



Mayor's Ad Hoc Committee Northfield Ice Arena

Wednesday, December 21, 2016

8:00 a.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Training Room – City Hall

## Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Ben Martig, Dave Bennett, Brett Reese, Todd Bornhauser, Chris Sorenson, Tom Graupmann, Mike Ludwig, Chris Heineman

Members Absent: Mayor Graham, Jan Hanson, Ryan Bowles, Jeff Hasse, Jim Fischer, Carey Tinkelenberg

Others present: Mayor Elect – Rhonda Pownell, Barb Neitzel - Recording Secretary

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- I. Welcome and Introductions.
  - B. Reese welcomed Mayor Elect Pownell to the meeting. The mission statement was read.
  
- II. Any questions / follow up / updates to our meeting last week.
  - B. Martig noted he will be meeting with Jan Hanson, Ryan Bowles, Mike Ludwig and Pete Sandberg to explore in greater detail opportunities to partner with St. Olaf for a second sheet of ice.
  - There was a discussion whether St. Olaf still intends to even consider a second sheet of ice. M. Ludwig stressed that it is very much on table and they are evaluating ice appetite and debt load to determine if it makes financial sense. They should know in 2-3 months if they plan to pursue a second sheet or not.

- Committee members felt it would be beneficial to reach out to other communities such as Elk River, Stillwater, Shoreview and Plymouth that have developed private partnerships for ice usage.
- B. Martig noted ATS&R will be presenting the Facility Assessment Study to the City Council on January 3, 2017.

III. Phase II Market Needs and Operational Cost Study – (Dave Bennett)

- D. Bennett presented a proposal from Ballard King & Associates LTD for a market analysis (Phase I) to determine how many sheets of ice the City of Northfield market area can support. It will also take into account that St. Olaf intends to build a private rink on campus. Phase II would consist of an operations analysis if market conditions are favorable for supporting more ice surfaces.
- Phase I Market Analysis will be done in January with a council presentation scheduled for February. Phase II would be initiated after the task force reviews Phase I.
- There was a discussion regarding other athletic facility needs within the community. The direction of the task force is focused on the ice arena and not broader athletic facility needs that may or may not exist within the community. B. Martig stated he plans to set up a meeting with the school district superintendent related to these broader community needs.

**A motion was made by T. Bornhauser and seconded by T. Graupmann to direct staff to move forward with the Phase I Operations Analysis with Ballard King Associates LTD. All in favor. Motion carried.**

IV. Schedule Next Meeting, Agenda Items, and Tasks to Assign.

- B. Martig will meet with St. Olaf representatives and the School District.
- D. Bennett will engage with Ballard King & Associates to begin the market analysis.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in the City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Training Room

V. Adjourn – 9:03 AM