

REGULAR MEETING OF THE DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

October 30, 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, and Don Wasson. Absent: Councilmember Gary Towe (ill). Also present were City Manager Bob Olander, City Attorney Gary McLean, Finance Director Jim Hathaway, Harbormaster Joe Dusenbury, Community Development Director Judith Kilgore, Park and Recreation Director Patrice Thorell, Public Works Director Tim Heydon and City Clerk Denis Staab.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Sheckler, seconded by Councilmember Roberts and passed unanimously, to excuse Councilmember Towe.

Des Moines Community Open House & Summit

City Manager Olander reminded everyone of the upcoming Community Summit and Open House to be held Thursday, November 6th from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church. He noted there will be a free dinner and community volunteer service awards will be awarded.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Marina Fuel Tank and Sea Wall Projects

Harbormaster Dusenbury briefed Council on the upcoming sea wall project and the new fuel tanks installation. With the use of slides he detailed the proposed work. He informed Council that bids will be accepted on both projects in November, with award of bids before Council for approval in December. He advised Council that he will work very closely with the contractors to make sure every effort is made to minimize noise impacts on the Marina's neighbors.

1998 Preliminary Budget Department Reviews

City Manager Olander advised that Council has been furnished with the 1998 Executive Budget Summary. He stated that there will be ample opportunity for Council comments and that the detailed appendix to the preliminary budget will be distributed to Council on Monday. He reminded Council that the Council's Vision, Mission, Values, Imperatives and Strategic Objectives determined from the June retreat, provide the policy direction for this 1998 budget submittal. Mr. Olander stated that projected slow revenue growth in 1998 limits the City's flexibility to expand existing services or add new programs. He advised Council that the primary challenge was to continue Council's strategic objectives within the framework of a no growth budget. He noted the major objectives that have been accomplished and one that is not, as follows:

1. Continue the legal and political efforts to keep the third runway from being built.
2. Provide and maintain an effective local transportation infrastructure.
3. Expand citizen participation in City government.
4. Increase and develop facilities for indoor and active recreation.
5. Improve and expand community facilities including Public Works maintenance base, Community/Senior Center, Marina, and City Service Center.

6. Maintain the peace and security of the community by aggressively deterring criminal activity through proactive community based policing, urban design and effective prosecution and court system.
7. Continue fiscal strength by initiating long range fiscal and economic planning. and the only objective not explicitly included in the 1998 budget;
8. Update and rewrite zoning code and other land use implementation codes.

City Manager Olander requested that during review of the 1998 budget in the upcoming meetings, Council provide guidance on the following budget policy issues:

- General Fund Contribution to Municipal Capital Improvement.
- Referendum 47 - The referendum, if passed, allows a city council to increase the levy above the implicit price deflator by a majority plus one vote. A consequence of not authorizing a higher limit is that it would lower the basis for future calculations.
- Zoning Code Rewrite

At this point, Finance Director Hathaway began a review of the following departments: Executive, Personnel, Record Services, Finance, All City Communications and Printing, All City Buildings, Park and Recreation, Senior Services, Legal and Court, Engineering and Streets.

9:00 p.m. Mayor Thomasson declared a 10 minute break.

Finance Director Hathaway concluded his review with the Community Development Department.

City Manager Olander complimented the City's Department Directors for creatively bringing in a lean balanced budget. It was noted that Council will continue review of the preliminary budget at the November 13, 1997 meeting, and that a public hearing is scheduled for November 20th.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Mayor Thomasson announced that the next regular meeting will be November 13, 1997.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis Staab
City Clerk