

**INVER GROVE HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, August 13, 2018- 8150 BARBARA AVENUE**

1. CALL TO ORDER 2. ROLL CALL:

The City Council of Inver Grove Heights met in regular session on Monday, August 13, 2018, in the City Council Chambers. Mayor Tourville called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present were: Councilmembers Piekarski Krech, Bartholomew, Hark, and Perry; City Attorney Kuntz, Public Works Director Thureen, Community Development Director Link, Incoming Community Development Director Gundlach, Police Chief Schnell, City Planner Hunting, Parks and Recreation Director Carlson, and Community Development Support Specialist Fox.

Absent were: Recording Clerk Yourczek.

3. PRESENTATIONS:

A. Swearing in New Police Officer

Police Chief Paul Schnell introduced their newest Police Officer, Lauren Ireland, stating that she will be Sworn in this evening. She is the 40th Officer to join the Department. He stated that Lauren graduated from North Dakota State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. She is here this evening along with her parents and siblings. He commented that her Father is the Deputy Chief of Police for the Coon Rapids Police Department. He stated that Lauren went through a hiring process that included different interview panels, two of which included members of the Inver Grove Heights Community. She also went through a comprehensive background investigation, and an extension of a conditional offer, she went through a psychological examination, medical evaluation, and preemployment drug test. Ms. Ireland met the requirements established by the City of Inver Grove Heights, the Police Department, and the State of Minnesota. Chief Schnell stated they are prepared to swear her in as the City's newest Police Officer.

He stated that the Oath of Office is a promise Police Officers make to provide just, fair, and effective service. Police Officers have a unique role and will exercise equally high levels of restraint in the use of authority.

Police Chief Schnell presented Lauren Ireland for the Administration of the Oath of Office.

Mayor Tourville recited the Oath of Office to Lauren Ireland.

Chief Schnell stated that her Badge will be pinned on her uniform and that at times the true weight of the Badge will be immense. He stated that they are asked and trained to confront grave danger to protect the lives of the people in this Community.

He referenced a story written by Lieutenant John Morrison called "Walking the Point" which references the following three rules:

1. Officers have to face certain danger and not run away from them.
2. You can't change Rule Number 1.
3. Somebody has to go in, somebody has to walk the point.

He stated that there is always one soldier out in front of everyone else. Walking the Point is all about protecting the safety of others even if it means giving up a part of your own in the process. He stated that he tells this story as a reminder of every time an Officer becomes active it cannot be forgotten that you cannot change Rule Number 1. He stated that she will be presented with Badge Number 3638 which her Father will pin on her and that she will return this Badge at the end of her career.

Deputy Chief Ireland pinned the Badge on the uniform of his daughter, Police Officer Lauren Ireland.

Congratulations were offered and pictures were taken of the City Council with Police Officer Lauren Ireland.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. i. Minutes of July 23, 2018 City Council Meeting Minutes.
ii. Minutes of August 6, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes.
- B. **Resolution 18-163** Approving Disbursements for Period Ending August 8, 2018.
- C. Approval of Drkulas Liquor License Extension Application September 6-9th 2018.
- D. Consider Approval of Comcast Franchise Renewal, Northern Dakota County Cable Communications Commission (NDC4) **Resolution 18-164**.
- E. Consider Proposal from Century Link to Bury Overhead Phone Cable at Heritage Village Park.
- F. Consider Proposal from Xcel Energy to Bury Overhead Power Lines at Heritage Village Park.
- G. Consider Proposal from WSB Inc. for Construction Administration and Observation Services at Heritage Village Park.
- H. Consider Purchase of R-22 Arena Refrigerant.
- I. Consider Occupancy Extension for the Walser Property – 4343 65th St E.
- J. Consider Change Order No 2 – West Rink Floor Project – City Project 2018-1722.
- K. Consider Change Order No 3 – West Rink Floor Project – City Project 2018-1722.
- L. Consider Proposal for HVAC/Duct Cleaning at the VMCC/Grove.
- M. Request for Approval of Rental Housing License.
- N. Approval of an Agreement with Xcel Energy for Topsoil and Seeding on City Project No. 201724 – T.H. 3 Intersection Improvements for the 65th Street Project. **Resolution 18-165**.
- O. Consider **Resolution 18-166** Accepting Proposal for Stormwater Construction Observation Services from Barr Engineering Co. for the Blackstone Vista 3rd Addition Development.
- P. Consider Approval of Contract for Services Agreement with ISD 199 for a School Resource Officer (2018-2019). **Resolution 18-167**.
- Q. BETH & STEVE HOEPPNER; Approve **Resolution 18-168** relating to the Storm Water Facilities Maintenance Agreement for the property located at 6511 Arctic Way.
- R. Consider Replacement of Fitness Equipment for Veterans Memorial Community Center.
- S. Accept 2018 Donations & Grants for Various Parks and Recreation Programs.
- T. Personnel Actions.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech requested pulling Agenda Items 4E and F.

