

**CHISHOLM CITY COUNCIL
WORKING SESSION
September 2, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor John Champa called the working session to order at 5:00 p.m. The working session was held via Zoom video teleconference instead of in person due to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic and Minnesota Governor Walz's Executive Orders.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Tracy Campbell, April Fountain, Adam Lantz, Travis Vake, Jim Varda, and Mayor John Champa
Absent: None

Also present: Administrator Bill Manney, Building Official Mandy Galli, Fire Chief Bob Brown, Public Works Supervisor Larry Folstad, and Marie Tolonen with the Chisholm Tribune Press (joined at 5:34 p.m.)

Representatives from the MN Discovery Center: Donna Johnson, Jordan Metsa & Gary Sjoquist
EDA/CDA Consultants: Rebekkah Anderson & Wayne Kangas

ADOPT AGENDA

Moved by Councilor Lantz and supported by Councilor Vake to adopt the agenda as presented.
Voting Aye: Councilors Campbell, Lantz, Vake, Varda and Mayor Champa
Councilor Fountain was not present for the roll call vote. Motion Carried

**MN DISCOVERY CENTER REGARDING THE REDHEAD MOUNTAIN
BIKE PARK & JOINT VENTURES WITH THE CITY OF CHISHOLM**

Representatives from the MN Discovery Center: Donna Johnson, Jordan Metsa & Gary Sjoquist provided information to the council regarding the Redhead Mountain Bike Park and joint ventures with the City of Chisholm.

- Per Jordan Metsa, they would like to raise funds to complete the Redhead Mountain Bike Park.
- The original plan from the MN Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation was 36 plus miles of trail for mountain bikes.
- A documentary by Old Saw Media will help raise funds to complete the trail as it is a public trail and most people who ride mountain bikes are educated and have funds. This may be a good fit for obtaining financial contributions. It cost \$500,000.00 to build out the trail and will cost another \$1,000,000.00 to expand the trail. There will be multiple levels of use for the video and it can be used to recruit people to the area.
- Donna Johnson, the Executive Director with the MN Discovery Center has signed the contract with Old Saw Media of Duluth, MN, as time is of the essence.
- The product is trending and the video will build a sense of ownership for the community and will open doors for existing and new businesses. It is important to promote downtown Chisholm. The Redhead Mountain Bike Park is Chisholm's facebook. This Trail is getting worldwide attention. It is a good asset for our new Economic Development Coordinator.
- Councilor Varda asked what crowd funding was and Jordan Metsa explained it is a public fundraising campaign that is done online and is a new way to fund items that cities may not be able to fund. It is promotional for the city, the MN Discovery Center and the region.
- Gary Sjoquist estimates that 30,000 – 40,000 people will use the trail per year.

**SPENDING OPTIONS FOR CARES ACT FUNDING FOR COVID-19 & MN DEPARTMENT
OF IRON RANGE RESOURCES & REHABILITATION GRANT FUNDING**

Discussion took place with Consultants Rebekkah Anderson & Wayne Kangas and they were asked to present a priority list for spending the CARES Act funding for COVID-19 so the council can review this information and take action at their September 9, 2020 council meeting.

It was determined that it was important to reopen City Hall and the Library to the public.

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

Discussion took place regarding the pros and cons of bidding to a General Contractor or Hiring a Construction Manager for the Public Safety Building project.

Owners representative Scott Sosalla's recommendations to the council regarding value engineering and alternate bid items for the Public Safety Building were discussed.

The above items for the Public Safety Building will be brought before the council as action items at the next council meeting on Wednesday, September 9, 2020.

ADJOURN WORKING SESSION

Moved by Councilor Campbell and supported by Councilor Lantz to adjourn the working session at 6:41 p.m.
Voting Aye: All Motion Carried

/s/ John A. Champa
Mayor

Attest:

/s/ William Manney
City Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator