
MEMORANDUM



TO: Mayor Walker and Councilors
FROM: M McPherson, City Administrator
SUBJECT: **Bi-Weekly Administrator's Report**
DATE: April 10, 2024

I have the following observations and information to share from the last update on March 26, 2024:

Airport

A vacancy exists on the Board.

Work continues on the parcel releases and deed restrictions relating to the AWOS relocation.

Baldwin Township

We have received the public comments submitted to the Administrative Law Judge. We have no ability to respond, so they have been saved to the server.

Attorney Bourgeois is working on the City's legal argument to support our request. The interesting position the City is in is that there is a gap in the statute; the statute allows the ALJ to determine that properties are better served by another jurisdiction but provides no process by which that can occur. It was likely assumed by the Legislature that there are always cooperating jurisdictions in the case of incorporation requests.

Development

Staff met with the developer interested in the 40-acre parcel in Princeton Township near the airport on March 20. The preliminary TIF runs were presented. The meeting went very well and the outcome appears to be favorable for a project moving forward. They did have some additional follow-up questions that staff will respond to. Staff also provided them information regarding the 50+ acres the School District is interested in selling.

Fire

The transition team continues to meet weekly; discussions are open and the meeting results are productive. Information sharing on policies and procedures between departments is ongoing. Of particular interest are forms and procedures to ensure that equipment and PPE repairs are documented and completion is achieved.

Infrastructure

Staff met with representatives from MNDOT and Sherburne County to discuss potential 2025 construction projects that will impact traffic in and around the City. MNDOT is planning to overlay the multitude of bridges on Highway 169. Sherburne County is planning to reconstruct Sherburne County 29 from Tiger Boulevard to the underpass, including traffic signal upgrades and intersection improvements. A follow-up meeting with all parties has been scheduled for June 24. Staff will keep the Council apprised of the schedule as additional information is obtained.

Legislature

There has been no significant change in the legislation previously reported.

School Resource Officers

Superintendent Barton has indicated that the School Board's Finance Committee had no issues with the draft contract that was submitted by staff. They have sent it to their attorney for review but no comments have been returned.

They have asked that the 2023 contract be "prorated" to the date that the SROs returned to the schools in March but provided no guidance. For 2023, the proration would apply for the months of September to December. Chief Frederick and I will provide some form of a response regarding the 2023 bill. Any proration in 2024 would be determined in 2025 and would apply to the months of January to March 18.

Upcoming Meetings and Reminders:

There are no unusual meetings of note upcoming.