

**Unofficial Minutes
City of Minnetonka
City Council Study Session
Monday, September 14, 2020**

Council Present: Councilmembers Deb Calvert, Bradley Schaeppi, Kissy Coakley, Brian Kirk, Rebecca Schack, and Mayor Brad Wiersum

Staff: Geralyn Barone, Mike Funk, Corrine Heine, Darin Nelson, Julie Wischnack, Alisha Gray

Wiersum called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1. Report from City Manager & Council Members

Barone reported on the upcoming council meeting schedule.

Calvert provided an update on the work of the League of Minnesota Cities' Race and Equity Task Force and Improving Service Delivery Policy Committee. She also gave an update from the National League of Cities Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

Schack reported that the Southwest Transit light rail project is now fully funded.

Wiersum reported the League of Minnesota Cities' board held a virtual retreat, and provided some highlights from the event.

2. Proclamation for Direct Support Professional Recognition Week

Wiersum read the proclamation.

3. Affordable Housing Update

Wischnack and Gray gave a presentation covering background information on the city's housing goals and work plan, the associated implementation strategies, housing initiatives available to residents, and the organizational membership of the Affordable Housing Workgroup.

Councilmembers offered questions and comments on these topics.

Wischnack then highlighted key statistics regarding the regional housing and commercial property markets.

4. Homes Within Reach Discussion

Wischnack and Gray gave a presentation covering background information on the

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Homes Within Reach program, previous discussions regarding funding for the program since its establishment by the city council in 2001, and the areas of concern regarding the program itself and the land trust model it is built on.

Councilmembers offered questions and comments on the topic.

Council expressed support for the tentative allocation of \$200,000 towards the program in the 2022 city budget and the use of Community Development Block Grant funds to help program homeowners pay for essential repairs. Council also directed staff to compile additional data on the program in order to better evaluate its successes and failures. Lastly, the council requested an annual report from the West Hennepin Affordable Housing Land Trust on the program at either an Economic Development Advisory Commission or City Council meeting as a way to track its progress.

Wischnack stated staff would compile the additional program data requested and provide it to the council. She stated as a tentative plan for a next step, the West Hennepin Affordable Housing Land Trust could give a presentation on the program prior to the development of the Economic Improvement Program, which would allow council to have their questions and concerns addressed.

5. Adjournment

Wiersum adjourned the meeting at 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Salage
Elections Specialist