

**CITY OF DARIEN
GOAL SETTING SESSION MINUTES
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
October 27, 2015, 6:30pm,
Police Training Room**

Present: Mayor Kathleen Weaver, Treasurer Michael Coren, Clerk JoAnne Ragona, Alderman Ted Schauer, Alderman Tina Beilke, Alderman Joe Kenny, Alderman Tom Chlystek, Alderman Joe Marchese, Alderman Tom Belczak, City Administrator Bryon Vana, Director of Municipal Services Dan Gombac, Assistant Administrator Paul Nosek.

Call to Order: 6:30 P.M.

Neighbors of Darien Magazine

Staff advised the publisher of Neighbors of Darien magazine, Tim Sullivan, has been having a difficult time generating enough advertising revenue to maintain the magazine and the last issue was significantly late. After discussions with the publisher he has given several alternatives to consider in order for the magazine to continue. Mr. Sullivan mentioned there will be some minor modifications to the magazine in order to reduce costs. He also mentioned the City would pay the printer and post office directly to avoid a delay in the distribution. The publisher will keep the City updated as to the progress of the magazine distribution. The City was interested in investing more money into the magazine by adding additional City pages.

Expand Collaboration between the Darien Chamber of Commerce and other Outside Sources

A discussion took place regarding the relationship between the City and Chamber and possible ways that local Chambers can reach different communities.

Utility Burial 75th and Cass

Staff advised there are a number of overhead wires that still exist in the area of the new Darien Pointe center. Several of the Council members mentioned that the area would look much nicer if the overhead wires were placed underground. The rough estimated cost for this project is \$1,800,000. Staff discussed funding options to pay for the project. The consensus was to place the project on the capital projects expansion list but not pursue the project at this time.

Capital/Neighborhood Beautification Projects

Staff advised that since 2004 the City has increased funding for neighborhood improvement projects such as roads, sidewalks, drainage, water system improvements, and beautification projects. The Council and staff reviewed the project list and modified the list. The list will be updated and discussed with the 2016-17 budget.

Staff developed a document that includes guidelines for capital projects planning that was approved by the City Council on August 20, 2012. The guidelines serve as a budget and financial management tool assisting in multi-year capital projects planning. The CIP guidelines will also be used to provide the staff and council with a framework to facilitate budget preparations and discussions. This document is updated annually in conjunction with the budget meetings. New ideas and projects identified by the City can be added to the project list based on a consensus of the Council.

Increase Promotion of Direct Connect

The Council and staff discussed ways to increase Direct Connect subscribers.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

KATHLEEN MOESLE WEAVER, MAYOR

JOANNE E. RAGONA, CITY CLERK