

REGULAR MEETING DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

January 9, 1997

At 7:29 p.m. City Clerk Staab announced that the City Council will continue in Executive Session for another 10 to 15 minutes.

The regular meeting of the Des Moines City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomasson at 7:43 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 21630 11th Avenue South.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Councilmember Wasson.

ROLL CALL - Present: Mayor Scott Thomasson, Mayor Pro Tem Terry Brazil, Councilmembers Bruce Roberts, Bob Sheckler, Gary Towe and Don Wasson. Absent: Councilmember Dan Sherman (out of town). Also present were City Manager Bob Olander, City Attorney Gary McLean, Assistant City Manager Tony Piasecki, Community Development Director Judith Kilgore, Planning Manager Corbitt Loch, Public Works Director Tim Heydon, Finance Director Jim Hathaway, Parks and Recreation Director Patrice Thorell and City Clerk Denis Staab.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Roberts, seconded by Councilmember Towe and passed unanimously, to excuse Councilmember Sherman.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

David Thomas, 20903 4th Avenue South

Mr. Thomas informed Council that although he appreciates the fact that the City has a Web site, he requested that e-mail addresses be established for Council and key City staff. He stated that the Web site provides the City an excellent means of providing information to citizens on current Council topics, on-going studies, closures, etc. He further suggested that Council advertise that the Web site exists in the City Currents.

Mr. Thomas also requested that Council look deeply into the issues raised by a Metrocom spokesperson at the December 12th Council meeting. He felt it very important to "wire" the downtown business area as it would be a great benefit to the business community in general.

BOARD & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community/Senior Center Advisory Committee

Councilmember Sheckler advised Council that the Committee has met twice recently to look at approximately a dozen potential sites and review a detailed criteria of each of the sites. He noted that a briefing to the Council is scheduled for the end of this month.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

Appointments

MOTION was made by Councilmember Sheckler, seconded by Councilmember Wasson, to appoint Councilmember Brazil as the City's representative to the Airport Communities Coalition and Councilmember Sherman as the City's representative to the South King County Area Transportation Board. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Property Gift

City Manager Olander expressed deep appreciation for the generous donation of 9.3 acres of land from Daisy Sonju, a longtime resident of the City. He advised that this gift was accepted by Council at a special meeting held December 26th. He stated that the property will be used for open space and park purposes.

Storm Update

City Manager Olander advised Council that he has received numerous compliments on the fast and thorough clean-up of the Cities streets of snow, trees and limbs. He noted the Public Works and Park Crews are continuing to make good progress on cleaning debris. He informed Council that there was a slide on the down hill side of Des Moines Memorial Drive just past the flag triangle. He further noted that engineers have determined that the slide is not moving, and at this point is not endangering the roadway. Also, soil boring tests are currently being analyzed. He informed Council that for the 1998 budget he will be requesting set-up for a third snow plow and more portable stop signs.

City Manager Olander noted that the Field House was opened as an emergency shelter. He thanked Mel Hinz and his family for volunteering food and sleeping supplies. He stated that the Field House will be included in the future Emergency Management Plan as a designated emergency shelter.

In regards to the Senior Center at the Des Moines Beach Park, Mr. Olander stated that the creek was the highest he has seen in 10 years. However, because a tree fell well north up the creek, it caused a second creek to form near the Normandy Park cliff side of the park, saving the Senior Center from real damage. He stated this appeared to be a natural overflow and has requested the Public Works Director to study this. He informed Council that the Senior Programs were moved to the Masonic Temple on a rental basis, and it is hoped that regular programming will resume at the Center this coming Monday.

He advised Council that when the new Police Facility is opened it has been designed to meet all the needs of a real Emergency Operations Center.

City Manager Olander praised Harbormaster Dusenbury, Assistant Harbormaster Ellington and their staff for an outstanding job. He noted that the crew responded with brooms and shovels around 3 a.m. to keep the covered moorage from collapsing. He advised that K, L and M piers have suffered some structural damage. Reid-Middleton is reviewing this damage and will have costs estimates for repairs within a few days.

