REGULAR MEETING DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES October 29, 1998

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

ROLL CALL - Present: Mayor Scott Thomasson, Mayor Pro Tem Terry Brazil, Councilmembers Dave Kaplan, Bob Sheckler, Dan Sherman, and Gary Towe. Absent: Councilmember Wasson (excused later in the meeting). Also present were City Manager Bob Olander, Assistant City Manager Tony Piasecki, City Attorney Gary McLean, Public Works Director Tim Heydon, Acting Finance Director Mike Bailey, Civil Engineer Loren Reinhold and Deputy City Clerk Angela Chaufty.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Southwest Suburban Sewer District's Comprehensive Sewer Plan Update

Public Works Director Heydon explained that state law allows cities to review the Comprehensive Plans of utilities operating within their jurisdiction. He introduced Steven Sandelius, General Manager of Southwest Suburban Sewer District.

Mr. Sandelius displayed a map of the sewer district's service area and noted that the district had adequate treatment and collection capacity for the future. He stated that the previous comprehensive plan update was six years ago. Mr. Sandelius informed Council that properties were given sewer service through the residents formation of a utility local improvement district, through the sewer district initiated extension, or through a developer's extension.

So as to insure all properties were included in a plan, Mayor Thomasson recommended that agreements with neighboring sewer districts be included in the document.

In regard to the pending North Hill area street and alley vacations, Public Works Director Heydon informed Council that utilities had been asked to provide existing and future rights-of-way plans for the area.

Mayor Thomasson suggested that Southwest Suburban Sewer District be more proactive in the formation of local improvement districts.

Mr. Sandelius noted that although the last septic survey for the area was performed in 1992, they suspected a high level of septic system failure.

Public Works Director Heydon noted that the Des Moines Creek Study revealed a high level of human contamination in the stream.

Upon questioning from Councilmember Kaplan, City Attorney McLean noted that the franchise agreement gave the city the ability to address the need for communication and notification of alerts and emergency preparedness plans for the sewer district.

Councilmember Kaplan recommended that the document require notification to the city of specific problems or alerts.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Sherman, seconded by Councilmember Kaplan, and passed unanimously to direct staff to prepare a resolution to adopt the Southwest Suburban Sewer District's

Comprehensive Sewer Plan Update with the incorporation of staff's recommendations as noted in the packet and Councilmember Kaplan's comments regarding communication for approval on the next consent calendar.

Draft Ordinance No. 98-243 ***[ASSIGNED ORD. NO. 1220A]*** 1999 Surface Water Management Rates – 1st Reading

Public Works Director Heydon displayed a map of the stream systems located in the city. He highlighted the projects associated with the Normandy Creek basin project such as the trunkline project, the detention facility on 1st Avenue South, and the Arrow Lake project. Mr. Heydon mentioned inspection fees as an example of a fee that would be set by the Public Works Director in accordance with Section 1.1 of the proposed ordinance.

Mayor Thomasson asked staff to research whether Port of Seattle buyout properties were being charged surface water management fees. He suggested the following revisions to Appendix A of the proposed ordinance:

- Amend reference of "single-family units" to "single-family developed properties" in Section 1.
- Delete references to quality and quantity surcharges in Section 2.

Mayor Thomasson also noted that if public streets were to be eliminated from the fee schedule then the code's reference to them as they relate to private streets should also be eliminated.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Sheckler and seconded by Councilmember Towe to suspend Rule 26(b) in order to enact Draft Ordinance No. 98-243 on the first reading. Motion passed, 5 – 1, with Councilmember Kaplan opposed.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Towe and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brazil to enact Draft Ordinance No. 98-243.

Mayor Thomasson confirmed that the maker and seconder of the motion intended to include the corrections to the appendix as noted above.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Kaplan, seconded by Councilmember Sherman, and passed unanimously to amend Sec 1.2 by adding the language " . . . of each succeeding year through January, 2004, rates for surface water drainage . . ."

City Manager Olander confirmed that the proposed budget and the surface water management rate study did not include the City Street Fund transfer to Surface Water Management. He also noted that the city pays surface water management fees for public facilities.