Motion by Bartholomew second by Perry to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of Agenda Items 4E and F.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Mayor Tourville stated that they will address Agenda Item 4E to Consider Proposal from Century Link to Bury Overhead Phone Cable at Heritage Village Park.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech stated that the numbers sound great. She asked if they exceed the numbers and if that was going to be the entire cost.

Parks and Recreation Director Eric Carlson responded that those were the numbers provided to him by both of the utilities.

Motion by Piekarski Krech second by Perry to approve Agenda Item 4E to Consider Proposal from Century Link to Bury Overhead Phone Cable at Heritage Village Park and Agenda Item 4F to

Consider Proposal from Xcel Energy to Bury Overhead Power Lines at Heritage Village Park and label them “Not to exceed costs.”**Ayes: 5****Nays: 0 Motion carried.****5. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Jessica Schwartz, 1975 63rd Street East stated that she would like to propose a change to the City Ordinance that states that dogs may be controlled by leash or voice command. She suggested that they consider a leash by means of restraint for a dog. She stated that they have had several incidences while biking where they have encountered animals that were not leashed and that safety risks were involved where a dog came up right to her daughter’s face. She commented that another time she was with her children and a dog became angry while not controlled by a leash.

Mayor Tourville asked if she reported the incidences.

Ms. Schwartz responded that she did not report the incidences. She commented that she was unaware of who the dog owners were.

Mayor Tourville suggested that she report them in the future and Dial 911. The number can be used to notify the emergency center so that there is documentation.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech commented that voice command can often be questionable.

Parks and Recreation Director Eric Carlson stated that they are in the process of updating the Ordinances when it relates to dogs and dog leashing, and how it relates to the future dog park. He commented that this will be brought before the City Council in the near future.

Councilmember Hark asked if other Cities had leash only rules.

Parks Director Carlson responded that other Cities do, but that he could not list specifics at this time.

Councilmember Bartholomew asked if he was aware of the number of complaints they receive for voice command and that that do not leash in City parks and trails.

Parks Director Carlson responded that they have received complaints, particularly in the Rich Valley Park area, but that other parts of town have received feedback too.

6. PUBLIC HEARING:**7. REGULAR AGENDA:****I. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:****A. WILLIAM KRECH; Consider a Resolution relating to a Vacation and rededication of a drainage and utility easement for property located at 10118 Adam Avenue. Resolution 18-169.**

Community Development Director Tom Link stated that the property is located west of Rich Valley Boulevard and north of 102nd Street on Adam Avenue. The Applicant wants to install a pool and patio area in an area that currently has City drainage and utility easements. He displayed a diagram of the area stating that the Applicant is proposing to provide new drainage and utility easements on the south and north side of the pool. He stated that the size of those easements would be sufficient to maintain the current storage volume. Staff has reviewed the Application and is agreeable to it along with some

conditions made by the City Engineer. He stated that City Staff recommends approval of the request and that the Planning Commission also unanimously recommends approval.

William Krech, 10118 Adams Avenue stated that he has worked with the City and does not have any questions or issues.

Mayor Tourville stated that there were Conditions placed on this by the City and asked Mr. Krech if he was agreeable to them.

Mr. Krech responded that he agreed with the Conditions.

