I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Furlong called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Scott Thorsen
Council Member Candy Petersen
Council Member Tom Sonnek
Council Member Jan Walczak
Mayor Terry Furlong

Staff: City Manager Scott Duddeck, Deputy Clerk Mary Mills, Finance Director Jason Zimmerman

Guests: Ramsey County Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt

III. ADOPT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Petersen, seconded by Council Member Thorsen, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to approve the agenda as presented.

IV. TOPIC(S)

Ramsey County Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt and council had dialog regarding several items.

1. MnDOT Plans for the Highway 120 and Highway 36 interchange. This continues to be a struggle for North St. Paul. This interchange is not on the MnDOT ten year plan, and council inquired if Reinhardt could suggest any ways to help. The City of Oakdale is supportive but has no funding. Reinhardt noted the best way to begin is to contact Washington County Commission Stan Karwoski. He is very familiar with this project and the importance of getting it moved up on the list. He is the best starting point and Washington County needs to take the lead on this with North St. Paul providing support. The Legislature needs to put pressure on MnDOT. It was also noted that Washington County should reach out to Congresswoman Betty McCollum.

   Also discussed briefly was the question about publicly owned property being sold to MnDOT. Can the City get credit if it already owns the property and contributes that property to the project. The question seems to be the timing.

2. City Manager Duddeck talked about the trash hauler contract, tipping fees and the loss of the hauler rebate. Reinhardt stated that the elimination of the rebate was driven by Washington County, and all haulers knew it was eventually going away. Reinhardt talked about the resource recovery unit and the reduction of the County Environmental Charge.
3. City Manager Duddeck reviewed the agreement with Ramsey County for the purchase of the property at 2198 2nd Street. There had been some confusion on the percentage listed in the agreement as it relates to the median family income. At the time of the city request it was listed at 115%. The agreement received back from the county listed it at 80%. Reinhardt noted that the Board intended to reduce it 80% but the 115% should be honored for this agreement. Duddeck will follow up with her on this.

4. Zimmerman discussed the proposed market values and tax capacities reports. He noted how difficult it is to get early data from Ramsey County to prepare for the city’s budget process. Dakota county puts out preliminary data in April. Ramsey County doesn’t release it until August. Reinhardt will talk to the County and see if that can be addressed. Duddeck and Zimmerman discussed the proposed market value increase for North St. Paul.

Reinhardt summarized the County’s budget process. They are on a two year cycle and requesting an increase of 4.5% in 2020 and 4.75 in 2021. She explained the new department being implemented and what its intent is. It is for transforming systems of justice and racial equity. Half the budget is spent in health and well being. The Ramsey County budget is an outcome based budget with four service teams.

5. Duddeck discussed the Ramsey County Library and the pending sale of the Community Center. Does the library want to remain there, or would it prefer to be relocated in the city.

V. OTHER BUSINESS
There was no other business.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Council Member Petersen, seconded by Council Member Sonnek, with all present voting aye (5-0), Mayor Furlong adjourned the workshop meeting at 6:22 p.m.

/s/ Terrence J. Furlong, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Scott A. Duddeck, City Manager