

## REGULAR BROOKLYN PARK CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Monday, February 3, 2025  
6:00 p.m.

Brooklyn Park City Hall  
Room A203  
5200 85th Avenue North

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Hollies Winston

PRESENT: Mayor Hollies Winston; Council Members Christian Eriksen, Shelle Page, Tony McGarvey, Maria Tran; Amand Cheng Xiong, Nichole Klonowski; City Manager Jay Stroebel; Dr. Angel Smith, Assistant City Manager; Finance Director LaTonia Green; Community Development Director Tim Gladhill; Operations and Maintenance Director Greg Hoag; Police Chief Mark Bruley; Assistant to the City Manager Zach Kramka and City Clerk Devin Montero

ABSENT: None.

PARTICIPATING BY INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGY: Council Member Tony McGarvey.

Mayor Winston read a statement regarding Council members participating via interactive technology.

**B. GENERAL INFORMATION-None.**

**C. DISCUSSION ITEMS/GENERAL ACTION ITEMS:**

Mayor Winston stated the order of agenda items would be changed to C4, C2, C1 and C3.

### **C.4** Immigration Discussion Update (3:02:00)

City Manager Stroebel stated in response to the conversation last week regarding immigration, tonight would be an update and any potential Council actions would be brought forward next Monday.

He stated the HR Director had been doing some research on an ordinance outlining city employee's responsibility related to immigration enforcement and would provide an update.

He stated the police and fire chief had been looking at revised language relative to their police and fire specific policies. He stated the two departments maintained specific policy handbooks for their employees and the city had an overarching employee handbook for all city staff but those two departments had specific policies.

He stated the Communications Manager would provide an update on what she and her team had been doing.

He stated Dr. Smith would provide an update on outreach. He stated they would then provide an update on what the school partners were doing.

HR Director Kraabel stated last Friday, the ordinance for Minneapolis and St. Paul were sent electronically to the Council members and provided hard copies to the Council tonight. She stated the ordinances were 20 years old and in place for quite some time. She stated they were called separation ordinances where it defined the responsibility of city employees relative to

three topics, general city services, public safety services, and complaints against employees or grievance or discipline process should an employee not comply with the ordinance. She stated based on her review of the two city websites; it did not appear that either city had a policy that correlated to the ordinance. She stated the ordinance gave directions to the employees as to what was expected of them in their behavior on the topic. She stated it was likely that individual departments might have their own operating policies as to how to address the topic. She stated there weren't employee personnel policies across the organization that spoke on the topic. She stated she reached out to her HR contacts and asked about the immigration ordinance and the general theme was no. She stated the ordinances they had from Minneapolis and St. Paul were the only existing documents that they could refer to and were similar.

She stated for the HR function, when a new employee was hired in any organization, they required a completed I-9 documentation. She stated that document proved or verified the new employee was eligible to work in the United States. She stated they were legally required to ask for that proof of work status and were lists of the appropriate documentation that could be used to demonstrate that eligibility. She stated early in February they were given the authority to handle it on more of a virtual nature. She stated they now photocopy it or the person could upload the information.

She stated that once they had that information, if someone were to subpoena or data request it, they needed to provide that information. She stated that was another question, did they continue to ask for the information and make a photocopy or store it digitally or should they decide to purge that information once they received it.

She stated if they enacted an ordinance or policy, there were other processes in other departments where they were asking for proof of residence, proof of address, proof of participation in a program. She stated if they should be asking for it and if the answer was yes that was fine if there was a legal requirement. If the answer was no, they shouldn't be asking for it, then there might need to be a change to their practices on their forms. She stated those were the few things to think about, asking for it, were they requiring it; and were they maintaining it, when considering an ordinance or policy.

Council Member Klonowski stated some documents were required to be kept for seven years and asked if any of those applied to the I-9.

HR Director Kraabel stated that on the I-9, was required to maintain it for as long as they remained an employee and then was a record retention piece as to how long to maintain it after that point.

Mayor Winston stated what would help was the different processes they had internally. He stated a lot of the Council were visual, for example, for an employee that was the general process, the information was required, needed it for "X" number of years after it was required or that information was not required; or if they had it, they kept it for an "X" number of years. He thought when they made the final policy determination, it was easier to say, if the information was required by law, they had to do what they had to do because he didn't think anyone wanted to controvert the federal law. He stated he didn't want to keep information, whether it was immigration or in general didn't like people's information in hands that didn't need to be. He thought a general map of where they were with the different processes made sense so they could apply a general policy across that once they saw the information.

HR Director Kraabel stated that on the first page of the Minneapolis ordinance, under general city services paragraph two, was a good summary piece of information. "City employees, only solicit immigration information or inquire about immigration status when required to do so by law or program guidelines as evidence of a person's identity and may ask to see personal identifying documents only when specifically authorized and required to do so by the employee's work." She stated there were very narrow circumstances when an employer or a service provider would ask for that information. She stated it was a good summary statement.

Mayor Winston stated he liked that general approach and also liked saying where they wouldn't inquire into the immigration status of any person requesting documents. He liked some of the language in Section 44.02. He stated he had a lot of people calling him asking him about partners, when he spoke to the public or when it was put into policy, to have what was required and was not required so that he could get an organized fashion. To tell people that was what they needed to be certain about, what they didn't need to be concerned about, that was what the law said, and that was how the city was staying withing the law.

HR Director Kraabel stated she could speak to the human resources function but couldn't speak to the inspections and licensing and other functions in other city departments. She stated that it was the body of work the department directors and managers would have to spend time looking into what they were or were not doing and ensuring it complied with the circumstances that were identified.

Mayor Winston stated he knew they were trying to have something next week because of the timing and asked how long they thought they could do a deep dive into those particular processes in terms of the touch points on the immigration issues or where they could have a general policy or ordinance next week. He knew there had to be two readings, in the meantime, work on those particular deep dives and process where the Council could get involved in those issues.

HR Director Kraabel stated she met with the city attorney and employment attorney Mike Freske about whether it was moving ahead as an ordinance or as a policy. She stated the Council could direct the departments to undertake that work as the outcome.

City Attorney Thomson stated he looked at the I-9 form to see what it exactly said. He stated the employer was signing and saying, "I reviewed this documentation." He asked if the current practice was to keep the documentation or give it back to the employee and sign the form that said they had seen the documentation or physically kept whatever documents that were given.

HR Director Kraabel stated the common practice in Brooklyn Park and for many employers was an image of the documentation was uploaded to their online orientation and onboarding system. She thought the documentation remained in the system and had not proactively purged that information from the system. She stated they were required to view it and not required to keep a copy of it.

City Attorney Thomson stated once they kept the documentation, it was data under the Government data practice and the Council's policy was not to keep it. He stated they could look into it and make sure the records retention was another statute that said how long to keep the documents. He stated they would check if there was a requirement to keep it for thirty days or something. He stated on the ordinance discussion they had; Minneapolis and St. Paul adopted an ordinance because they had a different form of government. He stated they had different roles of the mayor and different roles of the city Council. He stated for the Council to enforce

things, at least in St. Paul, needed an ordinance. He stated that was why they did an ordinance in St. Paul, the Council wanted to have the ability to be able to enforce it and whatever they needed to do.

