

**CITY OF NISSWA
MINUTES – CITY COUNCIL WORK SHOP
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2019
6:00 P.M. – CITY HALL**

Members Present: Heidmann, Hoff, Jacobson, Johnson, Ryan

Members Absent: None

Also Present: City Staff Jenny Max, Donna Caron, Tom Blomer; City Engineer Mark Hallan; Ron Bray-WSB; Steve Strocchein-Crow Wing County

There were approximately 4 people in the audience.

- A. Call to Order** – Mayor Heidmann called the Council workshop to order at 6:02 P.M.
- B. WSB/Crow Wing County Discussion re: Trail at Intersection Improvement of State Highway 371 and CSAH 13/77** – Bray provided a review of the proposed trail extension at CSAH 13/77 and Highway 371. Based on the project proposal, the City would need to purchase right-of-way property from the Lutheran Church of the Cross and American National Bank. Bray also provided preliminary City cost estimates of approximately \$89,500 associated with the right-of-way acquisition and construction costs to extend the trail/pedestrian pathway on CSAH 13. Three options were available to the City: table issue until a later date; proceed with the right-of-way purchase and either move forward or postpone trail construction; or decline to extend the trail. Jacobson expressed his concern that the proposed trail extension didn't go anywhere at this point and that it may be many years before the entire trail system was completed and did not support the trail extension. Heidmann stated that the City must look to the future and the long-term plan. Heidmann indicated his preference is to purchase the right-of-way property, install the stormwater/drainage system and a temporary grass surface on the trail. Johnson was in favor of the right-of-way acquisition but not sure about the trail construction. Hoff stated that he would like to table the issue and have time to review the project further. Bray stated a meeting with both the church and the bank is scheduled for April 29 and a decision delay by the City would have an impact on the project timeline. Pastor Drew Bakken of Lutheran Church of the Cross stated the church's preference would be to complete the entire project all at one time. Ryan stated that the associated costs would not get any cheaper or go lower and was in favor of moving forward with at least the right-of-way purchase but perhaps hold off on the actual trail construction. Heidmann stated that a decision would be made at the Council meeting later this evening.
- C. Ryan Schmidt, Schlenner Wenner & Co. – Presentation of the 2018 Audited Financial Statements for the City of Nisswa** – Schmidt provided a summarized overview of the 2018 audit process for the City of Nisswa. The presentation included the audit results, audit adjustments (none), internal control issues, Minnesota legal compliance, financial/fund highlights to include revenues, expenditures and trend analysis, and outstanding long-term debt. Due to significant improvements from previous years, there were no proposed management recommendations and Schlenner Wenner & Co. expressed an unmodified (clean) opinion on the City's financial statements. Heidmann thanked Max and conveyed his appreciation to Max and city staff for their efforts and audit results. Max stated that Schlenner Wenner & Co. is a great firm and it is a pleasure to work with them.
- D. Adjourn** – Motion by Jacobson, seconded by Hoff to adjourn the Council workshop at 7:02 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Heidmann, Mayor

Jenny Max, City Administrator/Clerk

