1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Joe McDonald, called the Special Workshop of the Delano City Council/ Economic Development Authority of Tuesday, June 30, 2009 to order at 6:05 PM

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present:  
Joe McDonald, Mayor  
Holly Schrupp, Council Member/Mayor Pro-tem  
Brad Hotchkiss, Council Member  
Larry Bartels, Council Member  
Betsy Stolfa, Council Member

Also Present:  
Phil Kern, City Administrator  
Brian Bloch, Finance Director  
Vince Vander Top, City Engineer  
Luke Fischer, Assistant to City Administrator  
Ernie Eden, Public Works Director  
Wendy Biel, Recorder

3. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Discuss City-owned properties along Highway 12 corridor.

Phil Kern informed Council that business owners have discussed the possible purchase of City-owned properties west on Highway 12, north of Highway 30. Kern reminded Council of previous conversation encouraging prospective buyers to submit site plans and specs for future expansion.

Mayor McDonald stated that a resident expressed concern about the unfinished landscaping of Phase I along Highway 12. Vince Vander Top noted that a meeting with impacted property owners will be tentatively scheduled for mid-July to review Phase I landscaping recommendations. Kern also gave a brief update on the Aesthetic Committee’s focus of landscaping discussions areas in front of the Country Mall and along the west side of Crow River.

B. Discuss Wright Hennepin Franchise Agreement.
Kern briefly explained an ordinance that could grant Wright Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association, a franchise, to construct and maintain an electrical distribution and / or transmission system within the City of Delano. The City of Delano is requesting that Wright Hennepin Cooperative enter a franchise agreement with Delano conferring on Wright Hennepin Cooperative the right to operate electric power facilities within Delano, on certain terms and conditions. Brad Hotchkiss and Larry Bartels agreed to assist with further discussions between the City and Wright Hennepin Cooperative; Kern anticipates an agreement by later this summer.

C. Discuss Rivertown Project.

Motion Number (M-09-176) Motion by Larry Bartels, seconded by Betsy Stolfa to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing Rivertown Rowhome purchase.

Motion Number (M-09-177) Motion by Brad Hotchkiss, seconded by Holly Schrupp to exit out of closed session.

Motion Number (M-09-178) Motion by Larry Bartels, seconded by Brad Hotchkiss to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing Rivertown Project.

Motion Number (M-09-179) Motion by Larry Bartels, seconded by Betsy Stolfa to exit out of closed session.

D. Discuss Pavement Management Plan.

Kern reminded Council of a Pavement Management Plan (PMP) developed in 2003; its purpose was to provide a better understanding of the overall quality of the aging streets and develop a plan for efficiently utilizing the City’s resources to manage its infrastructure. The ultimate goal of the PMP was to have all deficiencies in the infrastructure addressed by 2024.

Implementation of the City’s seal coating program has been completed within budget and maintaining streets recommend by the PMP has also been successful. The reconstruction element of the plan, however, has not proceeded with the same success; noting three significant factors budget reductions, change in methodology, and the Highway 12 project. Staff further explained a proposed addendum to the City’s PMP, a Street Reconstruction Plan. This Plan involves grouping the individual street reconstruction project outlined in the PMP into groups based on rankings and geography. There are two options for consideration by Council – a five project plan over the next 15 years or a seven project plan.
over the next 15 years. Each option has its own merits and would chart the City on a course maintaining high quality infrastructure while balancing the City’s financial health.

Staff recommends Council call a public hearing to consider the proposed Street Reconstruction Plan as an addendum to the City’s PMP. Staff also recommends Council to approve either the five-project plan or the seven-project plan, based on the Council’s judgment of financial implication of each alternative.