Motion by Hark second by Bartholomew to approve to Consider a Resolution 18-169 relating to a Vacation and rededication of a drainage and utility easement for property located at 10118 Adam Avenue.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

B. HAMPTON COMPANIES; Consider a Resolution relating to a Final Plat, Final PUD Development Plan for the plat of Scenic Hills. Property located on the north side of 80th Street, between Hwy 3 and Babcock Trail. Resolution 18-170.

City Planner Allan Hunting stated that the Final PUD and Plat for the development off of 80th and Highway 3 is consistent with the preliminary plans. The project consists of 67 detached single-family lots and one 32-unit senior care building. There are public streets coming from 80th Street as well as private. He stated that the development has satisfied the conditions of the approval. Engineering is satisfied with the plans, but there are final details to be worked out with the Development Agreement and other Agreements before the work begins. Staff is recommending approval of the plan as presented.

Joel Larson, President of Hampton Companies, 1341 County Road D Circle, Vadnais Heights stated that he is here to answer any questions and commented that Staff has done a nice job working with him.

Councilmember Hark asked if the idea was to have people transition from the detached homes to the senior housing unit.

He asked Mr. Larson if he was comfortable with the close setbacks.

Mr. Larson responded that they could transition over to the senior units, as that was their original intention, but that they felt that a lot of young professionals would come in that don't want the yards, those of which will be maintained by an Association. He commented that he was comfortable with the setbacks, as that seems to be what people want.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech asked if the homes would be single-level, multi-level, or varied.

Mr. Larson responded that there would be both single-level and multi-level.

Mayor Tourville stated that there have been some questions about access and that there are some private roads there now. He asked if those will be maintained going forward.

Mr. Larson responded that their intention was to have access to the back of the property and that they will maintain those as the grading and construction moves forward. They will tie in to one of their private streets so they won't have to relocate their driveway.

Councilmember Bartholomew asked if that was a permanent easement.

Mr. Larson responded yes, that it was a permanent easement.

Motion by Piekarski Krech second by Perry to approve HAMPTON COMPANIES; to Consider a Resolution 18-170 relating to a Final Plat, Final PUD Development Plan for the plat of Scenic Hills. Property located on the north side of 80th Street, between Hwy 3 and Babcock Trail.

Mayor Tourville asked how long the development in Vadnais Heights was open.

Mr. Larson responded that the project was opened a year ago and is at 100% capacity after four months. He stated that they have opened another one in Roseville and were 30% full in less than three weeks.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

C. CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS; Consider a Resolution relating to a Preliminary Plat and Final Plat for the plat of McGroarty Park 1st Addition. Property located on west side of Blaine Avenue, south of Upper 55th Street. (Tabled).

Community Development Director Link stated that the property was located along the west side of Blaine, and south of Upper 55th near the AmericInn. It is owned by the City but is in response to a request by AmericInn to acquire 2.5 acres on the south side of their Hotel. He stated that the plat consists of two lots, future road right of way and an outlot for further development. It is AmericInn's intent to use Lot 1 for the Park and Ride facility that is currently located at the AMC Theater. He stated that the proposal meets the minimum lot size and width requirements. Engineering has reviewed the plans and is comfortable with the designs and plat. He noted that if approved and if there is a purchase agreement, there would be approvals required for a Comprehensive Plan Amendment for Rezoning, for a site plan, and Interim Use Permit, and that details for those would come at a later time. Staff is recommending approval. He stated that the Planning Commission unanimously recommended denial of the Application as they believed this area should be preserved as an entire lot and that they should continue to reserve it for office development, which is the current Comprehensive Plan designation.

Brett Rose, 5861 Blaine Avenue introduced himself and commented that he was here to answer any questions.

Joseph Scott Smith, 5986 Blaine Avenue stated that he emailed information to the City Council regarding his concerns with this proposal. He stated that the property is zoned as office and if the proposed request is approved it will be zoned as residential commercial. He stated that they looked at the 2030 Comprehensive Plan and asked that the City Council honor the commitment made in that plan and confirm the Planning Commission's recommendation to deny the proposal. He also asked that they take into consideration the changes this would have on the neighboring residents, wildlife, noise abatement, and aesthetics when determining the future use of the land.