He stated he was discussing it with HR Attorney Mike Freske and Rachel Tierney, Kennedy and Graven, and she was for a while with the city of St. Paul as deputy city attorney and was familiar with the policy. He stated they didn't think it was necessary to put it in an ordinance and could put it in the policy. He stated if it was worded properly and did what the Council wanted to accomplish; it had the same enforcement mechanism and could discipline an employee for it. He stated he saw an advantage of the Council publicly proclaiming or wanting to go on record to say they were doing that. He stated they could do that with a resolution to approve the policy and could get it before the Council as a formal action to take so they could go on record publicly of doing it if that was the goal.

City Manager Stroebel asked if the Council wanted to direct staff to establish the policy, that could happen next week if timing was a factor. If the Council wanted to have a final version of a policy to bring back, it would probably take more time to get.

City Attorney Thomson stated if the Minneapolis or St. Paul ordinance the Council was thinking about, it wouldn't take time to get something to work with. He stated it would be too tight to get the actual one to the Council next week and a formal motion by the Council to do that would be a public proclamation and when they came back to the Council with the actual document, they could just do a motion. He stated if the Council preferred to have a resolution, the difference was a resolution was memorialized in a written document and a motion was just in the minutes of the Council meeting and whatever the goal of the Council was, they could accommodate it.

Council Member Klonowski asked if they didn't have an ordinance and there was a policy change, and was at the discretion of the city manager, could he change it without notifying the Council. She asked if an ordinance protected it from that or a resolution.

City Attorney Thomson stated a resolution would protect it from that and there were some policies with the police department and fire department, that were operational in nature. He stated those were adopted at the department level and didn't go to the Council. He stated the policy they were discussing was enough and would want it to go to the Council. He stated if the Council adopted a resolution, staff couldn't change the resolution, it would have to be amended later by the Council if they wanted to change it.

Mayor Winston stated a resolution would be on the record and was trying to look at it from a resident's perspective. He asked what the difference was between a resolution and an ordinance for that particular purpose.

City Attorney Thomson stated they were two different things. He stated in state law there was something that had to be done by ordinance. For the ordinance, the Council would have to do a second reading, and it was published in the newspaper. The resolution just got adopted and the city clerk kept it in the resolution file, but it was a permanent record of direction by the Council to do something. He stated in this case, if the Council wanted to prosecute someone for something, they needed an ordinance and gave an example, to not speed and would need an ordinance and couldn't do it by resolution.

He stated if the Council was talking about the enforcement mechanism, being disciplined or administrative action by city staff or the Council, they didn't need an ordinance for that. He

stated that other than publishing the ordinance in the newspaper and the city clerk filing it, didn't see much difference between a resolution and an ordinance in this case.

Mayor Winston stated he was comfortable with a resolution because of the timing of it. If they did an ordinance, it had two readings and made it a public record. He wanted the policies in place that protected the residents, and the staff was respecting that policy.

Council Member Page stated she was concerned about what the message was going to be when talking about I-9s for the staff. She didn't think the public was thinking about the I-9s. She stated they were having an HR type conversation when that wasn't what the residents were asking for. She stated if it was a resolution, then it should be clear what the Council's intentions were. She wanted to make sure the residents knew the goal was to make sure they knew they could call and not put themselves in harm's way because they were concerned about documentation.

Council Member Klonowski thought the HR issue was valid because it was another layer of complexity they were not thinking about but could come into play. She stated the city had a large immigrant base and some of them were employed with the city and what that could mean in the future. She stated that was something to look into and at the same time the resolution should happen sooner than later because of the level of protection. She agreed there were a lot of residents' concerns that needed immediate addressing while they worked on the nuance and complexity.

Mayor Winston stated at the next meeting recommended some type of policy being put in place as a stop gap. He stated there needed to be language of the different touch points for the different departments. He stated it would be nice to know where staff interacted, the potential for different issues and that it could be part of the longer-range policy or resolution the Council put in place. He stated if it was ready next week based upon St. Paul and Minneapolis and get that in front of the Council sooner than later.

Police Chief Bruley handed out the Police Department's immigration policy, 4.13. He stated a month ago when he reviewed the policy, before it all started, he had some concerns that it wasn't as precise or concise as it should be for the staff and for the community. He stated they spent some time looking for better language and thought they found one and tomorrow night it was going before the CMAT, which was the advisory committee of community members that he met each month. He stated a majority of them were immigrants and interested in it and they were part of writing the first version of the policy but also agreed when he brought it to them last time to have a specific and concise policy and thought that was the language change, they were going to see. He stated the section that gave him consternation was section 413.4, Detentions, and could see the edits what he wanted to be taken out and additions. He stated the language that was most important to him and to the community was: *"The Brooklyn Park Police Department works properly with all federal agencies but does not conduct department operations for the sole purpose of enforcing federal immigration laws. The Brooklyn Park Police Department employees shall not initiate actions to determine, verify, or detect a person's immigration status. Including but not limited to, questioning any person about their immigration status except as listed below."*

- *Enforcing laws and conducting investigations related to human trafficking and smuggling.*
- *Enforcing laws and conducting investigations related to controlled substance trafficking.*

- *Required by state law to verify eligibility for work benefits, service employment, or license condition verification of certain status.*

He stated that was what the HR Director was talking about in the ordinance. He talked about the gun permits and other things the police department issued where they might have a driver's license but might not be here legally and couldn't issue a gun permit. He stated the language was less wordy, short and concise and was good for the employees to be clear and for the community to understand where the police stood on the topic. He stated he had been doing a lot of interaction with the community groups, podcasts and the community was talking about it and concerned.

Mayor Winston stated a lot of people were concerned with what the police department was doing and made sense to move in that direction. He stated it was important at the next meeting they were touching on immigration and the other policies they were talking about so people knew where the Council was with it.

Chief Bruley stated he got a lot of questions from both sides of the spectrum, from the immigrant community who were concerned about their status and how they interacted with the police department and other people that thought the police department should be partnering with immigration officers because people were in the city illegally. He stated he did a video shoot, today with the Communications Manager and got some good questions. He stated it was important to stay strong and get the city's voice out there on a couple of things. He wanted to talk about community members asking questions like why the police chief was worried about the immigrant community being able to report crimes. He stated as the public safety director, his job was to provide public safety and not just law enforcement, law enforcement was part of public safety. He stated they also did crime prevention where they made targets hard and the targets weren't just buildings with good locks and lighting. It was about making sure they didn't have vulnerable groups of people in the community that couldn't report crimes because they were fearful of their immigration status. He stated that it was ripe for wrongdoers to go after them, seek them out for trafficking and worse. He stated that it was a group that would be victimized repeatedly and drove crime up in the community and it was important the community could report crimes without worrying about their immigration status.

