

City of Excelsior  
Work Session Meeting

MINUTES

Monday, January 6, 2020

5:30 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Carlson called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Caron, Dierking, Kurschner, Miller (arrived at 5:45 p.m.), and Mayor Carlson

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Luger, Public Works Superintendent Amundsen, Finance Director Horn, and Planning Director Becker

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Dierking moved, Caron seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 4/0.

3. BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION VERSUS OPEN BOOK MEETING

The Council discussed moving from an Open Book Meeting to a Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The Council prefers to keep the meeting as an Open Book Meeting where individuals meet with the City Assessor. The date for 2020 has been set as Thursday, April 23, 2020 beginning at 5:30 p.m.

4. 2020 CITY OF EXCELSIOR OBJECTIVES

The Council reviewed the 2020 City of Excelsior Objectives.

Council Goal: Review Additional Single-Family Standards, a Residential Overlay District, and Zoning Changes

Keep goal as is and schedule a joint work session with the Residential Review Board Research Committee and the City Council. The Planning Commission should be invited to this joint work session.

Council Action Item: Explore solutions to temporarily repair streets that will not be addressed in the near future

Keep action item as is and put topic on a future City Council agenda for discussion.

Council Action Item: Determine scope and timing of Area 2 (George Street, Lafayette Avenue, and West Lake Street)

Change 'Determine scope and timing of Area 2' to 'Complete Area 2'.

Council Action Item: Determine scope and timing of Area 3 (currently defined as Maple Street, Smith Street, and Third Street)

Keep action item as is.

Council Action Items: Evaluate potential pedestrian facility options on Water Street and College Avenue and Complete traffic study and discuss what options to further explore

Combine these two action items to create the following item: 'Evaluate potential pedestrian facility and roadway options on Water Street and College Avenue.'

Council Action Item: Review TIF balance and decide how to utilize the remaining funds

Keep action item as is.

Council Action Item: Assess the drainage and water quality at College Lake

Keep action item as is.

Council Action Item: Clarify the Commissions' role with the review process

Keep action item as is.

Council Action Item: Identify the top three project priorities within the Plan

Delay this action item to 2021.

Council Action Item: Develop a financial plan for implementing a capital project utilizing a combination of \$100,000/year in dock revenue, an approximate balance of \$300,000 in the park improvement fund, grant funding, and philanthropic donations

Remove action item, it was completed in 2019.

Council Action Item: Complete the Mill Street trail feasibility study and evaluate pedestrian facility options for the adjacent neighborhood (Division Street, Second Avenue, and Third Avenue)

Keep action item as is.

Council Action Item: Construct Water Street trail crossing

Keep action item as is.

Council Action Item: Research potential grant options to fund additional projects

Keep action item as is.

Council Action Item: Create a tree replacement plan for the trees on Water Street

Remove action item, it was completed in 2019.

Park and Recreation Commission Goal: Research options for the gazebo by TCF Bank

Change goal to, 'Improve Gateways' and the action item to, 'Research options to replace the gazebo by TCF bank and to enhance the gateways on Excelsior Boulevard, Mill Street, and Oak Street.

Planning Commission Goal: Formula business ordinance

Keep action item as is but place it under a goal relating to the Comprehensive Plan.

Council and Planning Commission Goal: Modify the Planned Unit Development ordinance

Remove action item, it was completed in 2019.

Council and Planning Commission Action Item: Update and add the East Side Small Area Plan

Keep action item as is.

Council and Planning Commission Action Item: Create a workplan to make the Comprehensive Plan a 25-year vision for Excelsior

Keep action item as is and discuss during the joint work session with the Planning Commission.

Council and Park and Recreation Commission Action Item: Work with Community for The Commons on completing the revisions on the special event policy and ordinance

Keep action item as is.

Council and Park and Recreation Commission Action Item: Revisit the mooring policy and ordinance at the end of the dock season and recommend any changes to the Council

Remove action item, it was completed in 2019.

Council Action Item: Create an ordinance that allows residents to receive temporary parking permits for private events administratively

Keep action item as is.

Council Action Item: Address residents who don't have driveways

Remove action item, it was completed in 2019.

Council Goal: Consider incentives for preserving 'cottage commercial' properties

Keep action item as is but place it under a goal relating to the Comprehensive Plan.

Planning Commission Goal: Evaluate reducing the size of 'For Lease' signs

Remove action item, it was completed in 2019.

Council Action Item: Review staffing levels and determine how to more effectively reduce employee turnover and increase recruitment

Keep action item as is.

Council Action Item: Consider how to best use the resources of the Council and the Commissions

Keep action item as is.

Council Action Item: Evaluate best uses for the 810 Excelsior Boulevard building and adjacent cemetery property

Keep action item as is.

Council Action Item: Consider options for City Hall

Keep action item as is.

Council Action Item: Work with state representatives on funding partnerships

Remove action item, it was completed in 2019.

Council Action Item: Explore installing parking meters in new areas

Keep action item as is.

Council Goal: Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Initiatives

Keep action item as is.

Park and Recreation Commission Goal: Explore Installing a Trail in Excelsior-Studer Park

Keep action item as is.

The Council added the following goals to the 2020 list of objectives:

- Assess Development Opportunities for the East and/or West Parking Lot(s)
- Evaluate Potential Usage of Mitten Pond
- Consider Modifying the Spring Road Restrictions Ordinance
- Determine Scope and Timing of Water Street Improvements
- Evaluate Maintenance Options for the East and/or West Parking Lots
- Finalize Scope and Timing of the Met Council Cooperative Project (portions of College Avenue, Water Street, and William Street)
- Research Options for Creating a City-Wide Pedestrian Safety Initiative (such as Vision Zero)

The Council delayed the following goals to 2021:

- Facilitate Access to Excelsior with Transportation Options (biking, ridesharing, public transit options, etc.)
- Improve St. Alban's Bay Bridge

The Council directed staff to place related action items under one goal for their consideration.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Dierking moved, Caron seconded, to adjourn at 6:37 p.m. Motion carried 5/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Luger  
City Manager