Molly Steiner, 6008 Blaine Avenue commented that she is a neighbor of Mr. and Mrs. Smith and said that she agreed with everything Mr. Smith stated. She said when she purchased her property four years ago she relied on information on how the property was zoned. She commented that she would have not purchased her home if she had known it was going to be developed into a parking lot. She stated that she visits the Movie Theater and has witnessed the comings and goings from the parking lot and would not be comfortable with that being moved across the street from where she lives. She asked that they honor the original plan for the property. She stated that it was mentioned at the Planning Commission meeting that there has not been any effort to market the property for its intended office use. She asked that they consider doing that.

Councilmember Bartholomew asked if she was concerned with the parking lot activity. He commented that it seemed to be located a bit further down from the residential area and asked to see a map of the location for reference.

Ms. Steiner agreed that it was the activity that was a concern. She commented that she has noticed teenagers hanging out in the parking lot, but that she has not witnessed anything bad. It bothered her that the activity would be taking place across the street from her.

Community Development Director Link displayed maps for reference as requested by Councilmember Bartholomew.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech asked why teenagers would be hanging around at a Park and Ride.

Ms. Steiner responded that it was a large open space and that she wasn't sure why they would hang out there.

Community Development Director Link stated that one of the roads would not be put in at this time. It would be a future road when other development occurs. He stated that until then the access to the parking lot would be off of the AmericInn property.

Councilmember Bartholomew asked if the area would stay the same if it is sold as it provides some screening. He asked if they were contemplating having the parking area in the back, would they level the area to follow through to the street, or would they have a retaining wall. He commented that the grade of Lot 1 and Lot 2 would then have a grade variant.

Development Director Link referenced a topography diagram and responded that there are some slopes in the area. There is no grading plan there, but there is topographical relief between the north and south part of the property. He stated that they are buying Lot 1, not Lot 2.

Mayor Tourville asked about the additional property in the area that they have used for the storage of sand that's located off of Blaine Avenue.

Public Works Director Scott Thureen responded that they have not used that property for a number of years.

Dan Capiz, 5964 Blaine Avenue stated that when he built his home 11 years ago he had asked about the area across the street. He discovered that the original intention for the area was to be a park, but then it was rezoned as office space. He commented that the concern with putting a parking lot there means more people, and they have had issues with some of the traffic from Applebee's. He stated that his other concern was if it was rezoned commercial, what that would mean for their property values. He commented that putting a hotel or gas station across the street would be problematic.

Linda Murphy, 6042 Blaine stated that four years ago they purchased the property after they looked at it from an aerial view noticing that it was heavily wooded. She stated that the land they are talking about was given to the City to promote a park for wildlife and nature, but that park was never done. She commented that it is being used as an informal park right now as there are 10 to 20 cars parked along 65th Street and that people go in there with their kids and their dogs. She commented that she has turkeys, deer and fox in her yard and asked what will happen to the wildlife in the area if this is approved.

She stated that she looked at the cars in the parking lot at the Movie Theater and noticed that lot of them were from out of State. She commented that the parking lot at the Theater is already empty and that it seemed like the perfect place as there is not any residential around. She commented that there was concern since there was recently a party bus with a tragic situation that had taken place there. She stated that the Planning Commission understood how they were changing a beautiful area for a request like this.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech stated that the Planning Commission recommended having it developed as a whole piece, not into two parcels.

Ms. Murphy stated that the Planning Commission also said they were going to look into why that area was never marketed for a Park. She commented that there was talk of an office building like CHS has, that has manicured grounds which could possibly fit into the area. She suggested it be made into the Park that it should be.

Mayor Tourville stated that Lion's Park is located on the south side, and that it is not dedicated as a City Park to the north. It was marketed for a hospital at one time, but that did not end up taking place.

Councilmember Bartholomew stated that it is currently guided as Office PUD, not Park, and commented that if the area ever gets developed, the topography will probably get leveled.

John and Ann Marie O'Neill stated that they bought their dream lot five months ago, near Ms. Murphy's property. They are here to support their neighbors and recommends that they consider the proposal specified on the 2030 Plan. He commented that they have wildlife, but there is also the issue of noise and traffic that this could bring all hours of the night. He asked that they take into consideration what the Planning Commission suggests and honor the 2030 Plan. He commented that he was concerned that this would decrease the value and quality of life for their future home.