Mayor Winston stated the other piece was the city had limited resources. He stated when federal policy came down, it didn't mean that all the city's resources had to go toward supporting them. He thought they needed to use the resources as a city where they were going to provide the most bang for the buck or impact and didn't think it was necessarily helping with the federal level immigration question. He thought what they were seeing was violence interruption, to be fully funded, police alternative response teams and thought crime was going down.

He stated one of the things they saw with Huntington Place and with other apartments, when the police department started establishing a better relationship with Huntington Place, they found out more about domestic violence and other underlying issues. He stated that it was going to translate to learning more about one of the worst things out there, domestic violence. He stated it was going to help them understand some of the other crimes, beginning crimes or crime rings that were trying to form.

He stated if the city instilled fear in the communities, there was no way to get intel and things built up and then three years after the fact, would be saying, how that even got there and that particular community turned inward, didn't trust the city and couldn't control certain things and

that was what happened. He thought they had to look out for city interests and city safety first and needed to focus on their internal priorities.

Fire Chief Conway stated when calling 911, either there was a fire or emergency medical situation, and their focus was fixing the problem and not seeking personal identified information. He stated the Council had their standard policy 501 and nowhere in the documentation asked for immigration status. He stated in Section 511.3, Documentation, *“those responsible for patient care at the scene should complete the patient care report. Contact with individuals who did not qualify as patients should be recorded in the incident reporting.”* He stated that referred to people who called 911 but did not have an emergency, that they needed support. “to document the offer of assistance or its declamation. He stated the reporting requirements for personal identification information included name; age, date of birth, and sex should be requested.” He stated that information was synonymous with hospitals.

He stated they had some of that same information that carried over to the fire side when investigating arson investigations, damage to property, or post fires. He stated that information got transferred to the hospitals for medical records and HIPAA information. He stated they added a statement, “at no point shall responder request information pertaining to a patient’s immigration status.” He stated that it didn’t assist in their emergency care.

Mayor Winston stated he pictured a situation where there was a hit and run or someone got hit crossing the street and laying in the street. Someone would come to help and might not have documented status but wanted to call it in and sit with that person until first responders arrived. He stated he wanted to create an environment where the city continued to take care of one another and people felt they could continue to access resources.

Fire Chief Conway stated they wanted to encourage the community to take care of them and a lot of times the witnesses saw things that could assist in how the fire department cared for someone. He stated a lot of the contact information they obtained or took care of someone who was unable to speak, a minor and they didn’t have that information, through implied consent, they were going to take care of them. He stated they would pass that information to advanced life support provider or whatever the disposition of the patient was. He stated if someone knew someone or could get them in contact with someone, example, might have allergies to medication that needed to look out for. He stated that contact information was to ensure they were doing the best job possible to care for that patient.

Communications Manager Risikat Adesaogun gave an update. She stated everything they were seeing coming out of DC was rapid and everyday there was something new. She stated it was important they did everything they could to keep residents informed and dispelling any misinformation they saw. She stated it was important people understood what it meant for the city and what the city was doing.

She stated GovDelivery had a news release on the city statement sent out to all subscribers and had 15,000 residents subscribed to GovDelivery. She stated they also shared it across all the city’s social media channels and had a robust web page with frequently asked questions and just got it translated today with Spanish, Hmong, Vietnamese and Somali for now. She stated they also had done some direct outreach to cultural media outlets and happy to partner with the Liberian News, Hmong News and Spanish news outlets. She stated they also had a community resources tool online that was launched in 2023 and until a week ago, it didn’t have immigration resources and adjusted the tool and filled it with resources, things like the volunteer lawyer network, information on DOPA, and delegation of parental authority. She stated they were

sharing resources they became aware of through the Community Experience and Engagement Manager, Cindy Devonish and Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Manager Marcellus Davis.

She stated the Communications Division also supported everything they did, such as, hosting a meeting or if they decided to do something it was up to communications to make sure people knew about it. She stated they had been working on videos, how the city was engaging on immigration issues for residents and a personal message from the mayor. She stated they also had been coordinating with Brooklyn Center as they had a high population of immigrants. She stated they also had received a lot of interest from the media and had been a concerted effort to draw comparisons with the city and some larger cities across the metro.

Mayor Winston stated if the Council got inquiries to get them to Communications Manager Adesaogun so they could have a coordinated response. He stated it was not a good look if people were looking at the city and they felt like the city was on a different page in terms of addressing it. He stated Brooklyn Park was going to solve the issues from a Brooklyn Park perspective and could take notes of what other cities were doing but was going to solve the issues from the city's perspective.

Dr. Angel Smith, Assistant City Manager, briefed the Council on behalf of the engagement team. She stated when they were going out in the community, they were proactively trying to make sure they were providing education, support services and building trust among the individuals they were connecting with. She stated over the past few days they reached out to 18 community partners and five had responded with plans of having an engagement event and wanting the city to be involved.

She stated the month of February was booked with events but proposed February 19 for a community led event. She stated the events would be hosted by the Human Rights Commission and trying to determine what March 20 would look like. She stated February 19, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., would be an educational session and would prepare their agenda based on requests by the Council they thought was relative to the virtual event. She stated March 20 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. was also a virtual event.

She stated they had ongoing co-partner events and collaborating with organizations within the community, such as faith based, schools or other cultural groups. She stated the expectation was for the mayor, police chief and someone from the Council to be present. She stated OLM was hosting an event on February 16, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and CAPI on February 24. She stated other cultural groups had contacted them and would host something but didn't know the date, time and location. She stated there were other individuals who were interested in partnering with the city on something but didn't know what it would be. She stated there were others waiting to see what happened at Monday's Council meeting to make a decision as an organization on how they would move forward. She stated they also had been updating their partnership list with the schools.

She stated for their virtual events, the team was door knocking, going to apartment complexes, going to restaurants, and grocery stores, and making sure the information got out there. She stated they had been in communications with the schools and would also have flyers in multiple languages, Somali, Hmong, Vietnamese, and Spanish to make sure they were available at the schools, city hall, community buildings and high traffic locations within the city. She stated they were receiving emails and updates from community partners and would pass it on to the communications team to determine if it would go on the website and if it would be a good event for the engagement team to table at that event.

She stated they were putting those events on the shared calendars to make sure someone was present and asked if those dates, February 19 and March 20 would be okay and would start brainstorming agendas and getting the communications out. She stated the co-partnered events were more educational, making sure the particular community was well informed and what was going on, with current laws and city policies.

Council Member Page stated she spoke to District 279 board members, and they had a blanket statement of no broad communications and were going to reach out to the families directly. She asked if that had changed as they were resistant when she had the conversation.

REDI Manager Marcellus Davis stated City Manager Stroebel contacted the three school districts, Anoka Hennepin, Robbinsdale, Osseo and heard from Robbinsdale. He stated it was not because they didn't believe it was important, but because what was in front of them was real. He stated that it was families, staff that were concerned, emails from community members and believed they were going to get back to the city. He stated in conversations about how they were going to contact the school districts, they decided they were not going to try to go to individual buildings because they probably were told by counsel not to respond to anything like that. He stated they were going to send the email from City Manager Stroebel to the Superintendents to respond to it.

