

**ROSEMOUNT CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION PROCEEDINGS
FEBRUARY 2, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a work session of the Rosemount City Council was held on Monday, February 2, 2026, at 5:00 PM. in Rosemount Council Chambers, 2875 145th Street West.

Mayor Weisensel called the meeting to order with Councilmembers Freske, Essler, Klimpel and Port Authority Commissioner Beaudette. Councilmember Theisen was absent.

a. FOLLOWING THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING:

The Council may choose to reconvene the work session after the adjournment of the regular meeting if the business of the work session is unable to be completed in the allotted time.

DISCUSSION

a. MnDOT Hwy 3 Corridor Study Update

KLJ Engineering and MnDOT representatives were present to display the highway 3 corridor visioning study within Rosemount. Items discussed included a study overview, goals, schedule, public engagement update, existing conditions and needs, forecasts/modeling, needs summary and initial roadway concepts.

The team's goal and intent is to get feedback on is to define intersection priorities and coordination, understand vulnerable road user crashes, quantify development and growth, where is capacity expansion attainable, and connectivity, cut-throughs, and corridor realignment. The next round of engagement in Rosemount will take place on March 25th at the Rosemount Public Works Campus. Councilmembers suggested looking for another date as that week is spring break.

KLJ further illustrated potential options for downtown Rosemount and noted no decisions have been made yet as part of the public engagement process will be to showcase all the options for additional feedback. Councilmember Klimpel noted downtown Rosemount is the heart and soul of the community and we need to keep that in mind when choosing what option works best.

Councilmember Klimpel addressed the need for the team to evaluate Akron Avenue improvements as this road is a logical north and south alternative. Mayor Weisensel stressed the need for focus at Bonaire Path and 132nd Street intersection.

Staff noted there will be more opportunities to discuss this visioning in the future.

b. Consider Expo 2031 opportunity

Members of Expo 2031 were present; Wendy Meadley, Craig Siiro, Andy Mielke and Jim Gersema. In addition, the landowner for the potential site was present. Ms. Meadley provided a recap of the event

and further elaborated on an overview of the legacy plan following the event.

The group further discussed the financial impact of the project, noting as of now the total project will total 971 million dollars and a contingency has been included in the final numbers. The total number also includes approximately 10 million dollars set aside for the infrastructure to be brought to the site. Ms. Meadley noted a lot of the project is still in motion and the numbers will be more refined as the project goes on. Councilmember Essler questioned if the project is scaled back, what will that do for the experience of the visitors and whether that would reduce the revenue dramatically? Ms. Meadley responded saying those discussions have taken place, but the group believes there will still be an experience that will draw visitors in.

Councilmembers questioned if Expo 2031 doesn't happen in Rosemount, is there an alternative location in mind? Ms. Meadley confirmed there is a back-up plan.

The Expo 2031 team has a target date of May to begin the AUAR study on the site. City staff noted they want to respect Expo 2031's timeline and if this is a project that is not a good fit for Rosemount, to know sooner rather than later, to respect the process.

On behalf of Councilmember Theisen, City Administrator Martin read a note from Councilmember Theisen expressing his concern for the project in Rosemount, noting he didn't see the long-term win for Rosemount and had several concerns regarding the financing of the project. Port Authority Commissioner Beaudette expressed his eagerness to see Expo 2031 come to Rosemount and noted if the numbers all worked out, the event would be fun to attend. Councilmember Essler stated he believes there is a financial risk and there is a risk to the City Council's reputation if this doesn't move forward as planned. Councilmember Klimpel expressed her concern about the project being in Rosemount noting; the amount of staff time the event would consume, hotel visioned in a different location and not on the east side, financial concerns and the proposed legacy project is not what her vision is for that area. Councilmember Freske thanked Expo 2031 for their efforts and being interested in Rosemount. However, Councilmember Freske echoed her concern for the project noting she doesn't believe this is a win for Rosemount residents and she is concerned about the legacy project. Mayor Weisensel believes having Expo 2031 will be a great opportunity for Rosemount and noted this would be a lost opportunity for Rosemount as this project would be a good anchor point in town and a great opportunity to expand the area and bring growth to Rosemount.

Mayor Weisensel adjourned the meeting at 6:46 p.m. and Council will reconvene back to the work session following the regular City Council meeting upon a motion by Weisensel and all in favor the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

c. Fire Staffing Update

Mayor Weisensel called the meeting back to order at 8:00 p.m.

Fire Chief Springer noted this item is a follow up from Citygate and Associates, representatives Landen & Stew were present virtually. Citygate provided an update on the mid-project state, Fire Department service evaluation and discussed the outcome goals for the fire service deployment. The deployment strategies include: the speed and weight of responses and the number of specialty units deployed in addition to special hazards. Additional conversations discussed include the service demand increase each year as the City continues to grow, the staffing plan observations; current training hours are high, callback response is uncertain and the dispatch of the closest station to single-unit calls is prudent and reduces strain on members.

Citygate recommendations are to seek and track call processing/dispatch performance, consider

turnout time goal, consider a 5-minute first arrival and add a Battalion Chief to ensure continuity and incident command presence. An addition of a Deputy Fire Marshall is prudent to assist with new construction projects and on-duty Battalion Chief can assist with administrative, payroll and training functions.

The next steps include reducing dependency on paid-on-call staffing, the start of duty crew daily staffing and construction and staffing of Fire Station 3.

Councilmember Freske questioned how the full-time model will change the on-call requirement for Firefighters each month and whether this would impact retirement plans? Citygate and Chief Springer responded stating this model would have an impact to pensions and would need to be further reviewed. Councilmember Freske also questioned at what point will a 3rd Fire Station be warranted? Citygate said this could be dependent on several factors including the vision for the Fire Department. Citygate will provide a final report in person likely in May to further present these items.

UPDATES

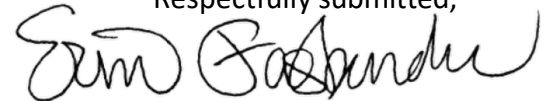
a. Staff Reports

City Administrator Martin provided the following staff updates; a public notice will be mailed out to all residents in the coming weeks as required by the Minnesota Department of Health regarding water quality. Staff will continue to work on the communication that will go out to residents to assure residents a plan is in place and where to go for additional information if there is a concern regarding the drinking water. In addition, Mr. Martin informed City Council that staff received a petition from the Wilde Lake Estates neighborhood requesting a portion of Dodd Blvd be paved.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council at the work session meeting and upon a motion by Weisensel the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin Fasbender
City Clerk