Mr. Smith stated that there is a well-lit parking lot across the street that is already zoned for that purpose.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech stated that we are not rezoning and that this was for a preliminary plat.

Community Development Director Link responded that if this is approved this evening, the City Administrator will negotiate with AmericInn. That could lead to a Purchase Agreement. He stated that before the site could be developed it would require a change to the Comprehensive Plan, require rezoning, a site plan, and an Interim Use Permit for the actual parking. He stated that this would create property that the City could sell to AmericInn. He commented that the grading issues being discussed tonight would be addressed with the Planning Commission, they would hold a Public Hearing and then it would go before the City Council.

Councilmember Bartholomew asked if the Comprehensive Plan was a 4/5 vote and if the zoning change would need be a 3/5 vote.

Community Development Director Link responded that the Comprehensive Plan change would require a 4/5 vote.

Jim Mueller, 7800 Boyd stated that he believed in what the Planning Commission is doing and suggested that the City Council do the same. He stated that when he was on the City Council a Hospital wanted to go in that location but the City changed the value of the property, so they left and that the County Board wanted to put a building there, but it ended up going to West. St. Paul. He stated that there are five lots from Lion's Park to this piece of property and that he went there today and checked them out. He stated that he believes they can do a better job of marketing the area and that he didn't believe it should be marketed for blacktop without a building.

Mr. Mueller commented that for years when he would ask who the property belonged to and that he was told it belonged to MnDOT but discovered that it belongs to the City.

Mayor Tourville responded that it was a combination of both owning property. Lion's Park is 6.9 acres, McGroarty Park is 2.92 acres and the vacant land consists of 13.25 acres. He asked City Attorney Kuntz if the lots are owned by the City of Inver Grove Heights.

City Attorney Kuntz responded that the lots they are speaking about is a Plat and has a title commitment that indicates they are owned by the City.

Mr. Mueller stated that he was concerned that if this was developed as a parking lot without a building that it would affect the growth of the new employees that have been hired to help promote the City and to help push for business and commercial because that is what the area was designed for.

Councilmember Bartholomew asked to have the map displayed that shows what property is owned by the City and what is owned by MnDOT.

Community Development Director Link referenced the locations Councilmember Bartholomew was inquiring about on the map, stating that Lion's Park is on one end and that the City owns the property at the other, with the MnDOT property located in the middle. He stated that the City Administrator has been negotiating with the State in an attempt to acquire that. Once acquired there will be massive acreage to approach and search for a developer to do some sort of office development.

Mr. Mueller referenced the location that would have the potential parking lot. He stated that when you look up the center property it states that it belongs to the City of Inver Grove Heights.

Mayor Tourville stated that MnDOT owns that and that he wasn't sure if they wanted to sell or not. He stated that the City does not own it.

City Attorney Kuntz referenced the map and stated that at one time there wasn't a Highway 52. Everyone owned both sides of the Highway, including the Highway. He stated that to the south of what the City owned was the Rod and Gun Club. When the Highway came in the Rod and Gun Club asked to be acquired, which MnDOT did. He stated that the Highway split the Park property that the City owned and that there is a MnDOT owned parcel between what the City owns on the north and the Lion's Park area to the south.

Mayor Tourville stated that months back the City came and told AmericInn that they were not going to allow them to park cars over there, as it is a Park and Ride operation. The City took a look at the property to the south of the Hotel, an area that could be for expansion, but that for right now would be a parking lot.

Brett Rose, AmericInn, responded that for now it would be a parking lot and that they could look at other options at a later date.

Mayor Tourville questioned that if they were to come up with a scenario that would allow them to park cars somewhere, versus having to buy land, would that create a difficulty for AmericInn.

Mr. Rose responded that it is a difficulty right now as they are currently parking at AMC and it is their property and their rules. He commented that if it is their own parking lot, they would have fencing, security cameras, and security guards there. It would be a safer controlled environment.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech stated that she has heard that the City Council is not business friendly. People want a lot of businesses in the City, parks and open space. She commented that it is a tough balancing act to have all those items because she doesn't think they can. She stated that this can be an open Inver Grove Heights with open space, wildlife, and fields, or they can be like Eagan or Woodbury and develop more. She commented that it is a tough choice to make. She stated that she believes in open spaces and wildlife but understands that people want more business in town. She asked if people would want to pay higher taxes and keep the City as it is or if we allow businesses to come in and expand.

