



## City Council Workshop Minutes

Monday, April 11, 2022 5:00 PM

Cologne Community Center, 1211 Village Parkway

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### Vision Statement

***The City of Cologne is a vibrant small town that respects its heritage, embraces its future and offers a high quality of life for all who live, work and visit our community.***

Mayor: Matt Lein

Councilmember: Carol Szaroletta

Councilmember: Sarah Bruss

Councilmember: Rachel Lenzen

Councilmember: Nathan Kells

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Mayor Lein called the workshop to order. Councilmembers Bruss, Lenzen and Szaroletta were present. Also present were City Attorneys Kelly Dohm and Jacob Saufley, City Administrator Jesse Dickson and City Clerk Michelle Morrison. Councilmember Kells was available on phone and did not participate.

Attorney Dohm explained to the Council that the purpose of the meeting was to get direction from the Council on how the city would like the City Attorney to respond to the demand letter received from Attorney Robert Bauer, on behalf of his client Nancy Williams, seeking to compel the City to enforce alleged zoning code violations at 180 Adams Avenue South.

Attorney Saufley reviewed the recent history of the property at 180 Adams Avenue South with the Council. Attorney Dohm reviewed the letter from Attorney Bauer and her subsequent conversation with Attorney Bauer. Attorney Dohm stated that because the letter contained a possible threat of litigation and her conversation with Attorney Bauer indicated that litigation was a conditional outcome, it was her recommendation to close the meeting to discuss litigation strategy.

Mayor Lien stated that the meeting will close pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05 under the attorney client privilege to discuss the City's response to a demand letter sent by an attorney representing Nancy Williams regarding decisions previously made by the City with regard to property at 180 Adams Avenue South. Motion by Councilmember Szaroletta to close the meeting, second by Councilmember Bruss. Motion carried 4-0. Councilmember Kells left the meeting and did not participate.

The Council came out of closed session. Councilmember Bruss recommended an instruction to the planning commission to review for approval a new site plan for property located at 180 Adams Avenue South, second by Councilmember Lenzen. Motion carried 4-0. Councilmember Kells was absent. Councilmember Bruss recommended to instruct the City Attorney to respond to the legal demand letter drafted by Attorney Bauer on behalf of Nancy Williams, second by Councilmember Lenzen. Motion carried 4-0. Councilmember Kells was absent.

There being no further business Mayor Lein looked for a motion to adjourn the workshop. Councilmember Bruss made the motion to adjourn the workshop, second by Councilmember Lenzen. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

  
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Michelle M Morrison

City Clerk

  
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Matt Lein

Mayor