City Manager Stroebel stated Robbinsdale sent out a letter to the families in multiple languages affirming their support of immigration related concerns and had a link to a family resource guide for immigrant families. He stated they also sent out communications to their staff regarding protocols and how to respond if ICE were to appear at their school and their own resource guide for staff. He stated one of the questions they asked the schools, if they were interested in an ongoing partnership, communication and coordination, and Robbinsdale was interested in that.

REDI Manager Davis stated they were also in conversations with North Hennepin Community College and still trying to contact Hennepin Technical College. He stated North Hennepin Community College was also interested in being part of the consortium and to align the messaging and understand what was going on from all of the entities and anything else that came out of it. He stated the conversations had to be at the highest level through the consortium.

Mayor Winston asked about the charter schools, i.e., Excell Academy and had Hmong charter schools and where they fell, in terms of school boards and their responsibility. He asked if the city needed to reach out to them separately.

REDI Manager Davis stated the city would have to contact them separately and identify who they had as a contact.

Mayor Winston stated it was important for Athlos, Excel and Prairie Seeds to be contacted and if there were others to make sure they got the information they needed to handle that too. He stated he went to the Angels Daycare, and they had some connection to the immigrant community and thought reaching out to those daycares like that went along with the education because he didn't know how the immigration issue was going to go down the pipeline. He stated they didn't need to have a meeting but the FAQ documentation they were creating needed to make sure to get it in the daycare lobby. He stated it was making sure families had the resources they needed.

REDI Manager Davis stated part of the communication outreach plan, daycare centers were the highest level of concern as well as cultural restaurants and supermarkets. He stated it would help communicate things to the community and gather information from the community members to know what was happening. He stated they decided to do their things in a virtual setting, so it didn't compromise anyone. He stated they were also working on offering it in multiple languages.

Council Member Page stated she had spoken to educators at Woodland, Birch Grove and Monroe and they were very concerned and worried about those children and stressed about it.

REDI Manager Davis stated he had spoken to the school districts, from Brooklyn Center and their message was consistent and what they were hearing.

Mayor Winston thought their voices needed to be heard because the Council had to deal with everything as a city. He stated if they were continuing to hear silence in terms of getting information out to some of the residents, thought as Council had to determine how to address it. He stated all residents needed to understand the resources that were at their disposal and the policies that existed.

REDI Manager Davis stated Robbinsdale and Osseo School districts had sent something out to the families and Anoka Hennepin had not. He stated it didn't mean they had sent out something internally.

City Manager Stroebel stated the Anoka Hennepin Superintendent had sent a staff communication. He stated in terms of the next steps he would work with the city attorney. He stated they might not get a resolution together by next week but if the Council wanted to give staff directions to bring back a resolution in two weeks, then they could provide a high-level update next Monday and come back with a resolution with a broad expectation.

Mayor Winston stated the Council agreed with that approach and in the broad direction, having some of the language with general outlines from what they looked at other cities and the police and fire and principles they were thinking to put in place. He stated the second item was what the process looked like within the departments in a timeline, with touch points, and what data they should collect or not collect in the process.

At 7:24 p.m. City Attorney Thomson departed.

Council Member McGarvey stated he didn't know if a draft was sent out of the future goals or the goals moving forward after they completed the 2025 goals. He stated while knocking this year, litter was a frequent concern of the residents and a concern to him. He stated it varied across different parts of the city where it was more or less visible and an impact. He stated he had been thinking about litter and believed litter was an indicator of a lack of respect and a lack of self-respect. He stated he didn't know how the language should or shouldn't work but presented the Council with an opportunity for community building, and personal development for citizens. He stated they didn't have to reinvent the wheel as there was the Lion's Club, Rotary Club, etc., who knew how to get people to volunteer to do things. He thought it provided an opportunity if they were to make it rewarding for young people to sign up and help clean up their neighborhood or any number of things. He stated he didn't think it was wise for the city to pay someone to pick up after people when they had an opportunity to help people see that.

Mayor Winston stated the Council had discussed that earlier in Council meetings and work sessions. He stated the city manager assigned Recycling Manager Tim Pratt to come back with some solutions for addressing the litter. He stated they had the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast recently and put out a challenge to the spiritual community and bring volunteers to help with litter and some other things in the community. He stated the Lions Club and Rotary Club thought they wanted to be involved. He stated that when people took pride in the community, they were less likely to litter. He stated in terms of the community goals it fit very well within beautiful places in the overall strategic goals of the city.

City Manager Stroebel stated within the new goal language worked well with that; "the city pursues strategic partnerships with community members and organizations, and the city fosters meaningful engagement opportunities for community members." He stated it could be an addition. He stated the mayor highlighted, "Beautiful places, Brooklyn Park has attractive neighborhoods, corridors, and commercial destinations." He thought the language related to what Council Member McGarvey was alluding to.

At 7:32 p.m. Council Member McGarvey departed the meeting.

Mayor Winston moved on to Item C.1 Blue Line Extension Anti-Displacement Update.

#### **C.1 Blue Line Extension (BLE) Anti-Displacement Update**

Planning Director Paul Mogush introduced Cara Donovan, Senior Planner and she updated the Council on the Blue Line Extension (BLE) Anti-Displacement. She briefed on the following: Background, Blue Line Extension Proposed Project, Why Anti-displacement, BLE Background, Anti-displacement work to date, ACPP Funding, Programs and policies Needing Council Direction, and Affordable Housing.

Mayor Winston asked how much was available within the NOAH housing funding for property managers.

Senior Planner Donovan stated \$10 million was available from the program and for all four cities, park board, and anyone along the extension.

Council Member Xiong asked if the city didn't match it, meant they wouldn't get part of that \$10 million.

Senior Planner Donovan stated that a match was required for applications.

Planning Director Mogush stated there was an idea under consideration by the Board to make that better, which would be a two-step application process, pre-application process that didn't require all the details and match commitment. He stated the Board would do some match making and align groups who might have similar ideas and marry those resources together. He stated that it would lead to a formal application that would be sorted out and hadn't been decided.

Council Member Xiong asked if there was discussion in terms of a minimum of how much each city would be able to get.

Senior Planner Donovan stated they were working through the details of the application now and not heard that come up. She stated they thought about limiting the amount that could be

allocated by buckets. She stated there were four buckets, and only a certain amount available for affordable housing as an example.

Planning Director Mogush stated there was an acknowledgement that \$10 million in the scope of the \$3 billion infrastructure investment across four cities was not very much. He stated the idea was the Board was going to focus on showing the impact of that kind of work to the broader world and try to make as much of a difference as possible with the \$10 million to make the case for more in the future.

Mayor Winston gave an example, where the city program spent \$400,000 a year and asked if they could put the application toward saying they did the Brooklynk work and spent \$400,000 a year on it already to match that so they could build it out. He asked if they could leverage it in that fashion.

Senior Planner Donovan stated that she believed it could be done. She continued briefing the Council on Affordable Housing, Programs and Policies.

Mayor Winston stated he understood the first three and stated Rent Stabilization and Rent Control had not been the policy as a Council. He stated there were some untended consequences that could backfire.

Council Member Klonowski stated she couldn't speak enough about how horrible it would be in preserving and producing affordable housing. She stated it had been detrimental to the state of Minnesota and what St. Paul did with rent control caused a lot of disinvestments. She stated the developer might have a great idea they wanted to do work in the state, but because of the rent control in St. Paul and the consideration in Minneapolis, had caused the lending community who didn't like the risk to look at Dallas, Denver and North Carolina. She stated the city was not getting the housing it needed because of that.

Senior Planner Donovan continued briefing the Council on Small Business Support, Job Training and Placement, Community Ownership and Commercial Development, Public Realm Enhancement, and Next Steps.

Council Member Page asked about the workforce programs and \$50,000 relating to the trades program being part of the conversations for the workforce programs.

Director Gladhill stated that was for the Finishing Trades Institute and potentially could be a match, programs like that. He stated they had a different program that spun into a pipeline for public work program. He stated they could use those dollars to target that and bring the original programming back, but it did expire and was in a different form but doing it as a finishing trade and could expand it.

Council Member Page asked about the commercial land trust and said it was for businesses, and it also talked about foreclosure housing. She asked how that was related.

Senior Planner Donovan stated the Council had a list of other options and could ask which ones they like to be explored. She stated the Land Trust tended to work on housing specifically. She stated PIP CLT worked on commercial properties.

Council Member Klonowski asked if PIP CLT bought commercial properties because the Land Trust bought the land and held on to them. She asked how they functioned.

Director Gladhill stated his understanding was that the land trust that owned it, the stakeholders were the businesses, tenants and had some ownership stake instead of having to pay rent to a landlord. He stated the tenants had ownership in the land trust and helped self-control its destiny.

Council Member Klonowski thought it would be interesting for the Council to learn more about the group.

Mayor Winston stated when they talked about the Brooklyn Boulevard corridor and some of the enhancements there, knew it was a priority because as they built the biotech, they couldn't have one area that was getting built out. He stated some of the workforce items were happening and maybe that was a way to leverage some of those dollars. He stated things being done on the corridor and looking at the high-level pieces that would help to be a sustainable city down the road. He stated some of the questions asked tonight would help the Council hone in on what the things they should focus on addressing. He stated he would need some time to go through them again.

Council Member Xiong stated the discussion about Huntington at the corner of that one-mile radius. She stated she heard, it was initially one mile but thought it was changed to 1.5 miles in Minneapolis to include the Harrison neighborhood.

Senior Planner Donovan stated there was a caveat in state statute that said the current alignment or the previous alignment and that was where the Harrison and Heritage neighborhoods came in. She stated their neighborhood value increased, and property taxes jumped quite a bit. She asked if the Prosperity Board would oversee it because that pointed again more funds toward Minneapolis as opposed to the other corridor cities.

Planning Director Mogush stated it was in the statute and the board had to operate within it and would require an act of the legislature to change the eligibility.

Council Member Xiong asked about the forgivable loans, during the time of the Green Line, if it was available after the completion of construction. She asked if that included forgivable loans toward small businesses that were legitimately displaced through the construction or just to those that withstood the construction.

Senior Planner Donovan stated she would follow up on that question.

Council Member Xiong asked about the matches if it was something within the city's jurisdiction to potentially push the Target Corporation to do the match because the last station was on the corner of the Target Corporation. She stated she heard they did have a decision in where the route had gone. She stated if they thought about it, there wasn't anything over there and the last station could have ended at North Hennepin or the library.

Council Member Page asked how they could tie the new businesses with biotech, etc. with the revitalization.

Council Member Tran asked about the limited investor purchasing.

Senior Planner Donovan stated limited investor purchasing was not something that had been done in the state of Minnesota. She stated, as she understood it, it would be a contentious issue and didn't know if the Council would like to discuss what was happening eventually.

Council Member Tran stated they didn't protect the renters because it was addressed by other recommended policies. She stated they couldn't make a policy to protect the renter and seen enough abuse and scams from the landlords.

Planning Director Mogush went to the housing recommendations slide. He stated some of the policies on the right got direct help and protection for the tenants. He stated it was a different strategy from limiting investor purchases and had some barriers to actually doing it. He stated the other ones like mandatory relocation assistance and tenant screening reform and first come first served. He stated those were about protecting individual tenants from those predatory practices.

Council Member Klonowski asked about NOAH, on the preservation or the money that could be put into revitalization for some of the NOAH. She stated it was intriguing because they talked before about the money the state had allocated for NOAH, but it came with strings attached that some owners weren't as likely to use the money with those strings. She asked what the strings were with that pot of money.

Director Gladhill stated when they looked at their NOAH program, it was successful. He stated they built it off of that and more targeted to that mile radius. He stated there was a lot of different funding sources for affordable housing or event market rate. He stated there was a metro wide sales tax which was new to them and some of the EDA funds they used for programs like that that revolved in loan funds.

He stated what it was about was what they typically saw in what preserving that portable housing, they were going to put public dollars toward capping that rent for a period of 30 years. He stated it was about preserving that affordability and put that restrictive covenant on it so it was protected usually for a period of 30 years.

Council Member Klonowski thought it was MPHA funding that had a cap of 30 years, which was causing people to not want to tap into the resource because of the 30 years. She thought it was something to explore if 30 years was too long because the ideas were to get reinvested in and was safer, better for people living there versus just tying the hands of the owner.

Council Member Xiong asked about the mandatory relocation assistance. She asked if that price was determined upon the landlord or was it upon the city if they chose to turn it into a policy. She asked how that worked.

Senior Planner Donovan stated Portland, Oregon was the one people pointed to and thought the city would look at them as a model on how they would work on that.

Council Member Klonowski asked if that already existed.

Director Gladhill stated the city had a version of it. He stated they had the tenant notification ordinance within 30 days of the sale the buyer had to notify the residents. If they were displaced within 90 days, they were required to do relocation benefits. He stated Minneapolis just did a recent ordinance that if people got evicted for no fault or however it was phrased, that would kick in required relocation benefits and the landlord had to pay and not the city.

Council Member Xiong asked what was included within that benefit package, a check or cash.

Director Gladhill stated it was the cost to relocate to a new housing development and would be cash. He stated engineering and other major transportation agencies dealt with that all the time with transportation improvements. He stated the city could determine what that amount was, \$2,000 or \$3,000, and could set it as a flat rate. He stated there were a lot of different ways they could address that if that was something they wanted to continue to explore. He stated what they did took three to four dozen ideas, got it down to a dozen and tried to figure out what they would be doing deep dives on.

Council Member Klonowski stated that before they moved forward with any tenant screening reforms, she wanted to make sure they had talked with the police department. She stated the city had areas of high crime and didn't know certain relaxing things served the people that currently lived in those properties that were experiencing concerns.

Mayor Winston asked if they had the input in terms of some understanding of the priorities and how they would use it.

Planning Director Mogush stated that was the feedback they were looking for.

