

REGULAR MEETING DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

July 13, 2006

The regular meeting of the Des Moines City Council was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Mayor Sheckler in the Council Chambers, 21630 11th Avenue South, #B.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE to the Flag was led by Councilmember Kaplan.

ROLL CALL - Present: Mayor Bob Sheckler, Councilmembers Dave Kaplan, Ed Pina, Carmen Scott, Dan Sherman and Susan White. Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Scott Thomasson. Also in attendance were City Manager Tony Piasecki, City Attorney Linda Marousek, Police Chief Roger Baker, Land Use Planner I Jason Sullivan, Development Services Manager Robert Ruth and City Clerk Denis Staab.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Sherman, seconded by Councilmember White and passed unanimously, to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Thomasson.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Stan Scarvie, 204 South 206th

Mr. Scarvie thanked Council for implementing a ban on Fireworks in Des Moines and thanked staff for a good job of informing citizens of the ban. He stated this 4th of July was very peaceful and the first one in two decades he has actually enjoyed.

Daniel Kebede, 24202 25th Avenue South

Mr. Kebede informed Council that his home faces a green area outside of a City park, and that South 242nd Street leading to the park is a half paved, half gravel road. He stated that the street is constantly being littered and that he and his wife are tired of constantly picking up the trash and paying for its disposal. He further noted he has had to fill in the pot holes on the gravel portion of the roadway. He requested any help for this situation that Council can provide.

Mayor Sheckler asked Mr. Kebede to leave his phone number and administration will be in touch with him.

Florence McMullin, 1018 South 246th Place

Ms. McMullin thanked Council for the peaceful 4th of July that she enjoyed with neighbors and friends, with no worry about rockets starting a roof on fire. She further thanked the Police Department for their enforcement of the fireworks ban and Rotary for the wonderful fireworks show at the Marina. She cautioned Council about a rumor she has heard that fireworks distributors will be offering cities money to lift the ban in the future.

Wayne Corey, 22218 5th Avenue South

Mr. Corey voiced support for the fireworks ban and noted for the first time in 10 years he did not have to clean up trash from used fireworks. He noted friends, especially those with pets, also enjoyed the ban.

Mysty Beal, 22628 16th Avenue South

Ms. Beal thanked Council for the fireworks ban and noted that in the past neighbors had even left town because of stressed pets. She advised those individuals who feel it is their patriotic right to "blow things up", should find a part of unincorporated King County where discharge of fireworks is still legal. She noted most citizens are tired of property damage, burned down buildings, frightened animals, the noise and the mess and greatly appreciate the fireworks ban.

Bob Pond, 23116 30th Avenue South

Fireworks Ban - Mr. Pond thanked Council for listening to his pleas for a fireworks ban.

Mr. Pond advised that there is a dangerous traffic cut-through problem still existing on the east side of Pacific Highway South, just north of Kent-Des Moines Road, even though signage has been installed, he feels not enough is being done. He presented the Mayor with statements signed by citizens supporting his request for help with this problem.

BOARD & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Safety & Transportation Committee

Councilmember Kaplan reported that the Committee met earlier this evening and discussed a number of issues, including the following:

South County Area Transportation Board

As the City's representative to the Board, Councilmember Kaplan requested Council's input on the City's position on the following two items the group will be voting on next Tuesday:

1. Transit Now - Ron Sim's proposal of a 1/10% sales tax increase to fund rapid-ride transit buses, increased service on long bus routes, increase peak service in suburban areas and employment centers, and increased Access Transportation.

Council's CONSENSUS was not to support.

2. Sound Transit Phase II (Capital versus Operating) - A. Support construction of regional light rail line versus, B. facilities that will support, such as park and ride lots.

Councilmember White felt this is a topic that needs more in depth discussion.

Councilmember Kaplan noted that he really does not have an opinion as he is not sure how everything fits together.

Councilmember Sherman felt the City needs to encourage the development of Sound Transit's spine down to Tacoma, as this would benefit Des Moines. He noted that Pierce County is willing to spend some of their money to help complete the line.

Emergency Slide Repairs

Councilmember Kaplan reported that the Federal Government will fund the emergency repairs to the slides that occurred this winter at the Marine View Drive Bridge and at Des Moines Memorial Drive. There will be 100% coverage for the actual emergency repairs and 86% coverage for the permanent repairs, for a total amount of around \$1.2 million.

