

REGULAR MEETING DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

January 11, 1996

The regular meeting was called to order by City Manager Prothman at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 21630 11th Avenue South.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE to the flag was led by City Manager Prothman.

OATH OF OFFICE

City Attorney Gorham administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Councilmembers Bob Sheckler, Scott Thomasson and Don Wasson.

ROLL CALL - Present: Councilmembers Terry Brazil, Bob Sheckler, Dan Sherman, Scott Thomasson, Gary Towe and Don Wasson. Also present were City Manager Greg Prothman, Assistant City Manager Bob Olander, City Attorney James Gorham and City Clerk Denis Staab.

ELECTION OF MAYOR

City Attorney Gorham asked for nominations for Mayor of the City of Des Moines. The nominations were as follows:

Councilmember Sherman nominated SCOTT THOMASSON.
Councilmember Sheckler nominated TERRY BRAZIL.

City Attorney Gorham instructed Councilmembers to use the write in ballots that have been placed in front of Council.

City Clerk Staab read the following votes into the record:

- Councilmembers Sherman, Thomasson and Wasson voted for THOMASSON.
- Councilmembers Brazil, Sheckler and Towe voted for BRAZIL.

At 7:35 p.m. at the request of Council due to the impasse of the tie vote, City Attorney Gorham noted there will be a brief recess. He advised Council that no four members should gather together in any discussions.

After approximately two minutes, Council reconvened. City Attorney Gorham called for any new nominations. There was none. He requested Council fill out new written ballots that will be read aloud by City Clerk Staab.

SCOTT THOMASSON was unanimously elected Mayor of Des Moines to serve for the next two years.

ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM

City Attorney Gorham called for nominations for the office of Mayor Pro Tem.

- Councilmember Sheckler nominated TERRY BRAZIL. (There were no further nominations.)

City Attorney Gorham requested Council complete written ballots that will be read aloud by City Clerk Staab.

TERRY BRAZIL was unanimously elected to serve as Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Des Moines for the next two years.

NEW BUSINESS

Interview and Appointment of Councilmember to Serve a Vacant, Unexpired Position

City Attorney Gorham explained that each of the Councilmembers have been supplied with the following information in their packets:

- A resume regarding work and community service experience,
- Responses to three questions 1) What qualifications and experience do you have that have prepared you to be a Councilmember for the City of Des Moines?, 2) What do you hope to accomplish if appointed?, and 3) What is your vision for Des Moines?, and
- A personal financial affairs statement from the Public Disclosure Commission.

It was noted that of the eight original applicants seeking appointment two have withdrawn, Dan Caldwell and Debi DesMarais.

The following applicants were given four minutes to address Councilmembers stating why they felt they should be chosen to fill the unexpired term on the Council.

- KRISTI DREBICK-BROWN
- RICHARD KENNEDY
- GEORGE MINNICH
- BRUCE ROBERTS
- TOM SITTERLEY
- STEPHEN SWANK

Mayor Thomasson announced that Council will hear a report from Administration prior to retiring to an Executive Session to discuss the candidates.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Briefing: Park and Recreation Master Plan

Director of Park and Recreation Thorell informed Council that the Master Plan is intended to paint a portrait for park and recreation needs for the next six years. She advised Council that 5 community meetings have been held and a citizen survey is currently being circulated. Also, Highline School District and Highline Community College have been very involved. In conclusion she noted that a community meeting to discuss the first draft of the Master Plan is scheduled for Wednesday, February 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Center. She introduced Norm Landerman of Landerman-Moore, consultant's for the development of the Master Plan.

Mr. Landerman informed Council that the principal factors relating to recreation demand, which may be applied to recreation planning areas and the entire community are:

- Potential recreation users,
- Recreation area qualities, and
- Recreation user access.

He presented a synopsis which described the results of workshop activities as follows:

League Sports: The community has a strong interest in league sports activities for youth, young adults and adult members of the population.

Individual Sports: While league sports maintain a high level of interest, there is an equally strong interest in individual sports or sporting activities that are not organized on the basis of leagues.

Trails & Pathways: Use interest in trails or pathways is decidedly strong based on individualized and spontaneous interest.

Specialized Sports: There are a number of sports interests which are involving from individual activity into league, competition or event activities.

Family Fitness/Leisure Activity: The traditional and cultural interest in health, fitness, outdoor leisure activities and passive recreation remains a high value in terms of the needs of all age groups of the population.

Cultural & Special Events: Interest and participation in the cultural and special events is much greater than anticipated and is a severely under-served category of recreation in the community.

