



DRAFT

Approved: August 22, 2022

**CITY OF ARDEN HILLS, MINNESOTA
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
AUGUST 8, 2022
IMMEDIATELY FOLOWING REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING –
ARDEN HILLS CITY HALL**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, Mayor Grant called to order the City Council Work Session at 7:40 p.m.

Present: Mayor David Grant, Councilmembers Brenda Holden, Fran Holmes, Steve Scott, and David Radziej

Absent: None

Also present: City Administrator Dave Perrault, Finance Director Gayle Bauman, and City Clerk Julie Hanson

1. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Lake Johanna Fire Department Long Range Planning Discussion

City Administrator Perrault stated that this item was discussed at a previous work session. He noted an updated budget table showing more information regarding costs and a more detailed financial analysis. He asked if Council would be comfortable with accepting the SAFER Grant if it were awarded.

Councilmember Holmes asked if the levy would have to be increased 2% a year between 2022 and 2030.

Finance Director Bauman responded the levy would need to be increased by 19% in total over the eight years.

Councilmember Holden said there is talk about not proceeding with the new building.

Mayor Grant added they could apply for State bonding.

Discussion ensued regarding State bonding for a new fire station, increasing the levy, and new Captain's salaries with and without the SAFER Grant. The consensus was to accept the SAFER Grant if it is awarded.

B. THC Edibles Discussion

Mayor Grant said that it is now legal to sell THC laden edibles in Minnesota.

City Administrator Perrault stated that the legislature short-circuited the regulation and policy making on this issue, so Cities are playing catch-up. Some cities have approved one-year moratoriums, most cities are waiting on the League of Minnesota Cities to issue official guidance.

Councilmember Holden said she didn't want this being sold in Arden Hills.

Councilmember Scott said he would be in favor of a special license.

Councilmember Holmes felt they should do a moratorium.

Mayor Grant said if they do a moratorium for a year they can figure out where the League and other cities end up.

City Administrator Perrault noted personnel policies would also need to be changed in the coming months regarding drug and alcohol testing.

City Administrator Perrault said the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office would like to see consistency among the cities for enforcement. There is currently no model language.

Clerk Hanson said White Bear Lake is considering a moratorium. Stillwater, Robbinsdale, Prior Lake, Cottage Grove have passed moratoriums.

After further discussion it was decided to move forward with a one-year moratorium.

2. COUNCIL COMMENTS AND STAFF UPDATES

Councilmember Holmes wondered if they want to think about having an Airbnb (short term rental) license.

Councilmember Holden said she is aware of a home being rented by the week. She also thought they should increase the home rental registration fee.

City Clerk Hanson noted the current fee is \$45 that is doubled if they register late, and a misdemeanor can be charged if they don't register.

Mayor Grant suggested they discuss short term rentals in 2023.

City Administrator Perrault asked if they wanted to discuss a permanent speed sign on Lake Johanna Boulevard.

Mayor Grant said the temporary would suffice.

City Administrator Perrault said they could discuss the trail study at the next work session and asked for clarification on gaga ball pits.

After brief discussion it was decided gaga ball pits would be placed for discussion/budget in 2023.

Councilmember Radziej said there is a hornet nest on the slide at Valentine Park.

ADJOURN

Mayor Grant adjourned the Special City Council Work Session at 8:18 p.m.

Jolene Trauba
Deputy City Clerk

David Grant
Mayor