

**MINUTES
OF THE WORK SESSION
EDINA CITY COUNCIL
HELD AT EDINA CITY HALL
NOVEMBER 15, 2011
5:05 P.M.**

Mayor Hovland called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Answering rollcall were Members Bennett, Brindle, Swenson and Mayor Hovland. Member Sprague was absent.

Staff attending the meeting included: Jennifer Bennerotte, Communications & Marketing Director; Vince Cockriel, Park Superintendent; Sherry Engelman, City Sanitarian; Steve Grausam, Liquor Operations Director; Wayne Houle, City Engineer/Public Works Director; John Keprios, Director of Parks & Recreation; Steve Kirchman, Building Official; Karen Kurt, Assistant City Manager; Jeff Long, Police Chief; Debra Mangen, City Clerk; Susie Miller, Braemar Arena Manager; Scott Neal, City Manager; Eric Roggeman, Assistant Finance Director; Marty Scheerer, Fire Chief; Matt Sisterman, IT Director; Ceil Smith, Assistant to the City Manager; Cary Teague, Planning Director; John Wallin, Finance Director; and Bob Wilson, City Assessor.

Mayor Hovland explained the purpose of the meeting was to allow the Council to review the draft 2012 Operating Budget and ask questions of staff before the public hearing on December 6, 2011. Manager Neal noted the budget had been built over a long period of time and he encouraged the Council to ask questions.

The Council conducted a review of the 2012 Draft Operating Budget (asking questions of and for clarifications) from the staff. Discussion items included: construction fund, factors that could affect the City's triple A bond rating, Energy and Environment Commission's discretionary allocation, potential limits for Heritage Preservation consultant, number of employees relative to number of citizens, time elapsed to obtain building permits for commercial jobs, effect of assuming dispatching service for City of Golden Valley, and the Braemar Memorial Fund. The Council's consensus was to approve the requests received from the Historical Society and the Edina Public Art Committee. The Council briefly discussed the possibility and benefits to the neighborhood of opening a general skating rink at Countryside Park. Staff will gather data on this possibility.

Mayor Hovland adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Mangen, City Clerk

Minutes approved by Edina City Council, December 6, 2011

James B. Hovland, Mayor