

REGULAR MEETING OF THE DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

October 2, 1997

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

ROLL CALL - Present: Mayor Scott Thomasson, Mayor Pro Tem Terry Brazil, Councilmembers Bruce Roberts, Bob Sheckler, Dan Sherman, Gary Towe and Don Wasson. Also present were City Manager Bob Olander, Assistant City Manager Tony Piasecki, City Attorney Gary McLean, Finance Director Jim Hathaway and City Clerk Denis Staab.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Preliminary 1998 Budget Reserve Funds

Finance Director Hathaway reviewed the following reserve funds noting estimated 1998 totals:

- Self Insurance Fund \$106,099
- Revenue Stabilization Fund \$838,104
- Unemployment Compensation Fund \$209,792
- Facility Repair and Replacement Fund \$126,756
 - Reviewed a summary of debt payments in 1998 pointing out that the 1978 Voter Approved G.O. Bonds for the original Police Station and the 1988 Marina Improvements G. O. Bonds will be paid off in 1998.
- Computer - Replacement \$137,325 & Repair \$108,695
 - Reviewed the 1997 Accomplishments
- Equipment Rental - Replacement \$854,296 & Operations \$160,248

City Manager Olander noted that the City will have vehicle insurance coverage through Washington Cities Insurance Authority which will be a major savings, and also noted that under equipment operations one full time mechanic's helper will be added.

Draft Ordinance No. 97-155 Telecommunications - Tower Heights

City Attorney McLean reminded Council that the purpose of tonight's discussion is to focus on tower heights. He introduced Kevin Barlay of The Walter Group representing various carriers, and Scott Stiding of Western Wireless. A group of pictures was distributed to Council demonstrating the visual impacts of various telecommunications towers between 80' and 120'. These towers are from various locations throughout south King County and show single and collocation uses. Addresses of five towers in south King County was also furnished for any Councilmember who may wish to make a personal site inspection.

Upon questioning by Council, City Attorney McLean explained that staff will rely on outside consultants to review applications, paid for by the applicant, to make determinations on proper site location among other items of review.

Upon questioning from Council, Mr. Barlay explained that PCS is a higher frequency and therefore uses less power, and Cellular is a lower frequency which transmits further.

Upon questioning by Council, it was noted that carriers have a set plan, similar to a comprehensive plan, based upon engineers surveys of structures, vegetation, topography, etc. of each area they plan on locating towers.

City Attorney McLean advised Council that the carriers cannot be required to divulge their plans as it could effect fair market value of sites and impinge on trade secrets.

City Attorney McLean informed Council that the City of SeaTac has placed a total height limit of 80 feet on towers, and the City of Federal Way will allow up to 120 feet only if it is a committed collocation.

Councilmember Sherman expressed concern that Des Moines may get more than its share if we allow a taller tower than neighboring cities.

There was some discussion and concern regarding pole diameter, signs and decorations.

After further Council discussion, **CONSENSUS** was to limit towers to 80 feet; however, subject to review by the Hearing Examiner, applicant's may request a tower up to 120 feet, but only if they demonstrate that a tower higher than 80 feet will eliminate the need for another tower, or, a tower that is higher than 80 feet with a viable collation by another party who is prepared to collocate on or about the time the tower is built. In all circumstances, applicants must demonstrate that the requested height is the minimum needed.

9:05 p.m. Mayor Thomasson declared a 5 minute break.

Preliminary 1998 Budget - Airport Defense Fund

City Manager Olander noted that the Airport Defense budget will be the same as the last two years. He advised Council that the Executive position is currently not filled and a meeting will be held next week with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of ACC to discuss potential recruiting efforts. He noted the total budgeted is \$772,175.

After review of sources of revenue, City Manager Olander requested direction from Council on the interfund loan/line of credit in the amount of \$409,352. He informed Council that his recommendation would be a line of credit. He noted that he is not comfortable with other options such as an internal loan which would mean postponing some capital improvements

Councilmember Sherman commented that he felt it was clearly understood that the 1% utility tax would be designated for the Airport Defense Fund for as long as it was needed. He noted that he does not want to delay any capital improvement projects. He stated that the airport fight is not going to go on forever and that it is important to keep the faith of the community in Council's commitment with the fight.

Council's **CONSENSUS** was to apply for a line of credit. City Manager Olander advised that this will be back before Council for approval.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Mayor Thomasson announced the next regular meeting will be October 9, 1997.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis Staab
City Clerk