeking consensus of Project A from the Technical Advisory Committee and the Policy Advisory Committee. The Council will not be asked to formally approve the project until a later date, as part of the Municipal Consent Process.

Baloga added that Project A is expected to be a 2-3 year project. Said there will be significant added traffic on some local streets. There is very limited pavement reconstruction with this project. There are no additional fundings from the State on Project A, which he feels is problematic.

Marohn said the orange line will not be impacted with Project A.

**2.6 2020 Cultural Arts Support Grants Funding**

Manager Bloomington for the Arts Leah Hughes provided information on the 2020 Cultural Arts Support grants funding recommendations.

City Manager Verbrugge said funds would be distributed based on Council recommendation, and the item will come to Council on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- 2.7 Discussion of Solid Waste Ballot Questions** City Attorney Melissa Manderschied presented the item, asking Council to provide direction to staff on drafting of and timing of consideration of ballot questions. The hope is to adopt ballot language on June 22<sup>nd</sup> but could be done at a meeting in July if necessary. Manderschied explained the necessity behind why the Charter would be recommended to be amended for putting the questions on the ballot.
- Council provided direction on next steps for updating the language for the draft ballot question 2. Also suggested having Manderschied mock up a resolution in case action will be taken on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- 2.8 City Council Policy & Issue Update** City Manager Verbrugge spoke on possible legislative special session and possible expiration or extension of the Governor's emergency declaration. Baloga said he would advocate for additional bonding from State for 494 Reconstruction Project, Airport to 169.
- Verbrugge asked for Council direction on items that should be pushed back or prioritized.
- Martin encouraged moving forward with research on earned sick and safe time. Recommended moving forward with community-based strategic planning. Mayor Busse agreed.
- Coulter agreed on community-based strategic planning. Asked for an update on opportunity housing, and asked for prioritization of Enforcement of Tenant Protection Ordinance.
- Nelson recommended prioritizing racial equity discussion and put together concrete items to take action on. Verbrugge said a plan is being presented to staff this week and will come back to Council soon on next steps on a plan.
- Nelson expressed interest in revisiting the topic of what City facilities to reopen and when.
- Carter mentioned ban on flavored tobacco ban as a high priority. Verbrugge said there would be public engagement that would need to occur, but an expectation of timing will be brought to Council.
- Carter asked if police policy and procedures can be posted to the City website, or how that information can be accessed so there can be increased transparency.
- Baloga suggested having an opportunity to have Chief Potts address the community on a number of the issues that Council is being asked about including defunding, disbanding, various policies, and what our stances are.
- Martin suggested hearing from communities of colors through conversations to gain feedback to make concrete improvements. Would like to see articles in the Briefing and on social media to explain current processes in preparation for community outreach.

Coulter reiterated what Carter asked about having police policies easily accessible. Need to ensure we aren't getting any "bad apples" in police. Would like to know what work has been done on community engagement related to hiring practices for police officers, and what are the accountability measures, and make the accountability more proactive. Must have community conversations.

Mayor Busse summarized that there is a willingness and desire to continue to push forward as much as possible, and especially the items that Council brought forward tonight as priorities. Recommended adding three regular council meetings in a month and study items after that. Continue to look at Rules of Procedure for 11pm end time, how to handle public comment, and how business is being conducted to ensure efficiency and effectiveness.

Baloga asked for status update related to the March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting where the public was informed that the Council would focus on statutorily required business. Asked for information on Bloomington's emergency declaration expiration. Verbrugge said it would largely come down to funding, and what needs to be in place for unanticipated expenditures.

Carter asked for the thought process behind not having lifeguards at the beach. Asked for subtitles on videos that are on social media.

Coulter asked for updates on Community Budget Advisory Committee, and asked how the City will be collecting feedback on the work that is being done. Verbrugge responded that project management will be utilized, and a plan and process will be drafted soon for engaging the community.

### 3. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Baloga, seconded by Martin to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Busse adjourned the meeting at 10:05pm.

Denise Christenson  
Council Secretary

*Denise Christenson*  
7/27/20