

MANAGER'S REPORT

March 18, 2013

Auburn Mall Ice Arena

Ground has been broken! The contractor has started preparation of the site. A complete schedule has still not been provided, but as I understand, as soon as the company making the building gives a delivery date the City should have a complete timeframe.

- The Arena Manager position is posted. Once reviewed interviews will be scheduled.
- Construction and buildings news:
 - Colors are being clarified with a rendering; it will be using, tans, browns, and gold accents as I have been told.
 - The Fire Marshall's permit should be in hand soon. Capacity of the building still is being debated. The operation / life safety plan prepared by the City will be based upon 2,500 person capacity but aspects of the fire permit indicate 7,000.
 - The second sheet will be a sand floor. Research of other arenas indicated that a hockey surface intended for ice year around is better in sand. The savings was used to offset other increases, including a better air conditioning system for the portion of the building that will hold events in the summer and not have ice.
- The Twin City Titans have agreed to fundraise with the City for an Ice Resurfacer.
- Weekly construction meetings are tentatively planned to begin in early April.

Budget

The date for the Manager proposed budget will be April 1st. Originally March 21st was expected but staff could use additional time and this prevents the need to have a Thursday meeting.

The School Department and City Council will have a joint budget meeting including a review of CIP's on March 25th.

Policy Updates

Per City Council request staff and I are working on some issues per Council directive. These include:

1. Ice Arena operational schedule and plan. This goal is still pending a construction schedule. Staff have outlined the operational items to address and will be available soon.
2. Economic Development Operational Structure. The workshop laid out an approach that will be continued at the staff level and presented to the Council in the coming weeks.
3. Route 4 follow up public information session meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 23 April 2013 @ 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers and staff is outlining a presentation to inform the City.
4. The date for the Outlet Beach public information session presentation has been set for Tuesday, 26 March 2013 @ 5:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers.

New Auburn Center Study

Staff has been directed to review 6 responses to RFP for the study of innovated ways to improve traffic in New Auburn. Focus will be to identify and make recommendations to improve connectivity, pedestrian safety and bike access in this area.

Governor's Budget Proposal Testimony

Staff will be providing written/verbal testimony on Wednesday, 13 March 13 and Thursday, 14 mar 13 in regards to the Governor's proposed budget and the impact it will have on the City of Auburn taxpayer.

Joint Agency Sub Committee Budget Workshop

City Manager and Finance Director met with Lewiston City Administrator and Finance Director to review the joint agency budget requests. Each request met with the 4 of us to review their request and hear recommendations on how to present their budget. We also reviewed the previous year's workshop and gathered information to help facilitate a more productive session.

Recreational Facility Master Plan Update Phase I

Wright and Pierce and staff have met with most of the stakeholders and have sent the survey to each and have been in touch via phone as well. Consultant has met with the Auburn School Department and they seemed energized about the process but won't have data for the consultant until the second week in March given school vacation and winter sports season winding down.

We expect to have a draft assessment for review early March, minus the School information and possibly the YMCA / LAYSA still which have indicated that they are gathering what we asked for but have not sent. Consultant is available to attend a Council meeting with staff to update the Council as to

where the project stands; the consultant does feel however that they will have all of the data needed and the final phase I assessment completed by mid March.

Transportation Center Project

City staff is coordinating a meeting with Hannaford Brothers to discuss the status of the proposed transportation center on Spring Street adjacent to their Auburn location. During the meeting we are in hopes to move forward on the project and make it a reality for our citizens who utilize public transportation. This piece of infrastructure is key to our long range plans in bringing further travel and commuting options to our residents. I will keep you updated on the status of this project once information is gathered.

Public Items

No unresolved matters at this time.