Suburban Cities Association - Public Issues Committee

Puget Sound Regional Council Vision 2020 - Councilmember Pina reported he attended a Committee meeting last night. He advised that the Committee in general supports Des Moines comments regarding PSRC Vision 2020, but this was not adopted last night as they are encouraging even more comments to be submitted. The plan is to adopt a proposal sometime next month. He advised that he has given the comments to Administration to prepare a submittal letter similar to Snohomish County's.

City Manager Piasecki advised that a proposal for Council's approval will be on the Agenda for the July 27th Council meeting.

Automated Fingerprinting Identification System - Approved supporting a 6 year levy to pay for.

King County Wastewater Treatment System - Approved support for a policy of growth paying for growth. Where the growth occurs will actually fund the treatment.

Incident Command System (ICS) & National Incident Management System (NIMS)

Councilmember Pina noted should a national emergency incident occur and Des Moines' City Council not have minimal emergency management training in disaster response, we will not be eligible to receive emergency funding. He noted that training for elected officials is free on Friday, August 18, 2006, at Auburn City Hall from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. He encouraged all Councilmembers to attend.

Association of Washington Cities (AWC)

Councilmember White reported attending the AWC Conference last month. She noted it was one of the best she has attended. She encouraged everyone to tune in to TVW to watch some good seminars regarding various items such as land use. She noted next year the conference will be in Tacoma and encouraged other Councilmembers to attend.

Finance and Economic Committee Meeting

Councilmember White advised that the Committee met on June 26th to discuss recommendations to the Permitting Committee established under the Leadership Summit. Those recommendations were the improvement of the permitting system by simplifying the process, increasing predictability, reducing review time-lines and elimination of duplicate paper work for reviews which result in increases of time and money for the City and developers. Changes to 3 areas of the Code were reviewed: 1) to expand the current grading and filling exemptions, including single family home foundations, 2) adjust the number of lots created through the short subdivision process, and 3) authorize changes to 4 different SEPA exemption levels related to residential, commercial, and parking lot construction and grading. Goal is to increase the efficiency of the City reviews and minimize delays for smaller scale projects.

City Manager Piasecki advised that Council may see some material to begin review in the next couple of months.

Senior Services Advisory Committee

Councilmember White announced that the Committee is having a "Trash to Treasure" rummage sale Saturday, July 15th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Des Moines Activity Center. All proceeds will go to the support of the Des Moines Senior Center.

SW King County Economic Development Initiative

Councilmember White advised that this is a small business development center located on Pacific Highway South whose purpose is to assist anyone interested in opening a business within the south King County cities. She noted the coalition consists of the Port of Seattle, Tukwila, Burien, SeaTac, Highline Community College and Des Moines, and has proven to be beneficial.

Municipal Facilities Committee

Councilmember Sherman stated the Committee will next meet on July 28th at 10:30 a.m. and will be looking at issues pertaining to the Marina.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

Special Meeting

Mayor Sheckler announced that Council will hold a work session on Monday, July 31st. He requested Council's preference for a meeting time and place. Consensus was to hold the meeting at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Topic will be the Pacific Ridge Area.

Plague Presentation

Police Chief Baker presented a plaque to Len Oebser, in appreciation of his distinctive service to employees and citizens, as a member of the Des Moines Civil Service Commission for the past 6 years. He thanked Mr. Oebser for his dedication to the Police Department and the community.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

City Brochure

Councilmember Scott reported that she is working with the Parks and Recreation Department to create a brochure to present Des Moines to the larger community. She noted that events such as the wooden boat and old car show held at the Marina last week end and the ongoing Saturday Farmers Market, are beginning to draw people to Des Moines, which is wonderful.

Grohs' Property/City of Kent

Councilmember Pina advised that he spoke with the Mayor of Kent, who informed him that Kent is waiting to hear Des Moines' desires with respect to boundary lines of the Grohs property.

Mayor Sheckler questioned what was outcome from the Kent City Council's decision on this item at their recent Council meeting. Councilmember Pina stated that it was removed from their Agenda awaiting word on Des Moines' position.

Enforcement Issues

Councilmember Pina stated it is his opinion that when the City bans something, such as fireworks, it is incumbent upon the City to enforce the laws. He felt that when we don't, people feel they can in fact violate those laws. He stated it is his belief that if citizens were using illegal fireworks then they should have been cited.

Senior Services

Councilmember White advised that the Senior Center is open Mondays 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and there are a lot of drop-in activities available. She further noted that the Seniors are collecting

health and hygiene items for homeless teens in Des Moines. She noted anyone interested in donating can call the Activity Center for a list of items needed.