## **C.2 Community Goals Discussion**

Zach Kramka, Asst to the City Manager briefed the Council on the Community Goals. He briefed on the agenda, partners, project timeline, Community Engagement Phase one; Community Engagement Activities Phase one; Community Engagement Phase one Themes.

Council Member Page stated she didn't see anything about long-term resident and business retention. She asked if it was somewhere within the goals because that was what she heard a lot about through employment through everything and retention was key.

Mr. Kramka asked if she suggested adding that to the goal language.

Council Member Page stated if it was not in the goals, suggested it was added to the goal language.

Mr. Kramka stated they didn't ask in the demographics of the survey how long they lived in the city and couldn't tell based on the survey responses. He stated they did ask that in the resident survey but didn't know what the typical longevity of a resident was.

Council Member Page asked if they had data to support a long-term resident felt engaged with the city to maintain retention. She stated residents living in the city for 30 plus years and the kids growing up and leaving the city, thought retention of long-term residents and businesses were key.

Mr. Kramka stated he couldn't say if it came up as theme going through the data.

City Manager Stroebel stated next year's goals, the thought was to identify goals that could serve as roadmap for next the 5 to 10 years. Then each year the Council and staff leadership would come together and decide on what they wanted to focus on for the next 12-18 months. He stated those goals were meant to be longer term broader, but in shorter term increments and look at what they wanted to focus on within those goals.

Council Member Page asked if they were quantifying the results from 2022, 2023, and 2024 by comparing the results.

Mr. Kramka stated they engaged with the steering committee on the front end because it was important. He talked about an online story map which was a way to bridge a bunch of different mediums into one location and narrative based successes. He stated that it would be something he could send to Council Member Page.

He stated the way they were written in the past and how they were written today in the draft was a big picture. He stated that the operational piece was the next step in the process which they did on an annual basis, both internally with staff and the Council. He stated they wanted to make sure in that process it was aligned with what was seen in the goals.

He gave an example of littering. He stated that it was a great initiative to have and thought it could be aligned somewhere in the goal language but was not called littering specifically. He stated on a yearly basis would come up with annual plans and projects deep into it and on the back end, there was the measurement piece.

Mayor Winston stated as they talked about smart goals, the specific measurables and achievables, they started to get to the level on long term goals and short-term goals they were measuring. He thought it was going to be key in terms of the next steps in terms of accountability but, would be times when they didn't hit the goal but at least they were measuring it and could course correct them.

Council Member Xiong asked how they would measure those goals throughout the five years. She asked about "inclusive and engaged community, unified with a strong reputation across the region" and how that was measured without it sounding like an opinion. She stated when speaking to residents, they had personal stories and specific goals, such as more code enforcement, less garbage, etc. She asked how they could measure the work they had done to achieve those goals and how they could prove it to the residents at the end of it all. She understood the draft was pointing toward qualitative goals but then also asked how they had the quantitative data to back it up.

City Manager Stroebel suggested that when they came back to the Council for adoption of the goals, they share what was shared with the steering committee in terms of the accomplishments relative to the initial Brooklyn Park 2025. He stated they would get a sense of the quantitative and qualitative ways they tracked them. He stated that the departments were asked to have department annual plans and performance measures in each of those goals as well.

Council Member Tran stated she wanted to see more residents do the survey and to give them more time to do the survey. She stated it had to be more widespread and not just focused in a few areas.

Council Member Page asked how many people the survey went to. She stated it was online and in person and at community events but wasn't a lot of engagement but was location-based initiatives.

Mr. Kramka stated they did a large email blast to thousands of people

Council Member Tran stated the email was in English but in the city a lot of people spoke a second language. She stated they needed other languages in Spanish, Hmong, Somali, African tribes and Vietnamese.

Mr. Kramka stated it was standard on their communications to include at the bottom of the language block that gave people an option to have it translated if there was a request that came in. He stated that was listed in English, Hmong and Spanish and if they were reading it, they could see the language block in their language. He stated the vast majority of responses were in English and a few Hmong responses and one Spanish response.

Council Member Tran suggested the survey forms be available at the town hall meetings to give to people and the Council members could give out to people in their neighborhoods to get more responses.

Council Member Pages stated the surveys were available in three different languages and when she was door knocking, she picked them up from city hall and handed them out.

Mayor Winston stated a small percentage of residents showed up to meetings as the average resident would be doing their things, such as with family, kids, jobs and had real lives. He stated they were not trying to track everything the Council did as a city. He stated when the city sent out emails and presented materials, he tended not to look at residents as victims they the city was overlooking them. He stated if they wanted to get involved, they had to get involved and the city would give them an opportunity and didn't feel the city should meet them 90% of the way.

He thought it was 50/50 and let residents know when something was coming up, there would be material available and the other 50% were residents. He didn't think the Council should be saying it was invalid if the Council was not going out of their way 90% and they just had to exist and make it easy for residents. He thought the survey results were a good sample size and there was credit to be given to the city. He stated he didn't know how much more the city could be proactive because at some point, residents started saying they didn't answer the door because they didn't want to answer the door. He thought the staff did what they were supposed to do in terms of outreach, and it was the same for the survey in terms of statistics needed to be viable.

Mr. Kramka continued briefing the Council on the Community Goals. He briefed on *Goal #1, Inclusive and Engaged Community*.

Council Member Klonowski stated that one of the challenges they had was under "A" was that people didn't really know the Council. She stated one of the city's taglines was "undiscovered" and for almost 90,000 people that was kind of a silly thing to say. She stated that working on Brooklyn Park having a strong reputation across the region, was an important goal because people compared the city with Brooklyn Center all the time and didn't know about the city. She stated sometimes people who didn't live in the north metro equated the city with a lot of negative things because the city tended to be in the news for dumb things instead of all the good things the city did or crime statistics versus the amazing community gatherings the city had. She stated that was important and hoped they could find some solutions to that.

Mayor Winston asked how they were going to measure those things with Robbinsdale, Crystal and New Hope or other people. He stated they needed to start measuring those things to figure out if they were moving in the right direction or not. He thought overall the goals were good and

the measurement piece was going to be key. He asked how that would be measured from a resident's perspective and what it would look like.

Mr. Kramka briefed on *Goal #2, Safe Community*.

Council Member Page suggested using the word transparency, specifically under "c", "d" or "e". She thought transparency was a word that people were using and responding to that.

Mayor Winston stated that one metric was going to be the police department making headway with driving down crime in certain areas. He stated some of that was data they had and then picked the ones to focus on. He thought domestic violence needed to be part of it and people said no tolerance and a lot of violent crime was embedded in domestic violence.

He thought "safe community" should be attached to it and also for the fire department, whether pushing down response times or could pick one thing that was coming from that department level.

He stated some of the other statements, thought they were statements of values and didn't know how they would measure them. He stated they would need some hard data, so people knew the innovative things the city was doing, were working. He stated that on the innovative things, it could be an alternative response team with mental health, for the first time, the mental health calls were going down. He stated that would be a measure of innovation working and that went to the police department being able to move around and do other things.

