

REGULAR MEETING DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

October 19, 2006

The regular meeting of the Des Moines City Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Sheckler at the Des Moines Activity Center, 2045 S. 216th Street, Des Moines, WA.

ROLL CALL - Present: Mayor Bob Sheckler, Mayor Pro Tem Scott Thomasson, Councilmembers Ed Pina, Carmen Scott, Dan Sherman and Susan White. Absent: Councilmember Dave Kaplan. Also in attendance were Planning, Building, and Public Works Director Grant Fredricks, City Attorney Linda Marousek, Finance Director Paula Henderson, City Transportation Engineer Dan Brewer, Harbormaster Joe Dusenbury, and Deputy City Clerk Angela Chaufy.

[Editor's Note: Councilmember Kaplan was excused from attendance later in the meeting.]

CONSENT CALENDAR was read by Mayor Sheckler.

1. Motion is to authorize the City Manager to sign the contract with Waldron and Company to conduct the recruitment for the position of City Attorney in an amount not to exceed \$40,000, substantially in the form as submitted.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Pina and seconded by Councilmember Sherman.

Councilmember White suggested that Council consider contracting for legal services during the interim period, prior to the new City Attorney being hired.

City Attorney Marousek stated her understanding that the City Manager planned to appoint the current Assistant City Attorney as Acting City Attorney until the position was filled. She has recommended that the City contract for legal services for a few specific pending cases.

Councilmember White asked City Attorney Marousek to state her opinion regarding contracting for legal services on an on-going basis.

City Attorney Marousek said that she had researched the same question for Council in October 2004. At that time, contracting for outside legal services at the existing service level would have cost approximately \$712,000. A phone conversation with outside legal counsel would have been approximately \$200 per hour.

VOTE ON MOTION: Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION TO EXCUSE COUNCILMEMBER KAPLAN FROM ATTENDANCE

MOTION was made by Mayor Sheckler, seconded by Councilmember Scott and passed unanimously to excuse Councilmember Kaplan from attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

2007 – 2012 Capital Improvement Plan

Arterial Streets

Council confirmed that 100% of street vacation revenue should be allocated to streets.

Councilmember Pina noted that the Public Safety and Transportation Committee felt that bonds were okay as long as they were used for projects rather than maintenance and that street vacation funds were used to pay the bonds.

Mayor Pro Tem Thomasson said that he was not in support of utilizing bonds at this time. He recommended that Council wait until the amount of street vacation revenue was known. He said that he could be comfortable with short-term borrowing but not Councilmanic bonds.

Council concurred that all references to “bonds” as a funding source in the Arterial Street Fund CIP should be changed to “To Be Determined”.

City Transportation Engineer Brewer highlighted the 16th Avenue South – Phase 1 and Marine View Drive Slide Repair projects. He then briefed Council on the following proposed annualized programs:

- Pavement Management Program
- Annual Guardrail Program
- Annual Sidewalk Program

City Transportation Engineer Brewer recommended that the pavement condition be re-rated every four years.

Council concurred to re-rate the streets’ conditions.

City Transportation Engineer Brewer explained that sidewalk striping was part of the sidewalk maintenance program. He recommended that the City adopt a four year maintenance cycle, using durable markings, for the sidewalk and crosswalk markings. He also noted that the City needed to address various ADA concerns.

In regard to the proposed Annual Guardrail Program, Mayor Pro Tem Thomasson said that, depending upon the area to be repaired, it might be better to allocate \$50,000 every two years to the program.

City Transportation Engineer Brewer questioned whether Council wished to continue the Neighborhood Traffic Calming project. Four petitions have been submitted in the last year but staff has not had any time to address them.

Councilmember Sherman voiced support for continuing the program as it was aimed at addressing neighborhood concerns.

Councilmember White said that Redondo Beach Drive needed repair. She favored continuation of the program.

As staff did not have time to administer the program, Mayor Pro Tem Thomasson recommended that it be left out of the CIP for a few years. He suggested that staff track the completed projects after five years to determine whether they were a success.

Planning, Building, and Public Works Director Fredricks said that improvements to Redondo Beach Drive would not be funded through the Neighborhood Traffic Calming program. A study regarding the road had been completed and results would soon be brought to Council.

