

CITY OF NEW HOPE
4401 XYLON AVENUE NORTH
NEW HOPE, MINNESOTA 55428

Joint Work Session between
Crystal and New Hope Councils

January 12, 2012
Crystal Community Center

CALL TO ORDER The New Hope City Council met in work session pursuant to due call and notice thereof; Mayor Hemken called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

New Hope
Council present: Kathi Hemken, Mayor
John Elder, Council Member
Andy Hoffe, Council Member
Eric Lammle, Council Member
Daniel Stauner, Council Member

Crystal Council
present: ReNae Bowman, Mayor
Dave Anderson, Council Member
Julie Deshler, Council Member
Joe Selton, Council Member
Mark Hoffman, Council Member
John Budziszewski, Council Member

Absent: Janet Moore, Council Member (Crystal)

Staff present: Kirk McDonald, City Manager of New Hope
Anne Norris, City Manager of Crystal

Facilitator: Chad Weinstein, Ethical Leaders in Action

Mr. Chad Weinstein, Ethical Leaders in Action, introduced himself and explained his role to facilitate discussion between the city councils as agreed at the November 30 joint meeting. He commented that both councils have adopted resolutions reaffirming the West Metro Fire-Rescue District Joint Powers Agreement and set a deadline of June 30, 2012, to resolve issues. He also noted both councils have completed the task of preparing a list of issues for discussion.

Mr. Weinstein explained the purpose of the meeting is to prioritize the list of issues developed by both city councils, categorize the issues, and agree upon a process to address issues.

New Hope Council Member Stauner remarked regarding the regular fire board meeting held the prior evening and that he felt it was a positive and productive meeting. He inquired of others' perceptions of the meeting. New Hope Council Member Elder agreed the meeting went well and members were respectful. Crystal Mayor Bowman and Council Member Hoffmann agreed it was a good meeting overall and stated they saw some improvements, which they hoped would continue in the future. Mayor Bowman also indicated she has confidence in the district's new legal counsel.

The Council representatives serving on the Board discussed the change in the 2013 budget process whereby the full Board would be conducting work sessions on the budget (beginning in February), and discussion was held regarding a possible joint-Council work session on the budget after the budget is agreed upon by the Board.

Mr. Weinstein assisted the Councils in reviewing and categorizing their respective list of issues into the following five categories: governance, budget/financial, leadership, partnership, and operations. Next the Councils discussed priority order and agreed governance (accountability of chief, query process, information reporting) should be the top priority followed by leadership. Discussion was held regarding methods to follow to affirm resolution of issue(s).

It was agreed that any matters specific to the joint powers agreement be tracked during the review of issues and that the Councils would address any necessary amendments at the conclusion of the joint meetings.

Three additional meetings were set for 6:30 p.m. on February 2, February 23, and March 22.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m. as there was no further business to come before the Council at its work session.

Respectfully submitted,



Valerie Leone
City Clerk