

REGULAR MEETING DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

May 7, 1998

The regular study session of the Des Moines City Council was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Brazil at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 21630 11th Avenue South.

ROLL CALL - Present: Mayor Pro Tem Terry Brazil, Councilmembers Bob Sheckler, Dan Sherman, Gary Towe (arrived at 7:46 p.m.) and Don Wasson. Absent: Mayor Scott Thomasson and Councilmember Dave Kaplan. Also present were City Manager Bob Olander, City Attorney Gary McLean, Finance Director Jim Hathaway, Planning Manager Corbitt Loch, Civil Engineer Jim Seitz and City Clerk Denis Staab.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Sherman, seconded by Councilmember Sheckler and passed unanimously, to excuse Mayor Thomasson and Councilmember Kaplan.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Finance Quarterly Briefing

Finance Director Hathaway reviewed the 1997 general fund's revenues, expenditures and the ending fund balance. He noted that although many of the items were estimated due to some of the unknowns with the Woodmont Redondo annexation, the budget worked out well. He proceeded to brief Council on the 1st quarter 1998 revenues noting that things are right on track and that staff has been holding back on expenditures as requested. One concern noted by Finance Director Hathaway was on underestimate of approximately \$250,000 in 1998 beginning fund balances.

Upon questioning by Council as to why court activities are up, but income is down, City Attorney McLean advised that this is due to a back log of uncollected debts. He stated that the City does use a collection agency and once these debts are turned over to them there should be a increase in the income stream.

City Manager noted in summary that things are going well, and he is comfortable with the current stream of revenues, and that we will make up the beginning fund balance shortage through increased revenues or curtailed expenses.

7:46 p.m. Councilmember Towe arrived.

Upon questioning by Council, City Manager Olander noted that Council elected to continue a 1% utility tax until the Revenue Stabilization Fund is repaid the funds that were used for the Airport Defense Fund.

Award of Bid - South Wing Building and City Hall Remodel

Planning Manager Loch called Council's attention to the fact that all the bid results are itemized in Council's packet. He reported that staff was extremely pleased with the bid results and the low bidder Jones and Roberts Company. He reported they have extensive experience working on public projects and have been in business for 29 years. He stated that a reference check of owners and architects who have worked with the firm had only positive comments on the

company. Mr. Loch advised Council that the bid includes the 3 alternatives that Council had requested which are: 1) canopy over sidewalk, 2) west parking lot revisions and 3) installation of landscaping and irrigation. He concluded by stating that staff recommends awarding the bid to Jones and Roberts Company.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Towe, seconded by Councilmember Sheckler, to award the contract for construction of the South Wing Building and City Hall Remodel to Jones and Roberts Company in the amount of \$1,192,600, plus a 8.6% sales tax and a 10% contingency. This amount includes one additive alternate in the amount of \$13,600. This motion includes authorizing the City Manager to sign the construction contract substantially in the form as attached. Motion passed unanimously.

Planning Manager Loch advised Council that the project is expected to begin June 1st.

City Manager Olander announced that City Council meetings and Des Moines Municipal Court will be held at the Police Station conference room during the construction phase that affects the Council/Court chambers.

Amendment of Street Development Standards - Traffic Calming Devices

Civil Engineer Seitz informed Council that staff is seeking direction to prepare a draft ordinance to amend the 1996 Street Development Standards to include acceptable traffic calming measures to be used in the City. He noted that the Council's Public Safety and Transportation Committee has studied and approved the measures being presented tonight. After reviewing procedures to be used for traffic calming projects, Mr. Seitz proceeded to review the following traffic calming measures:

- Traffic Circles
- Raised Crosswalks
- Gateway Treatments - Bulb-outs
- Road Closures
- Speed Bumps

City Manager Olander noted that most of the items would be handled administratively with memos to Council. The exception would be street closures, where Council would have the final decision. He further informed Council that at the neighborhood meetings that have been held around the City, that the major concern of citizens has been speeding and cut through traffic on neighborhood streets.

Councilmember Wasson noted that he feels all way stop signs should be included as one of the options to traffic calming devices. He stated that it would be one of the least expensive options and if that does not work, then one of the other options could be considered.

Civil Engineer Seitz explained that the City already has procedures in place for requests for stop signs. He advised Council that stop signs do not normally solve speeding problems. He also noted that all stop sign installations must meet certain criteria contained in the Uniform Traffic Control Devices Code.

Mayor Pro Tem Brazil suggested that when staff prepares the draft ordinance for Council's consideration, that Councilmember Wasson's concerns be addressed.

City Manager Olander felt Councilmember Wasson's concerns regarding stop signs could be addressed in the language of the City's Street Standards.

CONSENSUS of Council was for staff to prepare a draft ordinance amending the City's Street Development Standards to include the traffic calming devices presented to Council tonight.

8:35 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Brazil declared a 10 minute break.

Draft 1998 Intergovernmental Policies

City Manager Olander noted that the City has become more involved in regional and state issues. He stated some of the reasons that this is due as follows:

- Growth as our City boundaries start to impinge upon other jurisdictions
- Metropolitan King County development and negotiation of future role vis-à-vis local government
- Major transportation projects
- Federal and state issues such as zoning preemption's, cellular towers, and fiscal take-a-ways

City Manager Olander stated that he feels it would be useful for the Council to review and adopt a set of intergovernmental policies. He advised that this would help provide guidance for both the staff and Councilmembers when the need occurs to represent Des Moines views on outside issues and would represent an official position of the City. He noted that some state legislative session issues come up that require an immediate response with little time left to schedule the item for formal Council discussion. He advised that the policy statement would have to be updated frequently and certainly before each state legislative session.

Councilmember Sherman stated that he is opposed to the City taking a stance against specific initiatives.

City Manager Olander responded that these guidelines are to be used prior to issues being placed on ballots, but it still is important for the City to be able to show where it stands on various issues.

Council proceeded to begin review of the Draft Intergovernmental Relations Policies.

- *Item A. General -1, 2 and 3:*
CONSENSUS was expressed to accept as drafted.
- *Item B. Metropolitan King County:*
CONSENSUS was expressed to delete *Item 6*.

Item 2 - Council's CONSENSUS was not enough of the funds going to King County are coming back to local jurisdictions, therefore, this item needs to be redrafted.

Item 7 - City Manager Olander informed Council that he has grave concerns over losing option of operating our own court. He noted we do have the option of changing, but he would not want to see it forced on the City.

New Item - Councilmember Towe remarked he would like to see a policy developed regarding support of continuation of Block Grant funding through Federal or King County.

*Item C. State of Washington
Item 1 through 10*

Considerable discussion ensued with explanations and rational provided by City Manager Olander and City Attorney McLean.

Mayor Pro Tem Brazil noted that Council has been on this item for over an hour. He felt that some of these items may need to come back to Council one at a time, due to the controversy of some of the issues. He suggested that a couple of the items may need to be looked at during Council's spring retreat. He further noted that this discussion should be continued when all Councilmembers are present.

City Manager Olander stated that he would request Mayor Thomasson and Councilmember Kaplan to review the tape of tonight's meeting so they would be up to speed on Council's discussion of the items covered.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Mayor Pro Tem Brazil noted the next regular meeting will be May 14, 1998.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis Staab
City Clerk