In conclusion, City Manager Olander thanked City employees and the Mel Hinz family for their outstanding efforts in responding to the City's needs during this storm.

Volunteer Clean-up Effort

City Manager Olander announced that a volunteer effort has been instigated to help citizens who physically cannot or have no way to clean up storm debris. He noted that on January 18th teams will be out with trucks and chain saws. He noted that the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs have already signed-up to help and he encouraged anyone who wishes to volunteer in helping their neighbors to contact City Hall.

Councilmember Sheckler commented that he felt using the Field House as an emergency shelter is a wonderful idea. He questioned what might be done in the future to avoid the heavy snow load problems at the Marina. City Manager Olander stated that although they are looking at high tech ideas, the old broom and shovel may still be the best method of dealing with this type of problem.

Mayor Pro Tem Brazil commented on the frustration of not being able to get through to Puget Power during the outages to get any kind of information or status update on how long residents might have to wait to get power restored. He volunteered his time to work with Puget Power staff to come up with some ideas on how to get information to citizens during such times.

Mayor Pro Tem Brazil advised that he has received calls from newly annexed citizens in Woodmont/Redondo who were very impressed with the clean-up response provided by the City of Des Moines.

Des Moines Creek Trail

Park and Recreation Director Thorell advised that the completed trail will reach northward from Des Moines Beach Park to South 200th Street. The project is a joint effort of the City of Des Moines, the City of SeaTac, Midway Sewer District, Des Moines Creek Basin Planning Committee, Washington State Department of Transportation, Fish and Wildlife and other state and local agencies. She noted that Phase one of the trail project will begin in the summer of 1997. She introduced Steve Worthy, of Worthy Associates to provide a more detailed explanation of Phase one.

Mr. Worthy noted that in the first phase of the trail installation, the Trail will travel approximately 6,040 feet from South 200th Street to the Wastewater Treatment Facility and will pass through the Treatment Facility for approximately 1,450 feet along the north side of the plant. The project construction has been delayed to allow the installation of the Midway Sewer District's inflow sewer line which follows the same alignment as the trail and upon which the trail sits. The six inch base coarse for the trail will be installed by the Sewer District as part of their project.

With the use of view foil slides, Mr. Worthy proceeded to review the trail area noting that some erosion control plantings may need to be done, otherwise there already is good mature vegetation. He noted that Trout Unlimited and the Department of Fisheries have already volunteered to help with this project.

Councilmembers were unanimous in encouraging access to the Phase one development of the trail until Phase two can be undertaken.

Des Moines Creek Trail Passage

Public Works Director Heydon noted that Councilmembers have been furnished with the final scoping report for the Marine View Drive Undercrossing prepared by the City's consultant, Shannon & Wilson, Inc. Mr. Heydon proceeded to review the three options, plus three variations, that were analyzed in the scoping report as follows:

- 1A - Short bridge over the ravine with tie-back walls;
- 1B - Long bridge with terraced walls;
- 2A - A tunnel that combines the pedestrian tunnel, stream tunnel and utility tunnel;
- 2B - a 100' long pedestrian tunnel with open tunnel portals on both sides of the tunnel over a 225' stream tunnel;
- 3A - Multiple tunnels, with a short 100' pedestrian tunnel with open portals;
- 3B - Multiple tunnels with cut and cover portals to minimize the tunneling operations.

Public Works Director Heydon informed Council that option 1A has consensus from the entire technical group which consisted of Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Transportation, the Des Moines Creek Basin Committee, Midway Sewer District and the Des Moines' Engineering and Parks staff.

Mr. Heydon advised that for Washington State Department of Transportation to have funding for the project in their 1998 budget, designs must be complete by June of 1997. He stated that the Sewer District has scheduled their project for 1998, therefore a tight time schedule lays ahead with issues such as environmental, permitting, financing, etc. needing to be coordinated and completed.

City Manager Olander informed Council that staff is aggressively seeking grants and examining other funding options. He noted that this project will be back before Council at the January 23rd meeting for a decision on whether to move forward on awarding a consultant design contract.

