

## Falcon Heights City Council Workshop

City Hall  
2077 W Larpenteur Ave.  
6:30 p.m.

### MINUTES Wednesday, September 2, 2015

#### 1) Discussion Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)-Residency Requirements for the Fire Department

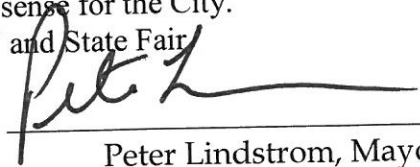
- The Fire Department is requesting review of the eligibility requirement of response time for firefighters. The request is to require that all current fire department personnel physically live or work (able to respond to calls from work) within a ten (10) minute drive time from the fire station.
- Currently the City has an informal policy within various documents that that have different requirements.
- Recommendations are being made to change statements of “terminated” to “recommended for termination” in the disciplinary policy. As well as, changing reporting actions “the City Council at the first Council meeting” to “the Administrator for review”. An additional stipulation is to be added, “Termination- Recommendation(s) will be reviewed by the City Administrator and directed to the Personnel Committee. Final termination procedures will be reviewed and executed by the City Council.” The City Council is the only body that has the authority to terminate City Employees.
- Councilor Long asked the question “Are we in search of a solution without a problem?” It was indicated in the fire study and the recent Annual Fire Report presented by Fire Chief Hinrichs that we have a very quick response time compared to other departments and that our response time is in line with previous years.
- The question was asked how many people this policy would affect, and the response was one. It was recommended that we look at alternatives for the implementation of the policy in terms of grandfathering the one individual or the whole department.
- The Council recommends further research into best practices and other volunteer fire departments policies for:
  - Eligibility requirements and recruitment plans
  - Standards for living/working distance
  - How does this affect response time, and how do they define response time?

## 2) Discussion on Future Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) with City Engineer

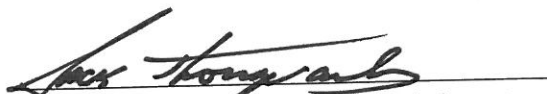
- The city maintains an average Pavement Condition Index (PCI) Range of 74.07 citywide. The last PCI rating was done in 2013. The PCI is a numerical index between 0 to 100 which is used to indicate the general condition of a pavement. The higher the number, the better the pavement.
- Currently sanitary sewer lining is about 21% complete, with some of the lining still as old as the homes built in the area. If the City continues to line every other year, the City should be completed in the fourteen (14) years.

## 3) Discussion of the Draft 2015 General Fund Budget (Part II)

- The City is required to adopt a preliminary levy by September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- The preferred levy is 8.27% (about \$45 dollars a year for a medium sized home) to levy for the true cost of government. The major of the increase comes from the debt service from the purchase of the new fire truck. The debt service for the fire truck is over \$100,000 per year until 2023.
- Some of the highlights to make note that affects the budget:
  - The amount of local government aid was increased by \$9,309.
    - LGA will increase from \$531,308 to \$540,617
  - There was an increase for police services of less than 3%.
  - There was a change in Fire Department costs due to a full time Fire Chief position going to part time.
  - The Lauderdale fire contract is an annual automatic renewal contract.
    - The formula currently used to calculate the contract cost for the City of Lauderdale is based on total market value. This will need to be reviewed for future years to make sure it makes sense for the City.
  - 30-40% of sanitary sewer is paid for by UMN and State Fair

  
Peter Lindstrom, Mayor

Dated this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2015

  
Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator