

WORK SESSION
March 05, 2025
6:00 P.M., CITY HALL

Pursuant to due call and notice, the City Council of the City of Eagle Bend, MN met in a work session on Wednesday March 05, 2025 at 6:00 P.M., in the City Hall. Mayor Scott Johnson opened up the work session at 6:00 p.m. Council Members present were Jason Nelson, and Jim Kimball; absent: Jessica Olson. Council Member Lorentz entered the work session at 6:25 p.m. Also present for this meeting was Andrea Voller, Kevin Hess, Adam Stoecker, and Gregory Hanson. The purpose of this work session was to review and discuss the possible selling of parcel #33-0034901; renewing the refuse contract with Long Prairie Sanitary Service; and other topics pertaining to the city.

The council discussed what they believe should be the value of parcel (#33-0034901) which Korner Store has requested to purchase from the City of Eagle Bend. Korner Store would like to purchase this land to expand their operations by installing a diesel station. Adam Stoecker stated that he had two questions regarding this property; 1) what is the company going to do with the snow on this lot and, 2) when this company expands their operations is this going to increase his taxes on the property to the south which he is in the process of purchasing. Mayor Johnson stated that the company will have to remove the snow off this lot by either hauling it away or piling the snow up on their own lot. The company will not be able to move the snow onto any of the neighbor's property. The City Administrator informed Mr. Stoecker that he should talk with the County Assessor to see what the taxes are going to be on the property he is trying to purchase. The value of the property is based on what the property has on it and not what the neighboring property has on their premises. Mr. Stoecker stated he does not believe the company will sell any diesel fuel if the tanks are above ground because it will comprise the fuel when it gets cold. The council stated that this was not the city's concern on whether or not this expansion will be financially feasible to pay for itself. Upon further review and discussion on what the city should sell this lot for, the council stated that the price should be somewhere between \$10,000.00 and \$15,000.00. The council will make a final decision on what the price will be at their March 17, 2025 meeting.

The council discussed the current contract with Long Prairie Sanitation (LPS) and whether or not the city should continue billing for Refuse collection for the city or have (LPS) take over the billing. The council's main concern was, if the city continues billing for the refuse, does this cause extra work load for the city staff and is it costing the city money. The council reviewed the questions and talking points that was submitted by Matt Lanoue from LPS. After reviewing the contract and discussing the pros and cons of turning the billing over to LPS, the council felt that it probably would be better if the city continues handling the billing for the refuse collection within the City of Eagle Bend. The council stated that they will make their decision at the March 17, 2025 city council meeting.

Council Member Kimball updated the City Council on the progress of the interviewing committee making a recommendation to the council on hiring an individual for the City Administrator's position. Council Member Kimball stated that he believes the committee has narrowed down the applicants to one. However, the interviewing committee has decided to take a week to review their notes and to consider if this is the applicant they want to recommend for the City Administrators position. Mr. Kimball stated that the committee wanted to make sure because the candidate is lacking experience in governmental accounting but the committee feels that their answers were authentic and the applicant appears to be driven, which would help them learn the job quickly. The council proceeded to discuss what possible wage the city should offer the candidate and what length of term the probation period should be. The council talked about the wage they offer should be somewhere around the \$52,000.00 range, with a probation period of 1 year. After further discussion, the

council stated that they would review this issue again if the interviewing committee makes a recommendation to the council at the March 17, 2025 city council meeting.

Council Member Lorentz asked if anyone knows what is being done about having a sign installed on Highway 71 indicating where Nelson Park is located. No one on the city council has heard any updates on this issue. The City Administrator stated that he will do some research.

The work session ended at 7:11p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin Hess".

Kevin Hess
City Administrator/Clerk

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Johnson".

Scott Johnson
Mayor