

**ANDOVER COMMISSION INTERVIEWS – JANUARY 16, 2018
MINUTES**

The Andover Commission Interviews was called to order by Mayor Julie Trude, January 16, 2018, 5:30 p.m., at the Andover City Hall, 1685 Crosstown Boulevard NW, Andover, Minnesota.

Councilmembers present: Mike Knight, Sheri Bukkila (arrived at 5:43 p.m.), Valerie Holthus and James Goodrich

Councilmember absent: None

Staff present: City Administrator, Jim Dickinson

AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as presented.

INTERVIEWS OF PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION / PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION / OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION / COMMISSION APPLICANTS

Ryan Ingebritson – Open Space Advisory Commission

Mayor Trude reviewed the position of the Open Space Advisory Commission.

Ryan Ingebritson stated he moved to Andover from Coon Rapids. He felt this was a role he would like to pursue.

Mayor Trude asked Mr. Ingebritson what some of his hobbies are. Mr. Ingebritson stated his hobbies include motorcycles, his children, and he enjoys the outdoors.

Councilmember Holthus asked if Mr. Ingebritson has visited the open spaces and which ones does he like the best. Mr. Ingebritson stated he has visited one along the north and North Woods Preserve.

Councilmember Goodrich wondered if Mr. Ingebritson had any ideas that he would like to pursue while on the Open Space Commission. Mr. Ingebritson stated he did not have any ideas for a future agenda but would like to help out where needed.

Councilmember Holthus explained the two different philosophies of open space.

Mr. Ingebritson stated he would like to help preserve open areas in the City because he felt the City had many parks and did not need to change all open areas into parks. Councilmember Knight asked what his work background consisted of. Mr. Ingebritson stated he is a mechanic but grew up on a farm.

Mayor Trude stated the Open Space Advisory Commission meets once a month or quarterly as needed. She stated they are looking at ways to promote the Open Space and market it to the community rather than purchase more open space area.

Councilmember Bukkila arrived at 5:43 p.m.

The Council thanked Mr. Ingebritson for taking the time to interview.

Brian Beck – Park & Recreation Commission / Open Space Advisory Commission

Brian Beck stated he was new in town and thought either position would be of interest to him.

Councilmember Knight asked Mr. Beck what his background was for Park & Recreation. Mr. Beck stated he grew up in Worthington, MN and as a Police Officer in White Bear Lake he became the Community Policing Coordinator and some of their problem solving problems had to deal with parks. He noted he also taught at a college for a while and also worked with juveniles a lot within the park system.

Mayor Trude reviewed the Park & Recreation Commission role in the community.

Councilmember Holthus stated she was on the Park & Recreation Commission for years and in Andover there are two different kinds of parks, regional and neighborhood parks. One of things to think about is where to put all of the resources or higher budget items. There is always a balancing act when planning out the parks.

Mr. Beck stated he was impressed with the number of parks in Andover and one of the reasons they moved here. He also coached baseball and mowed park lawns in White Bear Lake. He thought it was time to get involved again in the community. He also noted he taught canoeing in another community.

Mayor Trude reviewed the Open Space Advisory Commission position with Mr. Beck.

Mr. Beck stated he grew up living on a lot of land and enjoyed hunting.

Councilmember Goodrich asked if Mr. Beck would be able to go to the monthly meetings. Mr. Beck stated he is retired and would be available to meet when needed.

Councilmember Bukkila asked what kind of background did he have in regard to budgeting. Mr. Beck stated the budgeting on the Police Department was taken care of by the Captain but he wrote grants and made sure the grant money was allocated properly. He stated he understood the principles of budgeting.

The Council thanked Mr. Beck for taking the time to interview.

Bill Crossman – Planning & Zoning Commission / Open Space Advisory Commission

Bill Crossman stated he has worked with Kameron Kytonen on previous projects.

Mayor Trude asked Mr. Crossman if he has gone into any Open Space areas in Andover. Mr. Crossman stated he lives by a wildlife corridor but has not gone into any of the Open Space areas.

Mayor Trude asked if Mr. Kytonen has had Mr. Crossman look to do any tree removal where he is trying new species in Martins Meadows. Mr. Crossman indicated he has not. He stated he is familiar with most of that work because he does management consulting. He indicated he would prefer being on the Planning & Zoning Commission because he has more experience with Planning & Zoning and going before Commissions.

Councilmember Goodrich asked what Mr. Crossman thought about zoning issues. Mr. Crossman stated he is not either pro or against change. He thought if someone came up with a cognizant reason to rezone he might be in favor of it.