Fireworks Ban

Councilmember White reported that she had a few negative calls about the fireworks ban, but felt there were far more people in support of the ban. She stated that in the Redondo area, which is normally a war zone, things were much improved. She felt that staff did a great job of informing the community of the ban.

Fireworks Ban

Instead of setting off fireworks, Councilmember Sherman encouraged citizens to get with family and friends to read the documents that founded this country's independence, to discuss the issues and what this county has become. He felt it would be more meaningful to celebrate our peace, instead of setting off explosives.

Fireworks Ban

Mayor Sheckler thanked those citizens that spoke during comments from the public in supporting the ban on fireworks. He stated he felt that although this was a controversial issue, the Council made the right decision.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Code Enforcement Officer

City Manager Piasecki announced that Des Moines' Code Enforcement Officer, Nancy Uhrich, was presented with an award last Friday by the State Patrol Chief for her participation and contribution in investigating three illegal wrecking yards in King County. He noted one of the yards was in Des Moines on Pacific Highway South, and she put in a lot of hard work to help make this operation go away.

July 4, 2006, Recap of Staffing and Events

Police Chief Baker summarized a memo distributed to Council regarding the banning of fireworks in Des Moines. Some highlights were:

- 2 written notices were mailed to all City residents.
- Both temporary and permanent signage posted throughout the City.
- an Incident Command Post was set up in the north end of the Marina.
- South King Fire and Rescue sent 4 fire fighters to ride along with Police to show unity of enforcement of the ban, as well as to educate the community.
- One citation was issued, approximately 10 cubic feet of illegal fireworks confiscated.
- Fireworks Over Des Moines Event went very smoothly

In conclusion, Chief Baker thanked the Council for supporting the ban and the community for their compliance with the ban.

CONSENT CALENDAR was read by City Clerk Staab.

1. Motion is to approve the regular minutes of June 1, 8 and 22, 2006.
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 42.24.090, 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 checks #104685 through #104984 & electronic fund transfers in the total amount of \$1,923,668.04

Payroll fund transfers in the total amount of \$376,782.57

3. Motion is to purchase 50 square feet of land for a utility easement from Earl A. and Doreen E. Harper in the amount of \$200 plus closing costs, and to authorize the City Manager to sign the payment request substantially in the form as submitted and accept the utility easement on behalf of the City of Des Moines.

4. Motion is to purchase a slope easement of 188 square feet of land from Darlene M. Schroeder in the amount of \$900 plus closing costs, and to authorize the City Manager to sign the payment request substantially in the form as submitted and accept the slope easement on behalf of the City of Des Moines.

5. Motion is to accept 7,888 square feet of land from Federal Way School District No. 210 for a Public Right-of-way Dedication Deed, and to authorize the City Manager to sign the deed substantially in the form as submitted and accept the dedicated right-of-way on behalf of the City of Des Moines.

Councilmember Sherman expressed appreciation to the Federal Way School District for deeding a substantial amount of land to the City at no charge, in order for us to proceed with this project.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Kaplan, seconded by Councilmember Sherman and passed unanimously, to approve the Consent Calendar as read.

8:38 p.m. Mayor Sheckler called for a 10 minute break.

PUBLIC HEARING

Draft Ordinance No. 04-180 Development of Sub-standard Lots, Redondo Area - 1st Reading

Mayor Sheckler introduced the subject, read the rules for conducting the public hearing into the record, and declared the hearing open. He requested two individuals who had signed up to speak and Land Use Planner I Sullivan, to stand and raise their right hand. He administered an oath, affirming the truth of their testimony.

Land Use Planner Sullivan informed Council that the City, through annexations, has inherited some neighborhoods, including Zenith, that were developed using plats with 25 by 100 foot wide lots which results in lots that are substantially smaller than the minimum lot size permitted under the City's zoning code. He noted some of these sub-standard lots may be developed separately if they meet current exemptions established in the City's zoning Code. He noted the ordinance creating this code was enacted in April 1988 in which the findings reflect a concern with the unregulated development of sub-standard lots, under the theory that they were 'grandfathered' in because they were building sites that had existed prior to the zoning code. At that time the City Attorney recommended that there be some development exceptions established in the zoning code to allow some of the substandard lots to develop in cases where there was not a possibility for a combination of lots to meet the development rights. He advised that in the last two years, property owners have challenged this ordinance in variance processes, LUPA appeals and court cases. However in all these challenges the City has won these challenges and the Court has upheld the ordinance as lawful in that the City can require the combination of sub-standard lots

in order to meet minimum zoning codes. He informed Council that tonight's discussion focuses on under what circumstances and how, development should occur on currently non-exempted substandard lots. He advised that Council's decision must be based on, and consistent with, policies and guidance established by the Municipal Code, Comprehensive Plan and the Growth Management Act to ensure that the outcome is equitable and fair to the entire community. He specifically noted:

