

AGENDA

CITY OF MINNETONKA

STUDY SESSION

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2005

6:30 P.M.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS ROOM

1. 2006 Budget Review
2. Adjournment

Additional Information

Study Session summary September 19, 2005

The purpose of a study session is for the council to discuss matters informally and in greater detail than is allowed at formal council meetings. All meetings of the council, including study sessions are open to the public. While the privilege of participating in these discussions is generally limited to the council, staff and consultants, the mayor may open a discussion from the floor.

**City Council Study Session Item #1
Meeting of November 21, 2005**

Brief Description: 2006 Budget Review

Recommended Action: Review budget and provide direction

At a previous August 29, 2005 study session, council reviewed the preliminary 2006 budget targets and provided staff direction on the 2006 preliminary tax levy, which was subsequently adopted by council. The purpose of this meeting is to review the detail of individual budget pages and provide direction prior to the Truth in Taxation hearing on December 5, 2005, and final adoption on December 19, 2005.

Budget Overview

The city of Minnetonka takes a responsible long-term perspective with financial planning and management. We make decisions with the future in mind to insure our ongoing capacity to provide quality public services to our residents and businesses at a reasonable price. Key elements of the 2006 budget include:

- As previously directed by council, the recommended general fund budget holds costs to within traditional inflationary patterns of growth – about 4 percent.
- New summary pages in the budget document provide relevant financial and performance information to better communicate the relationship between tax dollars with the city services that are provided. In addition, the 2006 document is the city's first "all funds" budget, which details all proposed spending.
- Major initiatives include funding the initial year of the road revitalization program, and reorganization of the city's natural resources functions into two new public works divisions.
- Of the total tax levy increase, 1 percent funds inflationary costs of providing city services, 3.3 percent accommodates unfunded state mandates, and 5.5 percent provides for the first phase of the road revitalization program.

Submitted through:
John Gunyou, City Manager

Originated by:
Merrill King, Finance Director

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Council Present: Jan Callison, Bob Ellingson, Terry Schneider, Al Thomas, Tony Wagner, Brad Wiersum and Mayor Karen Anderson.

Staff: John Gunyou, Geralyn Barone, Joe Wallin

Others: Eleanor Berscheit.

Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

1. Council NIMS training

Gunyou said that the federal government requires NIMS (National Incident Management Systems) training for city employees and officials who may be required to respond during an emergency.

Wallin advised that the city has an emergency management plan, which includes an incident command system. NIMS goes further than that. This training is the first phase. It will lead to certification of city employees and elected officials who may respond to a disaster.

NIMS is a nationwide system based on six principles:

- Command and management
- Preparedness
- Resource management
- Communications and information management
- Supporting technologies
- Ongoing maintenance and management

NIMS is applicable to all jurisdictional levels, and across all departments. It was developed from lessons learned from recent events. The compliance deadline for training is October 1.

Wallin then discussed what went wrong in New Orleans. He also provided an overview of ICS (Incident Command System), which includes operations, planning, logistics, and finance/administration.

In response to council questions about the reliability of the city's radio system, Wallin reported on the 800Mhz conversion.

Thomas asked if the city has a database of all police officers and firefighters who live in Minnetonka but who don't work for Minnetonka, so they could be called in the event of a disaster. Wallin said that there is a system in place to do this through the state duty officer.

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Anderson said that credentialing could be an issue, and Wallin added that insurgent help can be more hurtful than helpful. It is often difficult to coordinate the deployment of volunteer help.

Callison asked if NIMS would make a big difference in the way our departments operate. Wallin said it probably would not make a big difference for his generation, but might for the next generation. He believed that national standards are needed.

Anderson noted that Minnesota is a little bit ahead of the game. Wallin added that Minnesota is far ahead of the rest of the nation.

Council members then completed the post-test. Wallin reviewed the answers.

2. Police firearms range open house

Police Chief Joy Rikala and Captain Mark Raquet joined the meeting. Rikala provided an overview of the firearms range, noting that it was remodeled in 2004, primarily for environmental safety. Raquet discussed updates to the range.

In response to Thomas' question, Raquet said that officers are required to shoot once a year to retain their license. Our officers shoot at least quarterly, and can come into the range whenever they want after 4:30 p.m.

Raquet explained the laser decision course. Scenarios allow officers to learn how to use the appropriate level of force. During the scenarios, they practice how to respond to different situations. After a demonstration, council members tried the course.

Rikala then gave a tour of the evidence storage area.

In response to Anderson's question, Rikala said that council members could schedule a police ride along through Captain Sebenaler.

Thomas asked how long evidence is stored. Rikala explained that it depends on the case.

3. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Magrew
City Clerk