Mayor Sheckler, Mayor Pro Tem Thomasson, and Councilmembers Pina and Scott said that more staff was needed to continue the program.

Councilmembers Sherman and White voiced support for maintaining the Neighborhood Traffic Calming program.

Mayor Sheckler recommended that Council carry the unused 2006 amount for the program to 2007 and review it next year.

City Transportation Engineer Brewer described and distributed photos of the problem areas that would be addressed through the Redondo Boardwalk Repair project. He said that the proposed amounts were placeholders as the best repair solution and actual costs had not yet been determined.

Councilmember Pina questioned whether Federal Way and the State might contribute funds toward the project.

Councilmember White said that she would contact King County Councilmember Peter Von Reichbauer regarding funding support from King County.

Council concurred that it was important to preserve and maintain the city's investments, such as the Redondo Boardwalk.

City Transportation Engineer Brewer highlighted the Comprehensive Transportation Plan project.

Mayor Pro Tem Thomasson suggested that a minor, rather than major, update be done as three studies have already been conducted and SR-509 has not yet been built.

Planning, Building, and Public Works Director Fredricks said that staff would work with the Public Safety and Transportation Committee to identify the scope and scale of the project.

Due to the number of maintenance issues needing addressed, Councilmember Sherman suggested that Council dedicate a year to maintenance projects only. No new infrastructure would be added.

At 8:55 p.m., Mayor Sheckler declared a ten minute break and Councilmember White left the meeting.

City Transportation Engineer Brewer briefly highlighted the following projects:

- North Twin Bridge
- Saltwater Bridge
- South 216th Street Corridor Study
- South 216th Street Improvements – Phase 1 (Pacific Highway South to 24th Avenue South)

- South 216th Street Improvements – Phase 2 (24th Avenue South to 20th Avenue South)
- South 216th Street Improvements – Phase 3 (20th Avenue South to 11th Avenue South)
- South 216th Street Improvements – Phase 4 (11th Avenue South to Marine View Drive)
- 16th Avenue South Improvements – Phase 5 (South 272nd Street to Pacific Highway South)
- Kent-Des Moines Road Improvements (16th Avenue South to 24th Avenue South)
- Kent-Des Moines Road Improvements (24th Avenue South to Pacific Highway South)

City Transportation Engineer Brewer informed Council that, although the Pacific Highway South project was not identified in the proposed 2007 CIP, staff was still waiting for the contractor to complete some paperwork for the project. The project could possibly extend into 2007.

Marina Capital Fund

Finance Director Henderson reviewed the Marina's current and proposed debt service. She was waiting for the rate study results in order to determine the debt-carrying capacity of the city.

Harbormaster Dusenbury noted that the proposed projects were grouped in order to identify the items that would need to be completed if each of the commercial projects were developed. Figures were based upon the engineer's estimates plus a 42% mark-up. He identified the following as unknown revenues:

- Land leases.
- Rate structure. (Study results would be presented to the Municipal Facilities Committee on November 3, 2006.)
- Grants.

Finance Director Henderson said that she would research industrial development bonds as a potential revenue source.

Harbormaster Dusenbury said that dredging was an unknown expense as the contamination level of the dredged material was not yet known.

While displaying a conceptual layout of the marina area, Harbormaster Dusenbury highlighted the following projects:

North

- Water main relocation.
- Relocation of 12.5 KW power lines.
- Bulkhead replacement north seawall.
- Sidewalk and railing.
- Reconfiguration of parking lot and landscaping.
- Marina office remodel and new maintenance building.

South

- "J" dock transformer.
- Travel lift pier.
- Bulkhead.
- Demolition of restaurant building.

- Walkway/railing.
- Reconfiguration of boat yard.
- Commercial building – hardware store.

Harbormaster Dusenbury said that the plan was to create a revenue stream as early in the improvement process as possible. He then briefly highlighted the following projects:

- New decking and utilities on “M” dock.
- “M” dock electrical upgrade.
- Dredging.
- “I” and “J” dock fire standpipes.
- Piling replacement.
- Security cameras.

Finance Director Henderson said that revenue stream estimates were needed in order to determine the feasibility and scope of the Marina improvements.

NEXT MEETING DATES

Regular Meeting – October 26, 2006

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Chaufy
Deputy City Clerk