



## **SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**

**AFTON CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**3033 St. Croix Trail South**

**Monday, August 27, 2018**

**At 6:00 p.m.**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – August 27, 2018 Special Council Meeting**
- 4. CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS**
  - A. Downtown Improvement Project**
- 5. ADJOURN**

**A quorum of the City Council or Other Commissions may be present to receive information at, but not limited to, any of the following meetings: Planning Commission; the Public Works Committee; Parks Committee; Design Review and Heritage Preservation Commission; Lower St. Croix Cable Commission; LSCWMO; MSCWMO; I-94 Corridor Coalition and the 5-City Mayor's Alliance.**

City of Afton  
3033 St. Croix Trl, P.O. Box 219  
Afton, MN 55001

**Meeting Date August 27 July 24, 2**

## **Council Action Memo**

To: Mayor Bend and Members of the City Council  
From: Ron Moore, City Administrator  
Date: August 27, 2018  
Re: Downtown Village Improvement Project

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### **Levee Vegetation**

The levee vegetation issue is being brought to a Special Council Meeting because the grading on the unseeded portion of the levee is complete, and this portion of the levee needs to be revegetated as soon as possible to prevent erosion.

At its August 21, 2018 meeting, the Council directed staff to obtain recommendations from the Valley Branch Watershed District (VBWD), the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Washington Conservation District (WCD) regarding vegetation for the levee. Nick Guilliams, City Engineer, was unable to get a meeting set up between the USACE, VBWD, and WCD, but was able to discuss the levee vegetation with them. Neither the VBWD nor the WCD wanted to provide recommendations regarding vegetation for the levee. The USACE did not provide a recommendation, but did indicate that, at the time of its annual inspection of the levee, the vegetation would need to be at a height that allows them to inspect the levee for erosion and other impacts to the levee.

The City Engineer has recommended that the areas that have already been seeded with native mix be left as-is, due to the substantial time and expense of replacing the vegetation with a different seed mix. This leaves two areas of the levee for which decisions need to be made regarding the seed mix. The two areas are the lower area of the levee on the river side and the northern portion of the levee that has just recently been final-graded and prepared for seeding.

#### **Lower area of the levee on the river side**

In this area, the native seed mix did not survive the high water, so a new mix that can tolerate periods of high water is needed. The City Engineer is recommending the use of seed mix 33-621, which is designed to survive seasonal flooding.

#### **Northern portion of the levee**

This is the portion of the levee in the area of the flood gate structure that has not yet been seeded but was recently final-graded in preparation for seeding. The City Engineer is recommending seed mix 25-131, which is a low maintenance (no mow) turf grass. This was the mix initially proposed for the levee by the City Engineer, but was not what the VBWD initially wanted.

#### **Council Action Requested:**

**Motion to provide direction regarding the seed mix to be used on the lower area of the levee on the river side and the seed mix to be used on the northern portion of the levee that has not yet been seeded.**