- The Zoning Code is to provide for the orderly planned use of land resources.
- The Comprehensive Plan states that the City should review and amend as appropriate the Zoning Code to establish development standards that are clear and predictable, that simplify the review process, and adapt to varied site or neighborhood conditions.
- The Comprehensive Plan states the City should consistently and equitably enforce development standards, and if enforcement is not possible, re-evaluate the standards and amend them to be more precisely defined.
- RCW established the goals of the Growth Management Act to include a predictable permitting system and encourages the involvement of citizens in the planning process.

At this point Land Use Planner Sullivan reviewed the following two alternatives with highlights as noted:

Lot Averaging Option (developed by one of the lawyers representing a property owner whose lots did not meet the exemption)

Expand the substandard lot exemption to include a lot averaging approach. Limitations established by the current version shall not apply if the non-conforming lot was established as a separate building site in the public record of King County on or before Jan. 1, 1997 and has the area of at least 80% of the mean lot area of the lots on the same block face and within the same zone in which the lot is located.

Land Use Planner Sullivan informed Council that while this proposal has the advantage of being quick, it is staff's professional opinion that the proposal is incredibly inefficient due to the multiple shortcomings relating to the public process, impacts to the community, enforcement problems, and ambiguities which will result in development inconsistent with the zoning code. Additionally, the proposed changes would allow development to occur on lots which are currently not developable. This development could impact surrounding property owners without providing them with the opportunity to discuss those impacts with the Council.

He pointed out that lot-averaging is not consistent with guiding policies he described earlier and therefore staff recommends not adopting the lot averaging alternative.

Re-Zone Option

This would allow staff to review the impact that 4,000 square foot lots would have on existing infrastructure; review the historical development patterns of the neighborhood; ensure that the lot size is consistent with the general public welfare and planned development of land resources; and establish a clear and predictable review process.

Land Use Planner Sullivan pointed out that an area-wide rezone would set a clear and measurable standard for the neighborhoods to which it applies, thus enhancing the efficiency of permitting in the Redondo neighborhood and achieve the goals of the Growth Management Act. While this option would take longer to implement, he advised it would provide opportunities to encourage public involvement in the planning process

and provide additional time for staff to review impacts and establish appropriate mitigation.

In conclusion, he advised that staff recommends this option since it will result in predictable development regulations, provide enhanced public involvement and is consistent with the guiding policies mentioned earlier.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Linda Leonard, 2023 S 282nd Place, Federal Way

Ms. Leonard noted she recently sued the City over this issue. She pointed out that while she agrees with most of Mr. Sullivan's points, she comes to a different conclusion. She felt that the draft ordinance before Council tonight is the best way to accomplish the City's goals in the zoning code in a more effective way than an area-wide rezone would. She felt that the draft ordinance is the simplest way to handle the current problem that provides a uniformly applicable approach. She advised that for the last 2 years she has been fighting for the ability to build her home on this vacant piece of in-fill property. She noted no farmland, wetlands, forest lands or shorelines will be impacted. She stated she hoped Council will see this an opportunity to capitalize on an available resource that is utterly consistent with community standards and would have no negative impact to the environment. In conclusion she noted while staff wants to meet and exceed the goals of applicable laws, she would like to just meet them and not have to continue to invest time and energy on dealing with this problem on what are legal, taxable lots, that are currently not bringing anybody any benefit. She requested Council adopt the draft ordinance.

Sam Warren, 28116 10th Avenue South

Mr. Warren informed Council as a builder, he would like to build homes in the Redondo area. He felt in general codes are meant to serve a purpose. He noted that he owns two "sub-standard" lots and the code addresses the setbacks for these lots. He advised that he fails to understand why he can't build on these lots when he can meet the setback requirements of that zone. He informed Council that he has plans for a home and is ready to start construction. He encouraged Council to find a solution expeditiously since this has been 'broken' since 1997 when Redondo was annexed into the City and after nine years nothing has happened. He expressed concern that if Council does not do the lot averaging, which can be done quickly, a rezone could take months and may not address his problems because one of his lots is only 3,800 sq. ft.