E. Discuss Highway 12 Construction.

Vince Vander Top reviewed the TH 12 / Bridge Avenue Project Schedule for Council, outlining the three projects: Bridge Avenue Landscape Improvements, MnDOT Phase II Improvements, and MnDOT TH 12 Landscape improvements. Vander Top updated that Phase II will begin July 7, 2009; this will impact traffic flow and detours will again be implemented. Staff began discussing detouring options to maintain local traffic flow, allowing for local business accessibility, and ensure functional routes for large semi trucks. Staff will continue meeting weekly with MnDOT and Duininck Construction to ensure detour routes are effectively maintained.

Brian Bloch also reviewed and requested Council to consider submitted Resolution R-09-17 with the intention to bond for expenses accruing, which would be paid prior to August 2009, and at a later date final bonding approval will need to be made by Council.

Motion Number (M-09-180) Motion by Holly Schrupp, seconded by Brad Hotchkiss to adopt Resolution R-09-17 establishing procedures relating to compliance with reimbursement bond regulations under the Internal Revenue Code. Motion Carried 5-0 by Roll Call Vote.

F. Discuss Leland & Sons purchase agreement.

Motion Number (M-09-181) Motion by Larry Bartels, seconded by Brad Hotchkiss to enter into closed session for the purpose of Leland & Sons purchase agreement.

Motion Number (M-09-182) Motion by Larry Bartels, seconded by Holly Schrupp to exit out of closed session.

G. Discuss Delano Library.
Phil Kern introduced Carol Plocher, branch manager of the Delano Public Library. Carol Plocher reviewed a letter she received from the Great River Regional Library (GRRL), which governs over Delano Public Library. Plocher stated that GRRL is proposing organizational changes relative to the branch manager position. Due to the proposed restructuring, all current branch managers will have to reapply for their position. Those branch managers that are re-hired will manage over 2, 3, or 4 branches, thus significantly decreasing the total number of positions available. This proposal would go into effect January 2010.

Mayor McDonald acknowledged that even with these economic times, libraries have become increasingly busier with the availability to borrow books, movies, music, and the use of the internet, all free of charge. Kern affirmed stating that over the past 15 years, circulation has increased by 600% to a total count in 2008 of 152,000 transactions. This increase in circulation and strength of our library system as a whole is centered on the efforts, abilities, and availability of our local branch manager.

Betsy Stolfa questioned what Council and residents could do to support Carol Plocher as branch manager at Delano Public Library. Staff is requesting to discuss with GRRL their proposal regarding the Delano Library and insuring Plocher’s ongoing process of maintaining the excellence of our Library. Holly Schrupp, corresponding for the Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE), agreed to submit a letter of endorsement for the Delano Public Library and Carol Plocher. Plocher encouraged anyone within the community and Council can voice their opinion at the next GRRL Board Meeting on July 14, 2009.

H. Consider Pay Request No. 2 from Eagle Construction (East Side Stormwater Lift Station).

Motion Number (M-09-183) Motion by Holly Schrupp, seconded by Larry Bartels to authorize Pay Request No. 2 to Eagle Construction for $161,514.82. Motion Carried.

I. Discuss Independence Comprehensive Plan Review.

Kern updated Council that after Staff submitted a letter objecting to the Independence Comprehensive Plan Review as it stated affecting the City of Delano; the City of Independence had also submitted their rebuttal. On recommendation by Mark Johnson, City Attorney, and Alan Brixius, City Planner, Staff has agreed to wait for recommendations from Met Council and their interpretation of each City’s objections and rebuttals as it affects the City of Delano.
4. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Number (M-09-184) Motion by Betsy Stolfa, seconded by Brad Hotchkiss to adjourn the special workshop of the Delano City Council/Economic Development Authority of Tuesday, June 30, 2009. Motion Carried.

There being no further business to discuss the special workshop of the Delano City Council/Economic Development Authority of Tuesday, June 30, 2009 was adjourned at 9:12 PM.

______________________________
Joe McDonald, Mayor

______________________________
Marlene Kittock, City Clerk

**ATTEST:**

______________________________
Wendy Biel, Recorder