

**MINUTES
OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE
EDINA CITY COUNCIL
HELD AT CITY HALL
MARCH 16, 2010
8:53 P.M.**

Mayor Hovland called the meeting to order at 8:53 p.m. in the Community Room of City Hall following the regular meeting of the Edina City Council. Answering rollcall were Members Bennett, Brindle, Housh, Swenson and Mayor Hovland. Staff attending the meeting included: Roger Knutson, City Attorney; Ceil Smith, Assistant to the City Manager; and Jennifer Bennerotte, Communications & Marketing Director.

Gordon Hughes will retire as City Manager on July 30, 2010. Mayor Hovland explained that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the process to be used to hire a new City Manager. He suggested the Council discuss the geographic scope of the search for a new City Manager, whether a consultant should be hired to assist with the process and for what purpose.

Mayor Hovland suggested a consultant be hired to assist the Council in leading focus groups in the community and to meet with staff and Council members, to develop a candidate profile. It was also suggested a two-member committee of the Council could lead a search for candidates, beginning in the seven-county metropolitan area, the purpose of which would be to maintain the confidentiality of any applicants in the State of Minnesota.

Member Bennett suggested instead that the Council follow a process similar to that used by Edina Public Schools to hire a superintendent a few years ago. Edina Public Schools hired a national consultant to find candidates, which the Board of Education reviewed as a committee of the whole.

Because it is important candidates have a good understanding of Minnesota financing, among other things, Council members agreed the search should start as one based in Minnesota. If sufficient candidates do not surface, the search could be broadened beyond Minnesota.

The Council also agreed to consider hiring a consultant either for the initial community outreach efforts or for a full search. Mayor Hovland will contact Personnel Decisions Incorporated (PDI) and other possible consultants to obtain specific information regarding their services and fees. The Council further requested the Mayor contact consultants about handling all phases of the process and to report back to the Council the results of these inquiries.

The Council set its next meeting to discuss the process for 5 p.m. April 6. At that time, they will discuss the proposals for community outreach and continue discussing whether a consultant should be hired to assist with more of the process.

There being no further business, Mayor Hovland adjourned the meeting at 10:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Bennerotte, Communications & Marketing Director

Minutes approved by Edina City Council, April 6, 2010

James B. Hovland, Mayor