

**CITY OF BURNSVILLE
WORKSESSION MINUTES
MAY 13, 2008**

The City Council of the City of Burnsville met for a Worksession at the Burnsville City Hall, 100 Civic Center Parkway, Burnsville, Minnesota on the 13th day of May, 2008.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Kautz.

Council Present: *C. Crichton, D. Gustafson, E. Kautz, D. Kealey, L. Workman*
Council Absent: *None*
Staff Present: *C. Ebeling, T. Omdal, T. Hansen, M. Brooks, J. Faulkner, A. Poehler, B. Osmundson, S. Nienhaus, J. Skelly, T. Hansen*
Others Present: *J. Gessner, S. Briggs, D. Von Heldon, E. Delmoro, R. Vanderlaan, P. Heuer, M. Stotts, T. Taylor, J. Louwagie, P. Johnson, L. Boyd, K. Anderson*

ITEM 1. POTENTIAL ECONOMIC GROWTH COMMITTEE (EGC) RECONFIGURATION

Jenni Faulkner, Community Development Director, provided a brief summary regarding the potential Economic Growth Committee (EGC) reconfiguration discussions and went over the draft policy for an Economic Development Commission.

Council discussed the following issues:

- Advisory boards need to be transparent and televised.
- Unlike the Planning Commission, EDA public hearings cannot legally be conducted at a commission meeting. They must be held at the EDA meeting.
 - To delegate that authority would give them taxing authority, etc.
 - Still conduct public input hearings.
- A commission would be advisory to the City Council and the EDA.
- Would also be the first place to start with new businesses seeking TIF, etc., review strip mall policies, and fiber/broadband issues.
- It is possible to have a City commission and keep the current format of the EGC under the Chamber of Commerce for advocacy purposes.
 - The advocacy group could continue to have City liaisons.
- Current EGC members fall on both sides of the issue. Consensus that they want more ‘teeth’ and that more structure would be good. They want to be active, useful, and valuable. Not just meet to meet. The current EGC has been underutilized.
- Councilmember Kealey asked if we could we treat it like a commission without turning it into a commission.
 - Certain responsibilities would not be possible under the current format.
 - Commissions are entrusted with more power and responsibilities because they must adhere to certain laws (Open Meeting Law, Gift Law, etc) and have more training.
- Currently, the EGC deals mainly with issues about clearance, land use, and financing.
- Councilmember Crichton’s initial objection was that the EGC was to advise both the City Council and the Chamber of Commerce Board, but the EGC never functioned the way it was intended.
- The proposed commission would retain the current EGC members. More resources and staff time would be dedicated to them and the Council would delegate responsibilities like fee policies, private activity bonds, creation of new TIF districts to a commission, etc.

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ITEM 1. POTENTIAL EGC RECONFIGURATION (continued)

City Manager Craig Ebeling interjected that it seems there are two roles here. A role of creating business, and a role of regulating business. The City administers laws and regulatory issues and therefore a formal membership for a regulatory body should be set by the Council. Similar to the Planning Commission, it would function under the same laws and adhere to policies on conflicts of interest, ethics, gift law, etc. The current EGC cannot really straddle both roles because the two roles would likely be in conflict with each another at times.

Chamber of Commerce Board Chair Peggy Johnson said that we've had a lot of good discussion, the information was gathered in a thoughtful way, but our opinions differ. The Chamber's position is that they value the relationship with the City and believe we could make the current EGC structure work, but not necessarily get into regulatory issues. However, if the City chose to move forward with a commission, they will continue to work with the City. Mr. Von Heldon stated that the letter submitted to the Council was prepared with a "single vehicle" notion in mind, working together as partners to continue the EGC.

EGC Chair Tom Taylor explained that he believes it is not so much an issue of power, but that value is added. The current EGC structure was operating, but not providing much value. Admittedly, even as a leader, he stated he was not sure what the City was looking for EGC to do and not sure what the Chamber intended for the EGC to do. Members are not trained and not well utilized. There's so much more that the EGC could do as it is now, but not going to address regulatory issues. If EGC continues, direction should be addressed again as to what should be accomplished and how. It's important to have this group that has city, chamber, school district, and other interests within the community advising on policy to the City, Chamber, and could extend to the School Districts, etc. addressing the challenge of greater coordinator of services. The current EGC body has that opportunity.

Council discussed the following issues:

- Current Resolution's statement of purpose has language that was developed 20 years ago when we were a growing and developing community. Now that we're redeveloping we have different needs.
- An expanded EGC format could include other community stakeholders
 - This type of committee should be an entity lead by Chamber direction.
 - Mr. Taylor responded that he felt the City should continue to provide a leadership role because it has the resources and it is a major partner.
 - Dakota County should also be involved.