VOTE ON AMENDED MOTION: Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to Excuse Councilmember Wasson from Attendance

MOTION was made by Mayor Thomasson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brazil, and passed unanimously to excuse Councilmember Wasson from attendance.

At 8:48 p.m., Mayor Thomasson declared a ten minute break.

1999 Preliminary Budget

City Manager Olander asked Council to provide direction regarding the following budget related policy issues:

#1 – Proposed adoption of 2.5% increase on property tax.

Assistant City Manager Piasecki reviewed a comparison of the potential long range implications of applying the 2.5% and 0.85% increases for 1999 only and an estimated IPD of 1% thereafter, as well as the statutory limit.

City Manager Olander described the 1998 property tax distribution.

Council concurred to adopt a 2.5% increase on property tax.

#2 – Proposed approval of General, Street, and Park beginning fund balance set at $416,688 (4.3%).

City Manager Olander proposed that the budget reach the goal of Resolution 638 in two years with the 1999 level set at $416,688. Any revenues over estimates would be added to 1999 ending balances.

Council concurred.

#3 – Proposed approval of reducing general revenues to the MCI fund for capital projects to $200,000. The retained $100,000 would be added to the reserve balance for the General, Street, and Park budget.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Kaplan and seconded by Councilmember Sherman to reduce the 1999 $200,000 contribution to the MCI fund by $40,000, specifically from the Sports Park Project, and apply the $40,000 to Human Services.

City Manager Olander suggested that human services could be funded through a transfer from the Equipment Rental Replacement Fund.

After discussion, Councilmember Sheckler called for the question.

VOTE ON MOTION: Motion failed, 2 – 4, with Councilmembers Kaplan and Sherman voting in favor of the motion.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Sheckler and seconded by Councilmember Towe to allocate $40,000 of the $50,000 currently slated for the Equipment Rental Replacement Fund from the Equipment Rental Operations fund to the General Fund for human services.

City Manager noted that if adopted, the above transaction would need to be specified in the budget ordinance.

VOTE ON MOTION: Motion passed, 5 – 1, with Councilmember Sherman opposed.

#4 – METRO Bus Shelters

Councilmember Sherman requested that $10,000 be allocated for METRO bus shelters.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Sherman and seconded by Councilmember Sheckler to put $10,000 back into the budget to fund bus shelters.

Councilmember Towe suggested that King County be contacted as a possible funding source.

City Manager Olander stated that $10,000 could be taken from the Municipal Capital Improvement Fund miscellaneous.

Councilmember Sheckler asked staff to research who would be responsible for the maintenance of the bus shelters.

Council's unanimous consensus was to allocate $10,000 of the budget to bus shelters.

Item #5 – Proposed one time transfer of $100,000 from the Self-Employment Insurance reserve account to the General, Street, and Park operating reserve account.

Council concurred.

Item #6 – Recommended repeal of the Street Fund transfer of $54,000 to Surface Water.

MOTION was made by Mayor Thomasson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brazil, and passed unanimously to direct administration to prepare an ordinance to eliminate the code section which requires the general fund payment for streets to the utility and to amend the private street section to incorporate within that section the rates for private streets.

Item #7 – Proposed purchase of two new police vehicles through a $60,000 transfer from Equipment Rental Operations ending balance to General Fund.

Council concurred.

Item #8 – Proposed transfer of $50,000 to Revenue Stabilization and $10,000 to Equipment Rental Replacement Fund from the Equipment Rental Operations ending balance.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Kaplan, seconded by Councilmember Towe, and passed unanimously to transfer $50,000 from the Equipment Rental Operations account to the Revenue Stabilization Account and to transfer $10,000 to the Equipment Rental capital side.

City Manager Olander stressed that the city is in good financial health despite the current lean budget proposal. It continues existing basic service levels, rebuilds operating fund reserves, and provides for an aggressive capital construction program.

NEW BUSINESS

Suburban Cities Meeting

Mayor Pro Tem Brazil announced that Suburban Cities would be meeting November 4, 1998 to review an overview of the new wastewater treatment center siting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Chaufty
Deputy City Clerk