Council Member Page asked if the Council would be working together on adding to the goals, if the Council would look at the goals and the Council would look at ways to do those goals.

City Manager Stroebel gave an example, the police department would take, "c-The city is a leader in innovative public safety approaches" and identify what some specific activities or actions they could do to do it.

Council Member Page asked if the Council would then go back, look at the goals and wanted to make sure they were equipped to respond with all types of emergencies.

Mayor Winston clarified the goals would go back to the departments and the departments would confirm their goals and the work that was being done for it and provide metrics. He thought the Council needed to respond to some top-line metrics to the public and be transparent to the public to show the dashboards with percentages.

Council Member Tran disagreed with "f- The city engages all residents to contribute to public safety." She stated the reason was one of the residents that used to be at the Council meetings many years ago, Colonel Chao, who was from the Lao community and lived many years in the city and recently could not attend Council meetings because of health problems and could not move around anymore. She stated he shared with her many years ago that his grandson, now in the Army, when he was in school in Brooklyn Park was anti-Asian to his grandson. Colonel Chao went to the school and educated the kids about the Asians that came from Vietnam and served in the Vietnam War.

She stated two years ago when she became a Council member, there was a Vietnamese community, and they came to her to report about incidents in the city that Vietnamese people coming to America, sponsored by a family and didn't speak English, got violence from their

neighbors. She didn't think the city contributed to public safety and believed there were communities left out and needed to work more on that.

Council Member Xiong stated they were goals and why it should be up there because they needed to work on it. She thought it was a personal story to promote it even further why it should be on the goals.

Mayor Winston stated that the innovation was trying into some message were they were seeing something come out of the ART and within community intervention and the top line goals for the police and fire departments.

Mr. Kramka briefed on *Goal #3, Equitable Outcomes*.

Mayor Winston stated there were some opportunities for metrics there in terms of the Biotech District. He stated there were a lot of business opportunities, more with the light rail and what it would look like for some of the properties that were going to be funded by the city or have TIF implications. He asked how they could have policies that made sure smaller businesses or vendors of color could get into it that had not had those options. He stated when they talked about Brooklyn, it was a prime opportunity when submerging the workforce to obtain the training. He stated it could be tracked but also tracking as they created the biotech, how they were getting residents, and whether it was youth, or people that lived in the city. He stated he knew they couldn't get all of them from the city and it was not how the economy worked, but how successful they were getting people into the area or connecting them with particular jobs.

He thought community members had access to quality food, employment, health care, housing and education to overcome their challenges. He stated the police chief and city manager had to work with LaTreasure Dickson around that one. He stated as they started mapping, talking to different youth, or different areas that were struggling, they could say there were hundreds of places that were struggling, a complex that was struggling or a group that was struggling with food insecurity. He stated they could start by saying how many people did they think would be using the resources. He stated the city didn't need to be responsible for following through, as the city provided the information to get access to those resources to deal with some of the underlying issues.

Council Member Klonowski stated it felt like the racial equity part, should not be there and part of "d" should be at the top where "a" was. She stated there was one in there that wasn't about racial equity, the aging adults. She stated it was just more about accessibility equity for seniors. She stated the racial parts were important but thought when putting that at the very top in bold, it was saying that everything underneath would be under that.

Mayor Winston clarified, putting "d" on top would make more sense.

Council Member Klonowski stated for the highlighted part, remove just the racial, just the equity, because there were other things in there that was not about racial equity and then move the racial equity "d" to "a" because it was important and that was the lens they looked through but not everything. She stated "b" was not about senior citizens and seemed confusing.

Mr. Kramka briefed on *Goal #4, Beautiful Places*.

Mayor Winston thought the litter piece needed to be included and didn't know how that would be measured. He stated there were areas, like at the wooded area at Walgreens off of Zane

Avenue and was bad after the winter and many places where there was a lot of litter. He stated he didn't want to measure how much waste was picked up because it should be going down over a period of time. He thought there should be some way to measure the impact once they started deploying resources to those areas and it was having an impact.

He thought that was going to be an important piece because he had heard a lot about litter but felt the Council had been working on other priorities and now getting to it.

City Manager Stroebel asked if the Council wanted the word "litter" in the goal or subgoal language or did they want to make sure they tracked the progress relative to that action in terms of addressing litter in the community.

Mayor Winston stated he knew they wanted to have positive things but thought sometimes they needed to call out the things they were scared of and address it. He thought there needed to be some language about how they were dealing with litter, so residents and people knew it was top-minded and was being addressed and there needed to be a metric that was tied to it and that the Council was addressing it.

Council Member Klonowski stated one of the things the community engagement team was discussing was infusing art into what they were doing with the community. She asked if that could have something in there about art, community, expression and where dance had all sorts of creative output there.

Mayor Winston stated it was not just around the dance and the music but thought over time if they started having public art in certain places what would help tie the city together in terms of understanding who the city was, Hmong, Vietnamese, African American, Nigerian, Swedish and German. He stated being able to showcase it would help tie it together so when people were driving into Brooklyn Park, on Brooklyn Boulevard, they were saying they were entering Brooklyn Park and it had a look and had a view. He thought that was one simpler way to brand the city. If the city had the art and people immediately noticed when they came in and the city was cleaner. He stated people were always confused with Brooklyn Center and Brooklyn Park.

Council Member Page stated she always said hashtag jewel of the north.

Mr. Kramka asked if that was what they wanted for a name.

Council Member Page stated she had been selling that tag before it was an account, jewel of the north.

Mr. Kramka briefed on *Goal #5, Thriving Community*.

Mayor Winston stated it was making sure the metrics were in place when they talked about the biotech district that applied there, the art piece and beautiful places also applied. He stated some of the bigger cities had art and they took that for granted and thought the city could do some of it in a cost-effective way.

Council Member Page stated they had the conversation about the retention of residents, that businesses and organizations of all types, sizes and specialties, the start, stay and grow aligned with her in her work life and personal life, as she lived, worked and played in the city. She stated when they talked about the litter, it was there in "e – well maintained." She stated "c" was

generally biotechnology and what was going with that. She stated “a”, “b”, “d” and “e” address all the things they had talked about tonight.

Mayor Winston stated that as businesses were starting and other businesses thought of ways to track it. How they were tracking it, how they were growing and how many were staying. He thought the areas they saw issues with and should be tracking businesses in that area a little more if they were nervous about getting ahead of the game and saying for the next 10 years what that was going to look like in terms of incentives and making sure those businesses were staying there and what they needed.

Mr. Kramka stated he had seen metrics at the city level and appreciated the point about even more localized within the community on the business piece and that was interesting.

Council Member Tran asked what the expectancy of the goals were.

City Manager Stroebel stated it was a five-to-ten-year time frame but was up to the Council how long. He stated Brooklyn Park 2025 was adopted in 2017 and that was a seven-to-eight-year time frame. He stated they could tell at the end of the seven or eight years they needed to be refreshed because so much had happened. He stated he would say somewhere five to ten years but knew things could be kind of a spending process

Mayor Winston stated he leaned toward five years but knew things could be about the spending process as well.