Mayor Sheckler called three times for any further speakers. There were none and he inquired of Administration as to whether there were any misstatements of fact or if there is any further material related to subjects raised by the speakers.

Land Use Planner I Sullivan stated the following:

1. A Variance was applied for to build on a substandard lot. The Court of Appeals for the State of Washington has ruled that to grant a Variance in order to get out of lot aggregation requirements established by City Code is by definition a "Special Privilege". So, the Court has ruled we are not allowed to use the Variance process in order to grant variances to the substandard lot code.
2. It is not staff's desire to say we should not have development in Redondo. What staff wants to see is when a developer comes in we can say "here is our zoning code, this is what you must do, etc." Staff wants an approach that allows development fairly, equitably and predictably.

City Attorney Marousek advised that if the Council should elect to proceed with the lot averaging approach, she would recommend a couple of changes to the draft ordinance as follows:

1. The date should say "on or before April 25, 1988", because that was the date of the last ordinance change.
2. "And that has an area of at least 80% of the mean lot area . . .". mean lot should be struck and insert the words 'building site'.

Land Use Planner I Sullivan pointed out if Council chooses the lot averaging approach staff will still need a SEPA review process.

Councilmember Pina questioned whether the sub-standard lot was sold by the owner and bought by the purchaser, knowing that the current code would not allow development. Land Use Planner I Sullivan replied that is correct.

Councilmember Pina acknowledged that there are a lot of 25 foot lots in other parts of the City, so if we do a special zoning or change the rules for Redondo, the City is almost obligated to do the same for the rest of the City.

Land Use Planner I Sullivan confirmed that nearly 90% of the City was built on 25' x 100' lots, called 'rail road' lots and they were legal building sites in the early 1800s.

City Manager Piasecki pointed out that is the reason the City Attorney suggested the term "building site", so you look at the character of the neighborhood. Normally the neighborhood is developed on consolidated lots.

Councilmember White questioned how long a rezone would take. Land Use Planner I Sullivan replied that this could be accomplished by the end of this year. He felt whatever action is taken it should be to permanently fix the situation through a comprehensive process. At this time staff is just specifically focusing on the Redondo area.

Councilmember Sherman noted that prior to Redondo being annexed the City had a law regarding sub-standard lots, noting that if they had multiple adjoining lots, they could not build on a substandard lot. He pointed out that Redondo choose, by a vote, to join the City of Des Moines and follow its laws. He noted the question being brought up this evening by individuals is: Whether a lot that was taken out from a conglomerate of lots owned by one individual, could now be a buildable lot. Land Use Planner I Sullivan advised yes, and that is what the Courts have ruled as a 'special privilege'.

Councilmember Scott advised that having worked in real estate for over 30 years, she has seen lot sizes in almost every jurisdiction reduced well below 6,000 because of the need for building affordable housing and to keep development where services are available. She noted the 25x100' lots in Des Moines area were traditional lots before vehicles. She felt the City needs to respect what is there and identify specific areas.

Land Use Planner Sullivan commented that is the reason staff recommends utilizing the rezone method to allow for such identification.

Councilmember Kaplan felt that the North Hill area should be included in this discussion. He questioned how many sub-standard lots exist in North Hill and how many in Redondo.

Land Use Planner Sullivan advised that every lot in Redondo is sub-standard, noting there are some lots that have been under common ownership, and those are required to be aggregated as building sites. In North Hill the number is unknown.

Development Services Manager Ruth advised that in the Redondo area there are a couple hundred property owners that have non-conforming properties that tie-up and cloud the title of each and every property when it is sold or refinanced. He felt a rezone process would effectively clear that up and legitimize what they already have, as opposed to overlaying a zoning that is a sloppy fit for the area.

Upon questioning by Councilmember Kaplan, Land Use Planner Sullivan advised that you can target a specific geographical area, and therefore staff wants to target the most southern area of Redondo.

Councilmember Kaplan expressed concern, politically if not practicably, that the City will have to deal with both Redondo and North Hill. He expressed agreement with Councilmember Scott's comments about tying in some sort of historical element to justify the basis of an area wide rezone. He does not really favor either method of solving the issue, but leans towards area-wide rezone if in fact it is limited to those areas that were annexed to the City after 1997, or the proper date, to ensure both Redondo and North Hill are covered. He felt that Pacific Ridge and other areas in the City meet our future needs for growth, therefore he objects to using any characterization that this step will help the City meet its growth management obligations.

