

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a special session on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Robby Robinson, Council Members Cedar Abadie, John Althoff, Ken Carpenter, Mike Dalton, LeRoy McCusker and Morris Mattson. Also present were City Administrator Ron Johnson, City Attorney Andrea McDowell Poehler, Finance Director/Assistant City Administrator Lanell Endres, City Engineer Greg Anderson, Zoning Assistant Samantha Meyer and Police Chief Jeff McCormick.

Purpose The purpose of the special meeting was to discuss the Cannon River Winery expansion request.

Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Robinson led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Discussion The Council was informed that the negotiations between the Economic Development Authority (EDA) and the Cannon River Winery regarding the sale of properties owned by the City of Cannon Falls and the EDA have stalled. Administrator Johnson stated staff was looking for direction from the Council to see if they were interested in the City purchasing the EDA property and then continue the negotiations with the winery owner.

A motion was made by Council Member Abadie and seconded by Council Member Dalton to enter into negotiations with the EDA for possible purchase of their property.

Additional discussion was held including the taking back of the authority given to the EDA at the last council meeting concerning them negotiating on the City's behalf for the sale of the City property, tax abatement, winery licensure requirements, public opinion, parking issues, possible other interests in the property and production of the wine.

A vote was taken on the motion to enter into negotiations with the EDA for possible purchase of their property. Council Members Abadie, Althoff and Dalton voted aye. Council Members Carpenter, McCusker and Mattson voted nay. Mayor Robinson broke the tie by voting aye. The motion was declared passed.

The Council meeting moved to the Conference Room in City Hall at 5:31 p.m.

A motion was made by Council Member Carpenter, seconded by Council Member Abadie to close the meeting [as authorized by MN Statutes 13D.05 subdivision 3(c)] to discuss the possible sale of real property owned by the EDA, PID 521004160. All members present voted aye, except Council Member McCusker who voted nay. The motion was declared passed and the meeting closed.

The meeting re-opened at 6:33 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Mayor Robinson reported that no resolution on the sale or price of the property was reached with the EDA and noted that the City would continue to negotiate with the EDA and try to move the project forward.

Adjournment The meeting was duly adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 16th day of January, 2018.

Lyman M. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ronald S. Johnson, City Administrator