Mr. Kramka briefed on *Goal #6, Innovative and Responsive Government*.

Mayor Winston's stated staff was going to be measuring that goal. He thought they were making strides in terms of diversity within the staff but thought there were some creative tools that were coming out that could help. He stated he knew there was an attack on DEI and thought people misunderstood what DEI meant. He stated in terms of those types of initiatives, to have staff, reflect the city, there were some new tools out there. He thought about the various groups and how they felt about the environment within the city and thought they had made some big strides with it. He stated the city was moving faster than many other cities but thought keeping honest with that was going to be key.

He stated the other piece was just for everyone. How they measured customer service experience when people came into the city and what they dealt with. He stated they could poll some of it but not a lot. He stated that government processes were not fortune 500 processes. He stated that in terms of costs, how customers felt how they were being treated when they were walking in might be good to have some top-level metrics for that so they could see how people felt.

He stated that knowing there were things like a city, it wouldn't get high marks but thought it was important they were tracking it so that the things they did control they could continuously work on those pieces.

Mr. Kramka stated that in “6a”, if they looked at the current goal that was in BP 2025, it was almost the same, except they added in “values”. He stated it reflected the diversity and the values because it was not enough just to look like the community if the output of the organization were problematic.

He stated what happened last month was that the language they went through was posted online and they did not do a full engagement, like they did in the summer and fall. He stated it was a temperature check. It was in the park pages and social media. He summarized the takeaways and stated they were similar to what the Council was getting at tonight as far as how they measured it, what the next steps were, and how they operationalized it. He stated part of the survey was to give an opportunity for people to submit name ideas. Some were: Thriving Brooklyn Park, We Are Brooklyn Park Thriving Together, Brooklyn Park Thrive, Transforming Brooklyn Park, and Brooklyn Park 2030 and Jewel of the North.

Mayor Winston suggested going with Jewel of the North and Council members agreed. He thought they needed to have something bold that said Brooklyn Park was willing to take the lead on things. He stated there were some coalitions they were putting together, and Brooklyn Park was taking the lead on some difficult issues. He stated the police department supported a number of folks in time of need and the fire department did as well when some unrest occurred. He stated it was the same thing as Zanewood and other places. He felt they should say Jewel of the North and keep it moving.

Mr. Kramka thanked the Council for their feedback. He stated it sounded like the Council was comfortable where they were at with the engagement part and had a name for the goals. He asked the Council when they would like to adopt the plan. He stated there weren't a lot of changes and suggested later in the month.

City Manager Stroebel suggested February 24, 2025.

Mayor Winston stated if there were metrics tied to them and if it gave time to pull some metrics that the Council could get behind and get around on, then he would be fine with it.

Council Member Xiong also asked for data from the different departments in case they needed to measure. She felt it was a qualitative time capsule for the city.

### **C.3 Discuss Proposed Changes to Animal Ordinance (3:14:05)**

Police Chief Bruley gave a recap to the Council on the animal ordinance. He stated he was looking for feedback from the Council regarding a change to the animal ordinance. He stated the PUPS facility was over capacity, and it was a facility in partnership with multiple cities, Maple Grove, New Hope, Crystal, Austin, Robbinsdale and Champlin. He stated Brooklyn Park was the biggest user of the facility. He stated it was owned by Maple Grove and had an agreement and paid for the use of the facility and using the majority of the facility. He briefed on the dangerous dogs and recent dog bites. He stated at the board level, they were deciding on an evaluation study on how big of a facility they had to add. He stated the city was on for the majority of it and was in the range of one million or \$1.2 million to come up with to add on that facility to make it adequate.

Inspector Weinbeck briefed on: Domestic Animal, Animal Related Cases, Animal Related Citations, Animal At Large, Dangerous Dogs, Ordinance Change Recommendations, Redemption, Limit of Animals on One Premise, Identification and Vaccinations.

Council Member Klonowski asked if they knew why the city was the biggest user of the PUPS facility.

Inspector Weinbeck stated the city had the largest population; Plymouth was a close second, Brooklyn Center was second and they had half the population as the Brooklyn Park. She thought it had do with a lot of the transient population, and a lot of people getting animals for free or choosing to have animals and realizing they were over their heads. She thought they had to move somewhere and couldn't have an animal with them and the animals would get released in the community or left in the apartments.

Chief Bruley stated it was substantial and 68% of all animals that went to PUPS were from Brooklyn Park. He stated Brooklyn Park was one city and if they took all the other cities, they were substantially larger and was an absolute disparity. He stated some of the strategies they were up to were going to help curb it and already had. He stated the goal was to try to avoid having to come up with a million dollars to help buy the facility or build it onto the facility. He stated the dogs at large were consuming the facilities time, with dogs just running up and down the streets and not being cared for. He thought the ordinance changes were smart and great recommendations by Inspector Weinbeck.

Council Member Klonowski asked what happened to the dog if no one came for it and if it was euthanized.

Inspector Weinbeck stated PUPS attempted to be a no kill facility and worked specifically with rescue organizations. She stated they had specific ones they would reach out to and asked if they wanted those animals. She stated that as long as those rescue organizations had someone to get them, they would get them. She stated they tried not to euthanize animals. She stated there were five days based on ownership, meaning, they reached out to the owner, had five days to get there to get the animal. She stated that didn't mean the animal was removed from the facility within the five days. She stated the five days started the process with the rescue organization from there.

Council Member Klonowski asked if the microchipping had a significant cost.

Inspector Weinbeck stated PUPS was charging \$50 per microchip and they understood the residents might have difficulty affording their animal to get out. She stated PUPS goal was to return the animal to the owner and if that meant making some accommodations financially, they would do that as well.

Chief Bruley asked about the programs they had with microchipping events in the city.

Inspector Weinbeck stated they had worked through Midwest Animal Rescue, on free to low-cost microchipping events and opened that up to the residents of the city. She stated they were also working with them with the Recreation and Parks Department to do education related to animal behavior, proper animal ownership to put them in a better position of dealing with the animals.

Council Member Tran asked about surety bonds for the dangerous animals.

Inspector Weinbeck stated it was up to the homeowner's insurance company as they had different requirements for dangerous dogs.

Council Member Tran asked about obedience classes for the dogs.

Inspector Weinbeck stated it depended where they went. They could go to PetSmart or to a private agency and there could be differences based upon what they did. She stated it could be a few hundred dollars and depended on how many sessions they bought in packages.

Council Member Tran asked how long the obedience training was.

Inspector Weinbeck stated it depended on agency and had a minimum of six weeks up to ten weeks depending on the type and the obedience level.

Chief Bruley asked if the Council felt good about the recommended changes. He stated they would bring it forward on February 10 or the next meeting as it had to have two readings because it was a change to the city ordinance.

Mayor Winston stated it made sense, and the changes looked like they would work.

**D. ADJOURNMENT**

ADJOURNMENT – With consensus of the Council, Mayor Winston adjourned the meeting at 9:41 p.m.

HOLLIES WINSTON, MAYOR

DEVIN MONTERO, CITY CLERK