

CITY OF NORTON SHORES
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
June 27, 2023

A regular work session of the Norton Shores City Council was held at the Norton Branch Library Community Room, 705 Seminole Road, on Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Nelund, Council Members Flanders, Jurkas, Kasher, Morgenstern, Moulatsiotis, Sowa and Olson; also, Mark Meyers, Shelly Stibitz, Anthony Chandler, Jim Murphy, Chris Lyonnais, Brandon Poel and Bob Gagnon

1. Wildlife Management Discussion

Administrative Services Director Anthony Chandler distributed a map depicting car/deer crash statistics from 2020 through 2022 along with a Department of Natural Resources article "Managing Deer Within Suburban Communities". Mr. Chandler shared past local news reports in 2013, 2014 and 2015 related to attempts by the City to control the deer and turkey population with the last action of adopting an ordinance to allow taller fences to protect residential vegetation. The results of a survey in 2014 showed that residents felt the deer population was growing and Council members said they regularly get complaints from constituents regarding destruction of property and driving safety concerns due to the increase in the wildlife population in Norton Shores. Council consensus was to develop a managed deer hunt in the near future.

2. Quota Liquor License Fee

City Administrator Mark Meyers shared some information he had gathered after the last work session discussion regarding two available quota liquor licenses assigned to Norton Shores. Mr. Meyers had recommended setting the application fee at \$5,000 and, at City Council's direction, continued researching other communities' fee. Although, he did not find any neighboring municipality that charges a fee specifically for quota licenses, Montague had several years ago in a newly established Downtown Development Authority. City Attorney Douglas Hughes did not find any communities that used a bonding mechanism, as suggested at the May work session. It is difficult to obtain fair market value because the State Liquor Control Commission does not provide the purchase price of privately sold liquor licenses. Mr. Meyers reminded City Council that an application process is in place that requires a business plan be submitted for consideration and Council Member Jurkas suggested a \$30,000 application fee and the remaining Council members agreed.

General Comments

None.

Meeting adjourned at 6:34p.m.



Shelly Stibitz, City Clerk