Older Adult Activities: Those representing older adult or senior citizen activities have suggested a continuing and expanded need to serve the recreation needs of the elderly.

Special Populations: The view of many attending the workshops is that there are a number of special populations that require recreation programs.

Mr. Landerman stated that there is a general consensus among user groups and the general public that while the City has made significant advances in developing recreation services, there is a deficiency generated by a lack of facilities that would otherwise support needed recreation programs. He noted there is a recognition of the partnership role that schools and City parks play in accommodating recreational activities. He informed Council that the public and organized groups in sports and other recreational interests do not feel that the City should retain the burden of providing all recreation programming. In conclusion he advised Council that the first cut of the draft plan should be available for department review by the end of January and a final draft for Council's review by the end of March.

Councilmember Towe questioned whether there were any surprises during the public input process. Mr. Landerman stated that he was surprised by the extensive interest in walking/trails in particular to get to parks or to the shoreline.

Upon questioning by Council, Mr. Landerman stated that the public participation, including the Woodmont/Redondo area, is a key element of implementing community buy-in and public support of the final plan.

City Manager Prothman reminded Council that they will have the final decisions on implementing the plan including financing strategies.

Mr. Landerman noted that there was high participation by the Highline School District which expressed a strong desire to work with the City and the use of school property as an on going function and policy. He advised that the schools have already established a great working relationship with Des Moines through the Police Department's youth at risk programs. He stated that the School District would welcome a more formal plan for a partnership.

Traffic Signal - S. 216th/Marine View Drive

City Manager Prothman informed Council that the Department of Transportation has agreed to install a left turn light for traffic heading south at the intersection of South 216th and Marine View Drive. He advised that the light should be installed within the next two months.

Executive Session - Council Appointment

At 8:32 p.m. Mayor Thomasson announced that Council will go into an Executive Session to discuss the qualifications of candidates for appointment to fill the vacancy on the City Council. He advised that the session should last approximately 20 minutes

9:00 p.m. City Attorney Gorham announced that the Executive Session is expected to last another 30 minutes to continue deliberations on the Council appointment.

At 9:15 p.m. Council reconvened in open session.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Sherman, seconded by Councilmember Towe, to appoint Bruce Roberts to vacant Position #3 to serve an unexpired term until December 31, 1997. Motion passed unanimously.

Oath of Office

City Attorney Gorham administered the Oath of Office to Council appointee Bruce Roberts.

9:18 p.m. Mayor Thomasson declared a 5 minute break.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Earline Byers, 21229 4th Place South

Ms. Byers congratulated the new Councilmembers stating she felt the newly constructed Council will be a winning team.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Letter - Former Des Moines Police Lt. Mitch Barker

Councilmember Towe read a letter from Gig Harbor Chief of Police Mitch Barker, expressing deep appreciation to the City of Des Moines for support of past and present Council,

Administration, past and current Des Moines' Police Chiefs, and citizens in serving the City of Des Moines as part of the Police Department since 1978. He noted that although he looks forward to his new appointment he will always have special feelings for Des Moines.

SR 509 South Access

Councilmember Sherman stated that he attended the public hearing on the Draft EIS for 509 South Access. He noted that approximately 100 people were in attendance for the public testimony. He further advised that on January 25th a presentation by leaders of the project will be made. He requested that Council consider holding a public hearing to make a corporate decision on selecting a preferred alternative.

Suburban Cities Association

Mayor Pro Tem Brazil reported attending a recent SCA meeting held at Burien City Hall. He advised that the key subject was a presentation by King County Parks and Open Space regarding future bonding issues. He advised he will keep Council informed on this issue as it progresses. He noted that he is pleased that the County is trying to partner with the suburban cities and he is hopeful that if a bond issue is passed that Des Moines would receive some benefit.

Upon questioning from Council, Mayor Pro Tem Brazil advised that he is working with Park and Recreation Director Thorell on the maintenance and operation costs should King County try to give Des Moines the Mt. Rainier swimming pool.

CONSENT CALENDAR was read by City Clerk Staab.

1. Motion is to approve the minutes of December 21, 1995.

MOTION was made by Mayor Pro Tem Brazil, seconded by Councilmember Towe and passed unanimously 4 to 0 to approve the Consent Calendar as read. [ED NOTE: Only Councilmembers who were on the Council on December 31, 1995 voted on this issue upon the advice of City Attorney Gorham.]

NEXT MEETING DATE

Next meeting is a regular meeting on January 25, 1996.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis Staab
City Clerk