

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE AFTON CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF AFTON
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

APPROVED City Council Work Session Minutes
October 16, 2017
Afton City Hall
3033 St. Croix Trail
Afton, MN 55001
5:00 P.M.

1. **THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER** at 5:00 P.M. by Mayor Bend.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Council Members Nelson, Ross, and Mayor Bend. Absent: Richter and Palmquist.
Quorum Present.

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Ron Moorse and City Attorney Fritz Knaak.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA-**
Motion/Second: Bend/Ross. To approve the agenda. Motion carried 3-0-0.

(Palmquist arrived at 5:05 p.m.)

4. **CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS**

- A. Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) Proposal Regarding the Use of its Property on the South Side of Hudson Road East of the Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church.

Eric Davis, Mn/DOT Chief of Staff outlined a proposal to lease approximately 10 acres of the 37 acre parcel for use as a solar farm. He indicated he understands that the City's zoning code does not allow a solar farm on this site, but State Statute exempts Mn/DOT from local zoning regulations when using their property for a transportation-related or supportive use.

Fritz Knaak, City Attorney, indicated he believes the City could make a case against the exemption.

Mayor Bend indicated that he would like to avoid legal conflict between two public entities.

Eric Davis also indicated he would like to work out a solution to avoid legal conflict. He also indicated it is important that Mn/DOT assert its rights when necessary in order to protect them for future use.

Mayor Bend suggested that it may be possible to avoid a legal conflict if the City and Mn/DOT could work out an agreement that would enable the City to determine the parameters of the use so that it would not have negative impacts on adjacent properties and would not affect the City's ability to assert its zoning rights in relation to any future land use proposals by Mn/DOT in Afton.

5. **ADJOURN –**

Motion/Second: Nelson/Bend: To adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m. Motion carried 5-0-0.

52 Respectfully submitted by:

53

54

55

Ronald J. Moorse, City Administrator

56

57

Approved by Council (on November 21, 2017) as (check one): Presented: X

58

Amended: _____

59

60

Signed by Mayor Richard Bend _____

61

Date 11/21/17