Councilmember Bartholomew agreed with Councilmember Piekarski Krech but commented that they were told they are not marketing this property. He stated that the location of the parking lot is an area that is behind, out of sight, and in connection with AmericInn. He stated that if the parking lot idea comes

through then they can talk about setting more restrictive uses and insist that it is secure and fenced with security provided. He stated that he didn't like the idea of removing that corner of property from marketing and felt that the property was marketable. He stated that he didn't think this would create a marketing problem if they created this lot.

Councilmember Hark stated that he agreed with the Planning Commissions decision. He didn't think a Park and Ride lot would work in that spot. He thought they should look at the potential of all of those lots. He commented that he didn't think the neighborhood would ever be happy. That area is guided office and if that stays, and the area finds out it would be a rather large development, it would change the character of the neighborhood. He stated that most of the residents understood how this was guided when they moved in and think that sooner or later those parcels are going to get developed. He stated the area isn't going to stay wooded, it will be different. There is a new development Director in place to get some new momentum behind this parcel and sort out who owns what. He commented that if they looked at this as contiguous land, it has great potential and that he would be in favor of developing it as it has been guided as office. He stated that the City is now looking at the 2040 Comp Plan and holding meetings, which have been advertised. He suggested interested parties show up and speak about your thoughts. He wants the neighborhood to understand how that area is guided.

He commented that he also agreed with Councilmember Piekarski Krech's points. They can't turn their back to business but that he wants the right development that will be best for the City as a whole.

Mayor Tourville stated that they need clarity as to who owns the land, be it the City or MnDOT. He commented that he thought it would be unfair to AmericInn to say they will split up the lots and change this. He commented that the neighborhood needs to prepare themselves for what may go in there, and that they need to find out the ownership to the entire piece on the east side of Highway 52. He felt that between the Police Department and Administration, they need to look into the possibility of continuous parking at the Movie Theater.

He stated that his overall suggestion was to find out the ownership, and look into allowing them a place to do their business.

Councilmember Hark stated that the Hotel has a place to put their cars for the Park and Ride and that they should work with them on that. He commented that they will not walk out of here with nothing.

Mr. Rose asked if this wasn't taken care of tonight, if they are allowed to come back here and get those Interim Use Permit changes.

Mayor Tourville stated that there are some people from Inver Grove Heights that use the Park and Ride services. Those from out of town are using the services within our City. He doesn't want to deny the ability to do Park and Ride, but that they want to try to look at the property on the east side of Highway 52.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech asked if they could look at the area and see what types of things they would require, and if it's feasible. She stated that it is easy to say that we can divide it, but that there may be other things that would need to go along with it, especially due to the topography.

Community Development Director Link stated that they can change the Zoning in the Comprehensive Plan Designation at any time as it is City property. The grading, landscaping, vegetation, and storm water would depend on the Hotel and how they would want to design the parking lot and address those various issues.

Mayor Tourville stated that as they find out ownership and what could be done there, he wasn't sure they were happy to have to deal with the storm water for one little lot.

Mr. Rose referenced a diagram of the area and stated that there was an easement for the storm water and that it would all be connected together.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech asked if he could explain the diagram he displayed.

Mr. Rose responded with a description of the various locations on the diagram.

Mayor Tourville asked Attorney Kuntz if they could be given 90 days to find out the ownership.

City Attorney Kuntz responded that they could have as much time as they wanted.

Councilmember Bartholomew asked if they should withdraw the Application and bring it back.

Councilmember Hark suggested to delay and act on it after 60 days.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech asked to do a 90 or 120-day extension, especially due to the Staff change.

Councilmember Hark agreed with the suggestion of 120 days.

Motion by Piekarski Krech second by Hark to extend CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS; to Consider a Resolution relating to a Preliminary Plat and Final Plat for the plat of McGroarty Park 1st Addition. Property located on west side of Blaine Avenue, south of Upper 55th Street to the first meeting in January, to take place on January 14, 2019.

