

Falcon Heights Council Workshop Minutes
March 3, 2010

Members present: Mayor Lindstrom, Council members Long, Harris and Gosline

Members absent: Council member Mercer-Taylor

Others present: Administrator Justin Miller; Chief John Ohl, Deputy Clerk Michelle Tesser

Administrative Fines

Miller presented details on administrative fines including the procedures and restrictions. Key points covered were offenses allowed, the appeal process and the possible fines received. Offenses covered by the administrative fines include: speeding under 10 mph, stop line violations and various safety violations such as broken taillights, texting while driving, failure to use lights, etc. A neutral third party would have to be hired for disputed tickets. Chief Ohl discussed the offenses and police procedure when dealing with various safety violations and speeding. Council reviewed the information provided. Council agreed not to pursue the adoption of the administrative fines at this time. Council will revisit if Legislation amends the statute.

Social Host Ordinance

Tesser provided the Council with researched information regarding the facts and background of a social host ordinance including an example of the City of Chaska's social host ordinance. Currently, 40 cities and counties have adopted the social host ordinance. Chief Ohl presented the statistical information on underage consumption and possession of alcohol in Falcon Heights. Chief Ohl also identified gaps that the law currently does not cover that the social host ordinance would fill which includes: penalizing the host, tenant or homeowner of the underage drinking party. Council discussed the ramification of adopting the ordinance. Council instructed staff to draft the ordinance and continue to research how other cities have handled the adoption of the ordinance including any potential issues, experiences or prosecuting difficulties. Staff will speak with legal council and bring a drafted ordinance to the council at a future meeting.

The workshop concluded at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Tesser
Deputy City Clerk