Mayor Paul Whitcomb called the meeting to order. Council members present were Thom Walker and Jack Edmonds. Staff present, Administrator Mark Karnowski, Finance Director Steve Jackson, Public Works Director Bob Gerold, Police Chief Todd Frederick, Clerk Shawna Jenkins, Fire Chief Ron Lawrence, and Fire Captain Jerry Rud. Absent was Jules Zimmer, Jeff Reynolds and Community Development Director Jolene Foss.

**Discussion with PFRD – Future equipment needs (ladder truck)**

Lawrence and Rud spoke on the Fire Department's current ladder truck. It is a 1985 Sutphen 100’ Aerial Platform. The issues with the ladder truck is that it is non NFPA compliant, there is a significant engine oil leak, it burns oil, outrigger slide tube leaks, wear pads on the ladder are worn out, steering cylinder oil leaks, and the ladder extension cables at maximum wear measurements. The pros of replacing the ladder is it gives the department a better ISO rating, has additional pumping capabilities, safer for firefighters during rescues and Princeton has numerous buildings with three stories or more. A new ladder will be costly to replace and firefighters will need more training to operate it.

Used Ladder trucks can range from $250,000 to $750,000, and most have accurate documentation for tests on the pump and ladder. New trucks can range from $900,000 to 1.5 million. With a new aerial truck, you will have a warranty, better technology, they are safer and in compliance with NFPA.

The good news is a new aerial will qualify under the Fire Act Grant, and the cities Ladder truck is considered high priority on the CIP. Unless the Fire Act Grant is renewed, this is the last year for it. If the city was to receive a grant for this, the local portion would only be about 5%.

Edmonds suggested putting a list together showing the rough cost of repairs and maintenance for the current ladder truck to show the benefit of it being replaced.

Walker said the ECRD group discussed these grants at their recent meeting, and it was questioned whether these grants will be continued. He heard FEMA was also underfunded. If the funds are available this year, it may be beneficial to try for it.

Whitcomb asked if the relocation costs could be used for some of this. Jackson said he would talk with the people with Relocation to see if some of those funds could be used.

Walker suggests trying to go for the grant this year.

Karnowski asked how many times the department needs the aerial truck each year. Lawrence replied that it is probably needed approximately 6-8 times per year, but he would like to run it out as a second engine, but does not want to do with that with the current trucks condition.

Karnowski asked what the department could do with the old one. Lawrence said the Fire Act Grant would not allowed it to be sold and used by another fire department. Many times these trucks are really liked by tree trimming services, and it could be sold into that type of situation.
Jackson added that when looking at the Fire Departments Truck Matrix, the Fire Department is really underfunded, so it should be discussed with the Townships and the Fire Advisory Board.

Walker said hydraulic leaks are more dangerous than engine leaks.

**Crystal Cabinets – consideration of Resolution 17-27**

Karnowski reported that Jolene Foss is on vacation and asked him to present the documentation requiring Council action regarding Crystal Cabinets’ request for a Business Subsidy.

Crystal is looking at expanding their operations in Princeton and is planning on applying to the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) for a $450,000 grant under the Minnesota Investment Fund (MIF) program.

The basis for requesting the grant is the creation of new jobs.

There is a maximum of $500,000 per grant and only one grant per state fiscal year may be awarded to a government unit.

At least 50 percent of total project costs must be privately financed through owner equity and other lending sources (most applications selected for funding have at least 70 percent private financing). Terms are for a maximum of 20 years for real estate and a maximum of 10 years for machinery and equipment.

The interest rate is negotiable.

While the funding is from the state, the actual business subsidy agreement would be between Crystal Cabinets and the City.

The application process requires a public hearing be held. Therefore, the Council is being asked to adopt a resolution calling for the public hearing.

Walker mentioned the city has had problems in the past regarding this type of loan, and questioned if we would be responsible for paying it back. Karnowski responded that there would be something in the agreement that Crystal Cabinets would be responsible to pay back the funds.

Walker stated it is great seeing Crystal Cabinets expanding.

WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 17-27 CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A BUSINESS SUBSIDY AGREEMENT FOR MN INVESTMENT FUNDS FOR CRYSTAL CABINETS. EDMONDS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Riverside Park Bathroom Proposal Review**

Gerold reported that the city received 2 bids for the proposed Riverside Park Bathroom remodel.
Walker asked for clarification that both bidders are doing the exact work, as the work was listed a bit differently in their bids.

Gerold added that public works employees would be doing the demolition, so the cost from Metro may come down a bit as they included demolition cost.

Edmonds stated it is difficult when you have a local bidder and non-local company that is close in price. He prefers going with the local company.

Walker said it looks like they are both very close in price if you consider the City is doing demolition, and the contingency that RW added in. Edmonds stated that he would prefer RW Builders did the work.

Karnowski asked if they are looking at a tank water heater, or an on demand system. Gerold responded that they are looking at a standard tank heater, as the on demand systems are quite a bit more expensive.

EDMONDS MOVED TO AWARD THE RIVERSIDE PARK BATHROOM PROJECT TO RW BUILDERS. WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Airport Master Plan – Postpone to July Study Session

Karnowski advised that at the May Study Session, a motion was adopted to table making decisions related to the Airport Master Plan to the June Study Session agenda.

The Council requested that staff talk to Prairie Restorations to inquire about their future plans and receptivity to having their property re-zoned to address the proposed extended runway.

In checking with the airport engineer, they’ve not yet been able to set up a meeting with Prairie Restorations. So Staff is suggesting that the final discussion about the Airport Master Plan be moved to the Council’s July Study Session.

WALKER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE STUDY SESSION AT 5:00PM. EDMONDS SECONDED THE MOTION. MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully Submitted,

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Shawna Jenkins  ATTEST:
City Clerk  

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Paul Whitcomb, Mayor