

**SPECIAL WORKSESSION OF THE ANOKA CITY COUNCIL
ANOKA CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
APRIL 4, 2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rice called the special worksession meeting to order at 8:40 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present at roll call: Mayor Rice, Councilmembers Barnett, Skogquist, Weaver, and Wesp.

Staff present: City Manager Greg Lee; Community Development Director Doug Borglund; City Attorney Scott Baumgartner.

Absent: None.

3. COUNCIL BUSINESS and/or DISCUSSION ITEMS

3.1 Discussion; Presentation Related to Restaurant Pad Behind City Hall.

Community Development Director Doug Borglund shared a staff report with background information stating the City Council would be presented with additional information regarding the proposed restaurant pad behind City Hall. He said the City has been in conversation and has received a second letter of interest to acquire the restaurant pad that has been marketed by the City behind City Hall and the interested party will be present to discuss the site and their interest in Anoka.

Steve Hesse, Eclectic Culinary Concepts, Inc., shared their background and proposed concept for the restaurant pad behind City Hall. He spoke about their current locations including The Clover in Rosemount, Pajarito in St. Paul and Edina, Me and Julio in Hastings and Madison Wisconsin, Lucky's 13 in Bloomington, Plymouth, Mendota, Burnsville, Roseville, Bismarck and Fargo North Dakota, Yankee Tavern in Eagan, and JoJo's in Fargo, North Dakota.

They shared more about their proposed concept that would include an outdoor patio, seating for high school sports teams and other events and how the side would be open to the park area.

Mr. Hesse spoke about the importance of historic buildings in Anoka and their desire to fit their concept within the City's historic structure. He shared how Lucky's 13 was a family-based concept and spoke about how they would compete effectively with other restaurants and complement each other. He highlighted the

importance of family in business and why they want to be in Anoka and how their décor would include gas lights and other elements.

Mr. Borglund stated the two interested parties' proposals would be reviewed by Council in a closed session April 18 after which they would be contacted regarding next steps.

Councilmember Weaver spoke about snowmobilers using the trails would fit with the proposed restaurant concept.

Councilmember Skogquist said he would like to hear feedback from other cities regarding their interactions, construction, and other elements.

Councilmember Barnett said she would like to hear more regarding the use of public space and feedback regarding patio use.

Councilmember Weaver asked if a catering license would allow for alcohol sales in a park. Mr. Hesse said they currently hold all appropriate licensing to accommodate events.

Councilmember Barnett asked if the financial offers would be part of the closed session discussion. Mr. Borglund said the financial component was information being sought by the two firms and how they would include reference that whatever is built would be in place for an extended period of time.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Weaver, seconded by Councilmember Wesp to adjourn the Worksession at 9:07 p.m. Motion carried.

Submitted by: Cathy Sorensen, *TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*

Approval Attestation:

Amy T. Oehlers, City Clerk