CITY OF LEXINGTON
WORKSHOP SYNOPSIS
Thursday, October 16, 2025
Immediately following Council meeting
City Hall

1. Call to Order: Mayor Murphy

2. Roll Call: DeVries – Benson – Mahr and Hunt

Mayor Murphy called to order the City Council Workshop for October 16, 2025 at 7:20 p.m. Councilmember's present: Benson, Devries, Hunt, and Mahr. Also Present: Bill Petracek, City Administrator; Chris Galiov, Finance Director; Steve Winter, City Engineer; John Jackson, Assistant Fire Chief.

3. Discussion Items:

A. Discuss 2026 Proposed Budget Items

1. Lovell Road Project

Steve Winter, City Engineer was present to provide an update on the Lovell Road Reconstruction Project. He stated that if City would forgo Anoka County doing a complete reconstruction of Lovell Road for 10 to 15 years and agree to the County doing a mill and overlay on Lovell Road, he stated that Anoka County would pay 100% of the project. Winter stated that a mill and overlay can last 10-15 years on a busy road. He added that based on the condition of city infrastructure along Lovell Road, he believes pushing it off 10-15 years makes sense. Discussion ensued.

Petracek stated that by having the County redirect the project to a mill and overlay and pay 100% of the construction costs, the road may be completed sooner. He also stated this would free up money in the Capital Fund for other projects in 2026 like the Pickleball Courts.

Mahr asked about the potential to not construct new bathrooms in Memorial Park and consider a splash pad. Discussion ensued.

The consensus of the Council was to move forward with a mill and overlay of Lovell Road where the County would pay 100 % of the project, and not budget for the construction of new bathrooms in Memorial Park. The Council also collectively agreed to move forward with the appropriation of funds for new Pickleball courts and consider cost estimates for a new splash pad in Memorial Park.

Petracek stated staff would do some research and bring back some options and estimates for a splash pad to the November workshop.

2. Fire Department Wage Increases

Petracek provided PowerPoint slides that break down the costs involved with providing fire department personnel with a 15% wage increase. He stated that if the City moves forward with giving them a 15% increase we would need to adjust the General Levy upward from 3.5%, which would be the amount levied if the fire department didn't get a salary adjustment, to a 4.6% increase to cover the costs for the increase. He explained that the fire department personnel haven't had raises other than increases to their retirement contribution in the past 10 or so years. Discussion ensued. He explained that he would recommend going the full 5% to ensure you have adequate funds to cover all costs in your General Fund. Discussion ensued.

Petracek also discussed duty crew proposal from the fire department. Petracek stated the Council would need to increase the General Levy 6.3% to afford both wage increases for the fire fighters and funding two extra days for 2- person duty crews for the fire department.

The consensus of the Council was to move forward with the 15% wage adjustment for the fire fighters.

3. Purchase of Fire Engine

John Jackson, Assistant Fire Chief, provided an overview for selling the Rescue vehicle and replacing it with a new engine, at a cost of $527,000. Discussion ensued. Petracek stated there is adequate funds available in their equipment replacement to purchase the vehicle and it would be included in the 2026 budget for approval.

The consensus of the City Council was to move forward with the appropriation of funds for the purchase of a new fire engine in 2026.

4. Staff Input

No staff input

5. Council Input

No Council input

6. Adjourn

Councilmember Benson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Councilmember Devries seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.