Mayor Tourville stated that Community Development Director Link could work alongside Incoming Community Development Director Gundlach, City Administrator Lynch, and the Police Department in reference to the Interim Use so that everything coincides.

Community Development Director Link asked what the City Council wanted them to bring back. He stated that they can bring the ownership back, but questioned if they were asking for anything in addition to that.

Mayor Tourville suggested the City take a look at the bigger picture, rather than just a corner for a parking lot.

Community Development Director Link clarified what the Council is asking and that is to bring back not just ownership, but if we would proceed with a proposal, and what the impact the parking lot would have on potential development of the rest of the property.

City Attorney Kuntz stated that 120 days brings them to the first and only regular meeting in December, where other items need to be discussed. He asked if they could put it at the first meeting in January.

He stated that they could also look at doing a better job communicating about the 2040 Comp Plan. He suggested they have the neighborhood come in and provide input.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech stated that she was fine with changing it to the first regular meeting in January.

Mayor Tourville stated that it would be held on the first regular meeting in January on January 14th, 2019. He thanked everyone for coming out.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Ann Marie O'Neill stated that they just purchased the lot to the south of 6042 Blaine Avenue on February 1st and are looking at building a significant home there. She stated that the neighbors had to investigate to

find them to let them know that this meeting was happening tonight. She said that she expressed that to City Staff when she came up there on Friday and that the City should have been able to find them and allow them to be included in the discussions.

Linda Murphy stated that in the minutes of the Planning Commission it states that “the property was originally given to the City for Park purposes and that over the years the City Council chose not to use it as a Park and that the property has been guided for Office for the last 20 years”.

Mayor Tourville asked that they also find out information on designating the area as a Park.

Councilmember Hark commented that there may have been a Deed Restriction on it and that it may no longer be valid. He suggested they go forward diligently and find out for sure.

Mayor Tourville stated that it is not currently a part of the Park plan. Lion’s Park is currently on it, but this parcel is not.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech stated that the question would be who gave the land and for what purpose.

Councilmember Hark suggested that Ann Marie give her email and address to someone at the City so she could be added to the notification list.

8. MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Piekarski Krech commented that the Food Truck event is being held on Wednesday from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. at Rich Valley Park. There is a lot of room there and a place for the kids to play.

Councilmember Hark reminded everyone to Vote as tomorrow is the State Primary Election.

Mayor Tourville thanked everyone that may have already voted. He stated that if you cannot go online to find your voting location, you can come to City Hall and they can get you to the correct location.

Councilmember Perry commented that the Citizen’s Police Academy is full but that the Citizen’s Fire Academy is currently taking Applications. She highly recommends it as she was a Graduate of the first year of the Fire Academy. You just need to be 18 and over to apply to be a part of that class.

Mayor Tourville commented that it is Community Development Director Tom Link’s last week from over 30 years of service and they want to congratulate him. Friday is his last day and he has been here a long time and has seen a lot of changes within the City. He thanked Tom for his service to the City of Inver Grove Heights.

Community Development Director Link thanked the City Council and said it has been a long, very good ride and that he has enjoyed working with each of them. It has been a very enriching and rewarding experience. He commented that this is a wonderful Community. He thanked the Community and the City Council and said that he enjoyed the privilege of serving them.

Mayor Tourville stated that he appreciated the fact that they were able to hire his replacement a little bit earlier so that she could spend some time with him.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A. Executive Closed Meeting pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 15D.05, Subd. 2(b) for preliminary consideration of allegations against City Administrator Joe Lynch.

City Attorney Kuntz stated that in an instance where someone may make an allegation against one of the City Employees, the City Council has the opportunity to go into an Executive Closed-Door Session for preliminary consideration of that allegation. That opportunity exists under MN Statute 13D.05 Subdivision 2B. He stated that tonight the Council is being asked to do that this evening to consider, in preliminary fashion, an allegation made against City Administrator Joe Lynch. He asked that they make a Motion to move to an Executive Closed-Door Session under the indicated MN Statute, 13D.05 Subdivision 2B, for preliminary consideration of allegations against Joe Lynch.

Motion by Piekarski Krech second by Perry to go into Executive Session at 8:53 p.m.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

10. ADJOURN: