

MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION

October 3, 2023

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in a Work Session on October 3, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at the Government Center, 201 1st Street NE, in Austin, Minnesota.

All members present, viz: Chair Mike Ankeny, Vice-Chair Jerry Reinartz, John Mueller, Polly Glynn and Dan Sparks. Also in attendance were County Administrator Trish Harren Gjersvik and Executive Assistant Denise Barthels.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH) representatives Bob Cohrs and Brian Bergstrom attended the meeting remotely to provide the Board with an update on the public safety space study process and next steps. The gentlemen reviewed the overall scope of the project, a summary of the space needs assessment, concept site plan development, planning estimate of probable costs and a summary of findings. The analysis included space needs for the Austin Police Department, the Mower County Sheriff and Dispatch as if each were stand-alone or combined. Options for consideration are to do nothing, consider new combined or separate individual facilities and review possible funding options. The Commissioners requested that SEH provide a quote for remodeling the current facility if the Austin Police Department moved to its own separate facility.

Solid Waste Officer Marcus Thompson provided the Board for discussion an MPCA recycling center grant opportunity. Mr. Thompson would like to make an application for the grant for a tipping floor project to facilitate the processing of more recycling. If awarded, the project would be completed in 2027. A project design is not needed as part of the application process. Project could possibly start in March 2024.

Mr. Thompson also provided a brief review of the status of the electronics recycling addition. Unfortunately, the actual soil is not appropriate for the footings requiring the need to dig out more soils as part of the project. A brief discussion of what Mower County will charge for the electronic recycling was discussed. A \$10.00 per item is being considered.

A brief discussion of the pros and cons of single sort recycling was discussed. Surrounding counties have single sort recycling. Mower County's processing is cleaner and more efficient with less processing of garbage that typically is included in the single sort process of recycling.

It was noted that there is an upcoming vacancy on the Planning Commission / Board of Adjustment. Two commissioners have names of people who may be interested. Notice of the upcoming vacancy will be published and the interested persons will receive an application to complete.

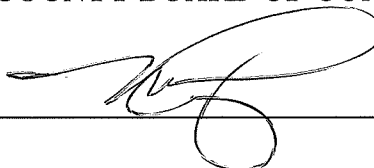
COMMISSIONERS' RECORD MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Under miscellaneous discussion, County Administrator Trish Harren Gjersvik informed the Board that a Senior Officials Emergency Management Training session will be available sometime in December or January. County, city and township officials are encouraged to attend to learn, review and understand the roles and responsibilities during an emergency.

The work session concluded at 2:41 p.m.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

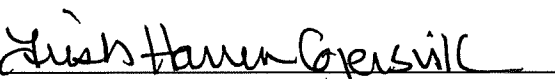
BY: _____



Chairperson

Attest:

By: _____


Clerk/Administrator