PRELIMINARY
REGULAR MEETING DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES August 5, 2002

The regular meeting of the Des Moines City Council was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by Mayor Wasson in the City Council Chambers, 21630 11th Avenue South, Suite B.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE to the Flag was led by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin.

ROLL CALL - Present: Mayor Don Wasson, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Benjamin, Councilmembers Gary Petersen, Bob Sheckler, Maggie Steenrod and Susan White. Absent: Councilmember Scott Thomasson. Also in attendance were City Manager Tony Piasecki, City Attorney Linda Marousek, Park and Recreation Director Patrice Thorell, Senior Services Manager Sue Padden and Deputy City Clerk Angela Chaufty.

> **MOTION** was made by Councilmember White, seconded by Councilmember Sheckler and passed unanimously to excuse Councilmember Thomasson.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Georgie Nupen, 24816 12th Avenue South

> Ms. Nupen asked Council to do something in regard to the Senior Center programs. She said that it would be nice for the seniors to be together again rather than scattered throughout various locations in the City.

John Carroll, 24832 11th Avenue South

> As a member of the Senior Services Advisory Committee, Mr. Carroll said that he enthusiastically endorsed the Municipal Facilities Committee's recommendation to renovate the Activity Center for use as the interim Senior Center. He noted that the committee had met seven times to discuss the Senior Center needs and develop a proposal. Mr. Carroll urged Council to support the recommendation.

Kaylene Moon, 24032 9th Place South

> Ms. Moon informed Council that she served as a Senior Advisor to the Municipal Facilities Committee on the Interim Senior Center study. She concurred with Mr. Carroll's comments. Ms. Moon said that the senior programs had suffered due to their scattered locations. She felt that the proposed recommendation would enhance the program.

Keith Noess, 21210 4th Place South

> As a member of the Senior Services Advisory Committee, Mr. Noess thanked the Municipal Facilities Committee members and their supporters. He asked Council to proceed quickly so that the project could move forward. Mr. Noess suggested that Council also ask Normandy Park, the Chamber of Commerce, local service clubs and local businesses to assist in the funding of the project.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposal to Remodel Activity Center (Annex) to Serve as the Interim Senior Center

Councilmember Steenrod introduced the subject.

Councilmember White thanked the Senior Advisory Committee volunteers for their input and time.

Councilmember Sheckler thanked everyone who worked to educate the public on why the current Senior Center location would not work on a permanent basis.

Park and Recreation Director Thorell explained that the Dining Hall has been closed since November 2001 due to flood damage. She displayed a map of the facilities currently hosting senior programs.

Senior Services Manager Padden said that the Meals on Wheels, nutrition, fitness, and health enhancement programs had been relocated to various locations throughout the City. She then voiced the following safety and security concerns associated with utilizing multiple facilities for the programs:

- Physical safety
  - Medical Emergencies
  - Equipment and Supplies
  - Staff Response Time
  - Volunteers and Instructors Alone in the Buildings
  - Poor Building Conditions
  - Safe Environment

- Equipment and Supply Security
  - Loss and Location

Park and Recreation Director Thorell displayed a chart of the following four alternatives studied by the Municipal Facilities Committee:

1. Continue to utilize City facilities, churches, clubs, retirement center spaces, etc.
2. Repair Beach Park Dining Hall without mitigation of flooding.
3. Renovate City's Activity Center (former Senior Center Annex).
4. Lease building space for use as a temporary senior center.

Park and Recreation Director Thorell explained that the Committee chose to recommend Option No. 3 due to the facility's existing structural quality, size, location, parking facilities, and cost estimates. In order to fund the renovation, the Committee recommended that the following Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) funds be reprogrammed and transferred to the Activity Center Remodel Project:

<u>2002 CIP</u>

Project	Funding Source	Amount
Community Center Construction	Haunted House	$259,391
Des Moines Open Space Acquisition	MCI	20,000
North Wing Facility Upgrade	MCI	100,000

<u>2003 CIP</u>

Project	Funding Source	Amount
Community Center Construction	MCI	$277,988
Park in Lieu Fees	MCI	188,892

City Manager Piasecki said the City still intended to build the Community Center but noted that the project would be postponed if Council approved the proposed funding plan.

Park and Recreation Director Thorell displayed a chart of the basic renovation cost estimates.

Councilmember Steenrod thanked the committee members and staff for their work on the project.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Steenrod, seconded by Councilmember White and passed unanimously to approve the Municipal Facilities Committee's request to approve funds in the amount of up to $205,000, plus 10% contingency for the renovation of the City's Activity Center and to amend the 2002 Capital Improvement Plan to provide for project funding in that amount.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:20 p.m., Mayor Wasson announced that Council would convene in executive session for approximately thirty minutes to discuss with legal counsel representing the City, litigation or potential litigation to which the City is, or is likely to become, a party and about which public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the City.

No formal action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:50 p.m., **MOTION** was made by Mayor Wasson, seconded, and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Chaufty
Deputy City Clerk