Councilmember Knight asked what his concept of open space was. Mr. Crossman stated to him the turkey farm on 7th Avenue is a nice area that is open and farmed and being used as green space with wildlife going through all of the time and if there is an opportunity to save a few of those places and it makes sense then he will advocate for that.

Councilmember Holthus stated a lot of work done on Planning & Zoning Commission is intense and kind of boring and you have to be able to look at the zoning chart and update it once in a while. Sometimes it is pretty technical and she wondered if he would be interested in doing this. Mr. Crossman stated he is not against doing any of that.

Councilmember Bukkila stated in terms of property rights, how familiar is he with them and where does he fall and prioritize it. Mr. Crossman stated he is familiar with the business interest and resident interest, he does not have experience with the City interest. He does not have a hard and fast rule where a line gets crossed. He cannot say he has a defined opinion on that.

Mayor Trude asked Mr. Crossman if he saw things as he drove around the City and other cities that he thought they should have more of or less of. Mr. Crossman stated there are some things he does see because he works with Coon Rapids and Coon Creek Watershed District so they see

some disparities on how things are taken care. He stated it would be premature to argue one way or another until it would be in front of him.

Mayor Trude stated the Comprehensive Plan has to do with zoning districts and what kind of future they see for Andover and she wondered what Mr. Crossman visualized more of. Mr. Crossman stated by nature it is going to get more industrialized. The Council thanked Mr. Crossman for taking the time to interview.

Kari Kafer – Planning & Zoning Commission

Kari Kafer stated she moved to Andover in August 2017. Mayor Trude explained the role of the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Councilmember Knight asked why she wants to be on the Planning & Zoning Commission. Ms. Kafer stated she wanted to understand the land usage and serve the community. Andover is a rural and urban community combined together.

Councilmember Bukkila asked what she knew in terms of property rights. Ms. Kafer stated she did not know a lot about property rights. Councilmember Bukkila asked if she has any knowledge on the zoning code. Ms. Kafer stated she has never had to pull a permit. She noted she talked a lot to Stephanie Hanson as far as zoning before she moved to Andover.

Councilmember Knight asked how she saw Andover and what is her perception on what she would like to see. Ms. Kafer stated she would like to see a balance between bringing in new commercial but also trying to keep the characteristic of what has drawn people to Andover and she thought there was a balance.

Mayor Trude stated on the issue of property rights, some of it is a tug-o-war where they might have an area that has been farmed and the farmer wants to retire and sells to a developer because they are in the area that is zoned for sewer and water development. When the property gets turned into a development they have gotten neighbors who do not want a development and the Planning and Zoning Commission will hear both sides at public hearings and have to make decisions. Other times the Planning and Zoning Commission has to review and decide what a resident can do on their property. She thought Ms. Kafer's background in tax and finance would prepare her well for understanding codes but she did not know where she would stand in terms of enforcement of the code. Ms. Kafer stated she would be more of a listener of the two parties or the neighborhood and try to figure out what exactly is the interest of all of the parties and try to find a comparable solution.

Councilmember Bukkila asked where Ms. Kafer would stand with solar panels on roofs or wind turbines. Ms. Kafer stated she was for it and would not have a concern at all. She noted this would be a way to save energy and would be a sustainable means of making energy.

The Council thanked Ms. Kafer for taking the time to interview.

Brian Perra – Open Space Advisory Commission

Mayor Trude asked if there were any preconceived ideas when he applied for the Open Space Advisory Commission because he is living next to an open space. Mr. Perra stated he did not but wanted to make sure it remained open space.

Mr. Perra believed to leave the Open Space as is and as pristine as possible. He stated the trails are nice. He commented he lives adjacent to the Maple View Preserve.

Councilmember Holthus asked if Mr. Perra has been to the other open space areas. Mr. Perra stated he has been to one other on Hanson Boulevard but not to Martins Meadows.

Councilmember Holthus asked if Mr. Perra had certain ideas of what should be in an open space area. Mr. Perra thought there needed to be trails so people can enjoy the open space without ruining the nature while walking through them.

Councilmember Holthus reviewed how the City accumulated open space in Andover. She stated the newest open space area is not developed yet and she wondered what Mr. Perra would like to see there. Mr. Perra stated he would need to learn more about the area but he enjoys living next to the open space because there is a nice walking trail and it is accessible through the park. He stated they get many animals walking through there and it is really nice to see.

The Council thanked Mr. Perra for taking the time to interview.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Bukkila, Seconded by Councilmember Knight, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Osbeck, Recording Secretary
TimeSaver OffSite Secretarial, Inc.