

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, June 3, 2020

Committee Members Present:

Atlas-Ingebretson, Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Gonzalez, Ferguson, Fredson, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Committee Members Absent:

Lilligren

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:01 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3, 2020 on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 16 Atlas-Ingebretson, Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle
Nay: 0
Absent: 1 Lilligren

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Lindstrom, seconded by Lee to approve the agenda. **Motion carried** on the following roll call:

Aye: 16 Atlas-Ingebretson, Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle
Nay: 0
Absent: 1 Lilligren

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Cummings, seconded by Vento to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2020 regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole. **Motion carried** on the following roll call:

Aye: 16 Atlas-Ingebretson, Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle
Nay: 0
Absent: 1 Lilligren

INFORMATION

Lisa Barajas, Director of Community Development gave an update on the encampment along Hiawatha. There are 60-70 residing at the encampment and we continue working with partners to maintain a sanitary environment, social distancing and working with social service providers. Last Thursday, conditions quickly escalated with the fires next to the encampment and for their safety in partnership with colleagues, metro transit police, social service providers, and Hennepin county it was decided to evacuate the site and move residents to temporary shelter.

Wes Kooistra, General Manger provided an update on Metro Transit, MTS, and Metro Transit Police engagement with Multi Agency Command Center (MACC), the current status, suspending services due to safety concerns for riders and employees, relocated light rail vehicles from Franklin and Nicolet garage buses, MTS expanded Metro Mobility service as a mutual aid for the Governors orders, retired former Metro Mobility buses were offered first responders and resuming services. Wes expressed his gratitude for Metro Transit workforce.

Chief Frizell provided an update on Metro Transit Police including changing force structure to protect and address the civil unrest, violence, properties and facilities They did not use any metro transit assets for arrest or detain process but acted as a supportive role. No injuries, no major damage to facilities, and they will continue protecting our properties, officers, employees and providing safety teams.

Nick Thompson, Director of MTS provided an update on Metro Mobility and Transit Link including the decision to continue to operate the essential medical appointments, health care workers, and food delivery services, expansion of service, and resuming service. He also stated there was no safety issues from contractors or drivers and expressed appreciation for contractors and staff. Retired former Metro Mobility buses were offered to first responders.

Council members expressed gratitude for all staff and thanked them for their work, leaderships, and commitment. Council member Lee received a question if community organizers can buy bus passes. Atlas-Ingebretson stated we should work with Youth Are Here.

Chair Zelle asked council members to send their thoughts and specific ideas they have a for a statement and what we can do going forward.

Council members expressed their feeling, comments, thoughts and ideas including be bold and lead the region in equity, bring in others with voice, look at institutes that made decisions, look at our systems to do better, we need to make changes, risk and do things differently, make bold steps/decisions and positive change for equity in MN and our region, look at data and continue to measure the data. They expressed frustration that they have been making statements and there is no change and no action.

1. Information Item: Metropolitan Council FTA and EPA Triennial DBE Program Goal

Elaine Ogilvie and Ashanti Payne presented on Metropolitan Council DBE three year goal, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) DBE Program, FTA DBE Program 3 year goal, DBE Goal FFY 2018-2020, goal calculation methodology, determining relative availability, weighting relative availability, base figure, adjusted base figure, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) DBE Program, EPA DBE Program, EPA DBE Goal FFY 2017-2019, base figure, adjusted base figure, consideration and recommendations.

Council members had comments, questions and concerns regarding the DBE goals, the decrease for goals, ways to get a higher goal and looking at rules and regulation differently. Challenge the federal government if the system is not working, find ways to incorporate DBE participation and other areas we can build partnership and businesses, development strategies to raise the number, goal setting process and receiving racial disaggregated data.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Liz Sund
Recording Secretary