The Comprehensive Plan Update Steering Committee meeting convened at 5:30 p.m. with the following members in attendance: Mayor Jud Marshall, Environmental Commissioners Christine Ahmann-Maples and Scott Peterson, Planning Commissioner Susan Stewart, Park Commission members Jeff Charlesworth and Charles Lindberg and Finance Commissioner Greg Maples. Council member Tim Deans and Planning Commissioner Mike Hedquist were absent. Also in attendance were City Planner Erin Perdu, Transportation Planner Scott Mareck, City Administrator Scott Neilson and Administrative Support Specialist Patricia McGing.

I. Welcome and Introductions.

Introductions were made.

II. Approval of the March 29, 2017 meeting minutes

Planning Commissioner Stewart requested that a sentence be stricken from Page 1, Item III, second paragraph, and second sentence as follows: “Corrective actions should be taken in order to preserve this body of water.” She does not recall saying this.

Environmental Commissioner Ahmann-Maples moved, and Mayor Marshall seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2017 meeting as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. Review of Future Land Use

Planner Perdu briefly reviewed the Future Land Use Scenario map. The Briarwood area will be discussed in the Sewer Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan since public utilities are not going in. She will also discuss the appropriate designation of this area with the city’s representative from Metropolitan Council.

IV. Transportation Concepts

Transportation Planner Mareck introduced himself and said that last month, he met with City Administrator Neilson, the counties and MN-DOT regarding the city’s transit and trail system. He briefly went through the Transportation goals, objectives and policies of the Comprehensive Plan including:

- Mahtomedi has a comprehensive, multimodal transportation system that provides safe, healthy, efficient, environmentally sensitive and economical movement of people and goods.
- Mahtomedi residents, City government and developers understand the value of having a well-designed and well-maintained trail system that contributes to Mahtomedi’s high quality of life.
IV. (Continued)

- Mahtomedi has an extensive and interconnected system of regional, inter-community, community and neighborhood trails that provide critical connections within Mahtomedi and to surrounding areas.
- Mahtomedi has an accessible, safe and attractive trail system that meets the diverse needs of Mahtomedi’s residents.

He reviewed the roadway system map with the existing and forecasted traffic volumes, and described the types of roadways within the city. The city’s roadway system has adequate capacity. When more capacity is added, it invites more traffic. Complete streets was discussed, and it is up to the community as to when they would want that incorporated.

Administrator Neilson noted that the State would like to turn-back Highways 120 and 244 to the County. There was discussion that when that is done, it could be an opportunity for upgrading those roads.

The existing and proposed bicycle and pedestrian facilities map was reviewed. It includes the planned Lake Links Trail. This map will be coordinated with the parks and trails map. The Transit Services map was also reviewed. There is a need at expanding transit for seniors, and the city may engage Met Council. A Commission member mentioned that there was more transit 11 years ago than exists in the city today.

Transportation implementation strategies were also gone through. The city will need coordination with MN-DOT and other agencies to explore roadway and intersection improvements that may be implemented as part of the pavement preservation project of TH-120 and TH-244 and continue discussion on the possible roadway turn back. The city will also participate in Washington County’s CSAH 12 Corridor Study to identify potential improvements that enhance roadway safety and increase bicycle and pedestrian connectivity and work with them to study CSAH 29 corridor. A draft of the transportation section will be presented at the August meeting.

V. Housing Concepts

Planner Perdu provided an overview of the existing housing assessment provided by the Met Council. It was noted that some households are paying too much for housing based on their income. Met Council has determined that the city needs to plan for 22 affordable housing units to address their share of the regional need for affordable housing units. The city has a good ordinance and enough land to accommodate more affordable housing.

Mahtomedi’s Housing Objectives table was reviewed and discussion ensued regarding green building techniques and the city’s recently adopted accessory dwelling unit ordinance. One additional tool mentioned was that the city could offer density bonuses to attract builders.
V. (Continued)

It was noted that the city relies on the Washington County HRA for most of the incentives and tools related to affordable housing. It was the consensus of the Committee that “Energy Assistance Programs” and “Zoning and Subdivision Policies” should also be in bold in the table of tools.

Planner Perdu stated that a focus group meeting on Housing is scheduled for June 14, 2017, 3:00 p.m. at City Hall. Developers and Senior Housing providers have been invited. She also noted that the Parks Plan is pretty much done, and will be sent out to the Committee.

VI. Next Steps

Planner Perdu indicated that she will be sending out homework for the Committee to complete on “resiliency”. The next meeting is scheduled for July 26, 2017 and the Committee’s focus will be on Economic Development.

VII. Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the Comprehensive Plan Update Steering Committee meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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PATRICIA K. MCGING
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SPECIALIST