City Attorney Marousek advised Council that the courts have repeatedly upheld the 'police power' of local government to do zoning under appropriate legislative findings based on the identified issue and problem to be resolved.

As there were no further questions from Councilmembers to staff, Mayor Sheckler declared the hearing CLOSED.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Pina, seconded by Councilmember White, to direct staff to prepare an appropriate ordinance, and to provide required public notice, to implement an area-wide rezone for the Redondo neighborhood.

After further brief discussion, the question was called for by Councilmember Pina.

VOTE ON QUESTION: Passed unanimously.

VOTE ON MOTION: Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Allied Waste License Renewal

City Manager Piasecki noted at the June 1st Council meeting Council discussed whether or not to extend the current exclusive license with Allied Waste for collection of solid waste in Des Moines. Direction was given to staff regarding the proposed changes to the license and increase

in rates being sought by Allied Waste and he reviewed those changes contained in Council's packet as follows:

- Extends license for additional 5 years from date of execution.
- Allows for extra yard waste pickups after storm events during months there is only 1 monthly pickup.
- Adds a provision for bulky and e-waste collection services.
- Allows Allied to increase base rates as of Jan. 2006 for a total increase in regular rates of 8.5%.
- Requires Allied Waste to switch out on regular basis apartment and condo dumpsters in need of repair or painting.
- Allows for an additional cleanup event in October at no additional cost.
- Requires a reduced rate for code enforcement cleanups of up to 15% of regular rates, depending on types and amounts of items.
- Requires free service at Field House, Beach Park & Activity Center in addition to City Hall, Police Building and Public Works and Parks Service Center.

MOTION was made by Councilmember White, seconded by Councilmember Kaplan to adopt the proposed extension and amendment of the exclusive license for collection of solid waste in Des Moines with Allied Waste substantially in the form as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed New Position for Economic Development Director

City Manager Piasecki noted that most cities in King County, including cities that surround Des Moines with the exception of Normandy Park, have an individual that is dedicated to economic development, to bring in new business, working with existing businesses to keep them, and marketing the City for businesses or developers to expand the City's economic base. He called Council's attention to a matrix contained in Council's packet that details what the duties, salary, knowledge, ability and skills are for this position in surrounding cities. He informed Council that by not having this position, the City is put at a distinct disadvantage and he strongly recommends the Council considering putting this type of position together, contingent upon the City's ability to pay for the position. He noted he would like to put together a budget and a funding mechanism for the position, probably for the first few years using one time money, for Council's consideration.

Councilmember White stated that the Finance and Economic Development Committee has discussed this idea. While she feels having this position is a good idea, however right now there are other priorities that need to be accomplished first, such as a zoning code rewrite and updating the permitting process. She also questioned whether the City can afford to pay for the position at this time.

Councilmember Sherman advised that he is not against the concept, but Council just approved three new staff members for Planning, Building and Public Works because of so much development happening. He believes the reality is the City is stretched financially at this time. Additionally he noted that development for the business park will be handled by the Port of Seattle since it is their property. He stated he would prefer to wait to see how we are financially.

Councilmember Pina noted that last year the City adopted a very good economic development plan. He also noted just recently staff was authorized to address economic development through a partnership with the University of Washington. He advised he would like to see the results of that first, and maybe at budget time look at putting funds aside for the future to fund such a position.

Mayor Sheckler commented that if Council is going to be serious about economic development eventually we will need to bring someone on board, in particular to aggressively address the Pacific Ridge area. He felt there is a need for a specifically trained individual to sell Council's vision for development. He felt Council should have something to look at when deliberations begin in preparation of the 2007 budget.

10:28 p.m. **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Kaplan, seconded by Councilmember Scott and passed, to extend the meeting another 5 minutes.

Councilmember Kaplan felt it would make sense to define the job and responsibilities, and begin such discussions during the context of upcoming budget discussions.

Councilmember Scott noted the City does have other resources to help with development such as Highline Community College's Small Business Development Department. She advised that she agrees with the concept of an economic development position, and having further discussions during the upcoming budget process.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Mayor Sheckler noted the next regular meeting will be July 27, 2006.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:34 p.m. **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Kaplan, seconded by Councilmember Pina and passed unanimously, to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis Staab
City Clerk