

**Staff Summary
City of Minnetonka
City Council Study Session
Monday, Sept. 9, 2019**

Council Present: Susan Carter, Mike Happe, Tim Bergstedt, Bob Ellingson, Deb Calvert, Rebecca Schack and Mayor Brad Wiersum.

Staff: Geralyn Barone, Corrine Heine, Mike Funk, Moranda Dammann, Becky Koosman, Joel Merry, Scott Boerboom, Andy Gardner, Shelley Petersen, John Vance, Kevin Maas.

Wiersum called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

1. Report from the City Manager

Geralyn Barone welcomed Assistant City Manager Mike Funk. She explained the City of Minnetonka has been accepted into the Xcel Energy program. Geralyn also congratulated the communications staff on a national award.

2. City charter and elections

Corrine Heine discussed City Charter rules.

David Haeg (FairVote MN) gave his presentation on Rank Choice Voting. PowerPoint Presentation included in the agenda packet.

Moranda Dammann discussed Minnetonka elections and council vacancies in the past 20 years. She discussed how voting procedures effect all residents and that the city must educate residents on any changes that may come, so that on Election Day voters have a great voting experience.

She explained the Presidential Nomination Primary in March has historically been done by the parties and will now be done by the city. There will also be a State Primary and General Presidential Election in 2020, along with the census. The city will be looking at redistricting and/ or ward changes based on those results.

Council gave informal direction, indicating that they would like the Charter Commission to look at rank choice voting and elections. A number of suggestions from council members were discussed on the scope of the commissions inquiry including; to look at elections in even numbered years, to look at all other voting system including but not limited to rank choice voting, looking at data to see if voter participation does increase with RCV, and to discuss if RCV could be done for special elections only.

Funding for the study was discussed as it could change the preliminary levy. The council left open the possibility of finding funds later, after the commission takes an initial look and develops its work plan. The Charter Commission will meet in November and set a work plan for moving forward.

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3. Public Safety Facilities Update

Presentation by: Kraus- Anderson Construction.

Discussion tonight is that the twenty five million dollar fire and police facility is over budget due to increases in material and labor. Staff is looking for a recommendation.

Council discussed and all were all in support of the proposed increase of five million dollars for the public safety facilities project. They are in support of the funding structure provided that the project still meets the needs and safety for the future.

4. Adjournment

Staff adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Becky Koosman
City Clerk