

**CITY OF BAYPORT
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
JANUARY 9, 2023
4:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The workshop was called to order by Mayor-elect Michele Hanson at 4:39 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Michele Hanson, Connie Carlson, John Dahl, Ethan Gilmore, and Katie Hill

Staff present: City Administrator Adam Bell, Assistant City Administrator/Planner Sara Taylor, and Public Works Director Matt Kline

UPDATE ON WASHINGTON COUNTY MIDDLE ST. CROIX REGIONAL TRAIL MASTER PLAN

Washington County Senior Planner Connor Schaefer, accompanied by Washington County Commissioner Gary Kriesel, presented an overview of the regional trail master plan process to date. He provided background on the characteristics of a regional trail system, which typically spans multiple jurisdictions and destinations. He reviewed the steps involved in developing a master plan, such as establishing values/goals, engaging the public, and considering implementation opportunities and challenges. He highlighted key findings from the public engagement process and priorities, such as providing amenities and river views (as feasible), fostering stewardship of natural resources, expanding connections between communities, and accommodating a range of trail users. The county's cost share formula, maintenance policy, and potential funding sources were also reviewed, as well as three potential trail connections near and/or through Bayport. Discussion followed on safety concerns, stormwater improvements, location challenges, and overall benefits associated with the various proposed routes. Continued stakeholder engagement and a second open house event to solicit public input are planned for the coming months.

DISCUSS THE CITY'S SNOW REMOVAL POLICY

Public Works Director Kline provided an overview of the city's snowplowing and ice control policy, noting the focus of the workshop was to review specific snow storage and removal locations. He noted that the policy is not consistent with current practice and he suggested either the policy or practice be modified accordingly. Discussion followed on applying fair and consistent snow removal practices within the business district and whether current practices warrant modification or whether it may be necessary to charge a fee for additional removal of snow accumulation that is generated by private property. Staff was directed to continue current snow removal practices until discussion could be resumed at a future workshop or meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilmember Dahl and seconded by Councilmember Carlson to adjourn the workshop at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.