Council consensus that this expanded committee has value but staff should move forward with establishment of an Economic Development Commission to address regulatory issues and serve in an advisory capacity to the City Council as well as the Economic Development Authority (EDA). Under this direction, the current Economic Growth Committee members shall be appointed to the EDC, wherein they will all get the appropriate legal and financial training. Council directed staff to amend the draft policy to include TIF and Tax Abatement applications as an area of responsibility for the Commission and send to a Regular Council meeting for approval.

ITEM 2. DISCUSSION ON BURNSVILLE/EAGAN COMMUNITY TELEVISION (BECT) LOCATION

Craig Ebeling, City Manager, stated that the City of Burnsville has had some great meetings with the City of Eagan and a successful partnership for the last 22 years. Tonight's discussion on relocating the cable television operation is not a reflection that Burnsville and Eagan cannot agree to operate together, but rather a re-fabrication of the partnership to make it better.

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ITEM 2. DISCUSSION ON BECT LOCATION (continued)

Tom Hansen, Deputy City Manager, reviewed the timeline of this process from May 2006 to the present day and briefly reviewed the options. The Council will need to give notice to the current landlord in June 2008 if we don't intend to stay. The new partnership proposed with ISD 191 has the following advantages:

- Simplified management structure
- Improved student based programming/learning
- No long-term lease commitment
- Shared capital with new partners
- \$500,000 savings over five years
- Projected 29% fund balance in 2013

If the Council supports the proposal, staff would bring back a Memorandum of Understanding with Eagan that would take the place of the current Joint Powers Agreement, and a Contractual Agreement with ISD 191. The School Board would also need to approve this agreement.

Mayor Kautz stated that there's a richness in this expansion with new partners and how we now meet our objectives for ends and outcomes with our youth, provide hands-on experience for a new career field, and save money for our citizens. Everybody wins. Staff also reported that this partnership will benefit all three school districts.

Mr. Stotts stated that their technical people are really excited and hope to expand the curriculum. There is a benefit in the expertise that the City brings. Mr. Skelly commented that many of the current programs are for youth already, so hopefully we will experience an increase in youth volunteerism.

Council consensus to direct staff to move forward with the proposed partnership with ISD 191 for the relocation of the Cable Television operation. Council asked Mr. Stotts to tell the School Board that we are excited about the new partnership.

ITEM 3. WITHDRAWN - REVIEW RUHR DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL**ITEM 4. ROUNDTABLE****➤ Discussion on Utility Billing Format**

Craig Ebeling, City Manager, reported on the concern Council Crichton had with the transparency of rates on the utility bills. Council reviewed Councilmember Crichton's proposed format and discussed related costs. Resident can currently get the detailed if requested. Council consensus to direct staff to provide an insert at the beginning of every year explaining the new rates and how the utility fees will be calculated. This information will also be made available on the website.

➤ Reports on Advisory Boards & External Organizations

Charlie Crichton – Nothing to report.

Dan Kealey – Nothing to report.

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ITEM 4. ROUNDTABLE (continued)

Dan Gustafson

- 35W Solutions
 - Discussed bringing Lakeville into the transit taxing district
 - Seven county transit taxing district concept is back in Omnibus Transportation Bill.
- EGC met this morning.
 - Discussed the Mackin Book location. Agreed that there is no compelling reason to change the zoning.

Liz Workman

- 35W Solutions
 - UPA Update – open house at Best Buy.
- Sioux Trail
 - Last meeting of the year
- Mary Mother of the Church
 - Undergoing a \$2.6M renovation this summer.
 - Ed Delmoro - Still trying to relocate the farmers market.

Mayor Kautz

- Minnesota Valley Transit Authority
 - Service for Cedar Corridor and 35W
 - Met with the Met Council representative to clarify his role and how he represents us
- Suburban Transit Authority
 - Still working on omnibus tax bill
- DCC Board of Directors
 - Elected Mayor George Tourville as Vice Chair
 - Shifting into operations mode - one glitch so far so far has been corrected.
- THE GARAGE Advisory Committee
 - The new structure is going well and the kids are very engaged.
 - New coffee shop should be up and running for Cops with a Cause.
 - Told them we are enforcing skate boarding laws.
 - Kids working with Dakota County on new prevention method.
- Healthy Cities Challenge

➤ **Advisory Board Interviews**

Council consensus to waive the interviews for Chris Teiken, Planning Commission and Michael Hughes, Black Dog Watershed Management Organization. The Special Worksession will begin at 4:30 p.m., instead of 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, May 27th if there is not enough time for all the scheduled interviews to be concluded before 9:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Macheal Brooks, Deputy City Clerk

Approved by the City Council of the City of Burnsville this 19th day of May, 2008.

Elizabeth B. Kautz, Mayor