With the use of a view foil, Public Works Director Heydon displayed a cross section of the short bridge (option 1A). Upon questioning from Council, he advised that Marine View Drive would be impacted for a minimum of 6 weeks, up to 4 months.

9:21 p.m. Mayor Thomasson declared a 10 minute break.

CONSENT CALENDAR was read by City Clerk Staab.

1. Motion is to approve the minutes of December 4, 5, 12 and 26, 1996.
2. Findings: Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.080, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the City Council.

Motion: As of this date the Des Moines City Council, by unanimous vote, does approve for payment those vouchers and payroll transfers included in the above list and further described as follows:

Claim check #54258 through #54555 in the total amount of \$1,348,875.03

Payroll fund transfers in the total amount of \$338,991.15

3. Motion is to award the contract for professional engineering design services for the 1997 Arterial Maintenance Project to Harding Lawson Associates Infrastructure, Inc. in the amount of \$51,745.66 plus a 10% contingency, and further to authorize the City Manager to sign said contract.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Roberts, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brazil, to approve the Consent Calendar as read. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Draft Ordinance No. 96-125 - Common Wall Single Family - Set Public Hearing for February 27, 1997

Community Development Director Kilgore advised that the purpose of this zone is to provide a transition between single family and multifamily zoning. She noted that it is hoped this zone will promote affordable housing opportunities and promote creative, yet functional designs. She noted that the ordinance is structured to give administration greater flexibility, however, she informed Council that at the public hearing staff will present design guidelines for Council's approval. She stated this will provide for clear direction from Council for staff to administer this zone.

Planning Manager Loch proceeded to review the list of requirements the of the common wall single family zone as follows:

MINIMUM LOT AREA	7,200
MINIMUM LOT AREA PER DWELLING	3,600
MAXIMUM RESIDENTIAL DENSITY PER ACRE	12
MAXIMUM NO. DWELLINGS PER LOT	NONE
INTERNAL PARCELS ALLOWED	YES
MINIMUM LOT WIDTH	60
MINIMUM FRONT YARD	20, MAY BE REDUCED TO 10
MINIMUM SIDE YARD	10, MAY BE REDUCED TO 5
MINIMUM REAR YARD	20, MAY BE REDUCED TO 10
MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT	25
MAXIMUM LOT COVERAGE	50%

Upon questioning from Council, Community Development Director Kilgore stated that the City cannot prohibit development for rental purposes, but hopefully design standards and additional requirements in this zone would not make it economically advisable to develop the property for rental purposes.

Council requested, and staff concurred, that as many property owners as possible that may be affected by this new zone should be notified of the upcoming public hearing.

MOTION was made by Mayor Pro Tem Brazil, seconded by Councilmember Roberts and passed unanimously, to schedule a public hearing for February 27, 1997, to allow public comment regarding the textual code amendments associated with Common Wall Single Family zoning.

NEW BUSINESS

Award of Telecommunications Contract

[ED NOTE: Councilmember Roberts stated that he owns stock in one of the companies and therefore he recused himself from discussion and voting.]

Assistant City Manager Piasecki informed Council that due to the technical complexity of the process, and with the approval of the Municipal Facilities Committee, we hired a telecommunications consulting firm to conduct a review of the City's current system, its capacity to expand and its ability to support the demands of the new police station. He noted that it was determined that the City's current system is at capacity, with escalating associated costs, performance problems are frequent and there are maintenance issues. A request for proposal was produced and delivered to 25 prospective vendors. Ultimately, 5 vendors submitted proposals. After a careful review of the products and the vendors Administration is recommending the award of the contract for telecommunications services to Conception Communications in an amount not to exceed \$114,000 plus tax and a 10% contingency.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Sheckler, seconded by Councilmember Wasson and passed unanimously (5 to 0) to allow the City Manager to enter into a contract with Conception Communication and Voice Plus to provide the City Telephone and Voice Mail equipment and services. This contract is not to exceed \$114,000 plus tax, and a 10% contingency.

NEXT MEETING DATE - Regular Meeting January 23, 1997

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis Staab
City Clerk