REGULAR MEETING DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES November 7, 2002

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

ROLL CALL - Present: Mayor Don Wasson, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Benjamin, Councilmembers Bob Sheckler (left at 10:00 p.m.), Maggie Steenrod, Scott Thomasson and Susan White. Absent: Councilmember Gary Petersen (illness). Also present were City Manager Tony Piasecki, Assistant City Manager Corbitt Loch, City Attorney Linda Marousek, Finance Director Paula Henderson, Harbormaster Joe Dusenbury, Public Works Director Tim Heydon, Park and Recreation Director Patrice Thorell, Finance Manager Peggy Watson, Park Manager Bill Miller, Commander John O'Leary, Assistant City Engineers Maiya Andrews and Loren Reinhold, and Deputy City Clerk Angela Chaufty.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Sheckler, seconded by Councilmember Thomasson, and passed unanimously to excuse Councilmember Petersen from attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE to the Flag was led by Councilmember White.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Improvements to Midway Park

Mayor Wasson announced that he had invited members of the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) to address Council.

Park and Recreation Director Thorell asked ACORN representative Kay Sanchez and her neighbors to stand and be recognized.

Six people in the audience stood.

Park and Recreation Director Thorell informed Council that a meeting with the neighborhood residents had been held in August 2002. At the meeting, the residents had voiced concerns regarding safety issues, crime, drug use, and prostitution occurring at Midway Park. They asked that lighting, restrooms and a drinking fountain be added to the park.

Park Manager Miller described the Park department's maintenance schedule for Midway Park. In response to ACORN's concerns, Park Manager Miller said that a port-a-potty had been installed, the trees had been limbed to approximately 15 feet, and the shrubbery had been removed. An upgrade of the play equipment had been requested in the proposed 2003 budget and a drinking fountain was scheduled to be installed in the Spring. Park Manager Miller informed Council that he was working with Puget Sound Energy (PSE) to install 200-watt light poles in the park. The project would cost $1,840 per year. In addition, he said that he would like to replace or move one of the existing play structures.

Park and Recreation Director Thorell informed Council that the 2004 Capital Improvement Plan included a request for $65,000 to improve play equipment. She proposed that the improvements be funded through Community Development Block Grant funds.

Commander O'Leary spoke in support of improving the perimeter lighting of Midway Park. He said that increased interior lighting, however, could increase criminal activity in the area. Commander O'Leary reported that there had been nine calls for police service at the park since January 1, 2002.

Park Manager Miller said that he hoped to have the perimeter lighting negotiations with PSE completed within the month.

Upon questioning from Councilmember Thomasson, Public Works Director Heydon said that the City did not own any power poles in the vicinity of Midway Park. He said that he would work with the Parks staff to negotiate the cost of the lighting and poles.

Councilmember Thomasson asked staff to investigate leasing and purchasing options to determine the most cost efficient method.

Park Manager Miller explained that the eight-year contract with PSE included monthly charges of $7.22 per pole and $13.80 per light with aerial power. Two existing power poles would be utilized and four new power poles would be installed.

Councilmember Thomasson stressed that the project must comply with the City's undergrounding ordinance.

Ms. Sanchez informed Council that ACORN represented approximately 70 to 120 families in the area. She said that they had organized a program similar to a Block Watch for their neighborhood. Ms. Sanchez said that the residents would like another port-a-potty installed and a light placed in the southwest corner of the park.

Park Manager Miller confirmed that the southwest corner of the park would be lit. Upon questioning from Mayor Wasson, Park Manager Miller said that the last major budgeted project for Midway Park was the installation of an irrigation system in 1997.

Mayor Wasson recommended that Community Development Block Grant funds be distributed equitably between all parks in the City.

<u>Preliminary 2003 Budget</u>

City Manager Piasecki informed Council of the following deadlines for the 2003 budget process:

- 12/31/02 – 2003 Budget adoption.
- 11/14/02 – Public hearing conducted for proposed budget.
- 11/15/02 – Public hearing conducted for property tax ordinance.

Finance Manager Watson said that the proposed budget figures had been revised to reflect the latest Labor and Industry increases. She noted that Police rates had increased 82%, clerical rates had increased 46% and all other categories had increased 80%.

In regard to the proposed <u>Marina</u> budget, Harbormaster Dusenbury explained that an increase in fuel and moorage revenues was anticipated. He noted that the debt service for the projected bond sales was included in the budget. Harbormaster Dusenbury reviewed the proposed Marina

Administration and Service budgets. He noted that the service budget included a shared position with the Parks Division and the repair of "C" dock.

City Manager Piasecki said that the proposed budget reflected marina rates consistent with the formula established by the Des Moines Municipal Code.

Public Works Director Heydon reviewed the following proposed budgets:

<u>Surface Water Management – Engineering</u>

- 40% of the GIS/Planner position would be budgeted to SWM
- $45,000 had been budgeted for a rate and efficiency study.

  The rate study would review utility rates, permitting, inspection, and review requirements, and current costs. The efficiency study had been included in the budget upon direction from the Finance and Economic Development Committee.

<u>Surface Water Management – Maintenance</u>

- 25% of the Public Works Superintendent position had been transferred to SWM.

Upon questioning from Mayor Wasson, Assistant City Engineer Reinhold said that Association of Washington Cities was currently reviewing the requirements of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit as required under the Clean Water Act. He said that the City must submit a permit by March 2003.

In regard to the proposed rate and efficiency studies, City Manager Piasecki said that staff had typically allocated two-thirds of the collected SWM money to maintenance and engineering while the remaining one-third was for capital improvements. He said that the studies would insure that the rates were sufficiently covering the costs of needed capital improvements.

Finance Director Henderson displayed a chart of the City's <u>outstanding bonds and notes</u>. She showed a graph illustrating the City's projected <u>debt capacity</u> as of December 31, 2003.

Finance Manager Watson briefly reviewed the proposed <u>Equipment Rental – Operations</u> budget. Upon questioning from Councilmember Steenrod, Finance Manager Watson explained that the revenue collected from fuel sales was set aside to finance the replacement of the storage tanks.

Public Works Director Heydon said that the fuel sales' revenue also funded the computer equipment and pump replacement costs associated with the fuel system.

Finance Manager Watson said that the projected 2003 ending fund balance for the <u>Computer Operations</u> fund was $16,333. In regard to the <u>Self Insurance Fund</u>, Finance Manager Watson informed Council that Resolution 637 required the City Manager to assess all city departments with insurance costs in the amount of the annual estimated insurance cost plus 20%. She explained the formula established by Ordinance 879 used to determine the balance of the <u>Unemployment Compensation Fund</u>.

Finance Director Henderson explained that the <u>Revenue Stabilization Fund</u> was established by Ordinance 820 to provide a cumulative reserve for recessionary periods when City revenues may decrease. Economically sensitive revenues were identified as sales tax, building permits, sales tax equalization, vehicle fuel taxes, plan check fees, and interest earnings. She said that the current fund was funded at a 141% level.

City Manager Piasecki explained that if Council chose to remove sales tax equalization from the formula as it was no longer available to the City, the target amount for the fund would be lowered.

Councilmember Thomasson recommended that the 1997 Loan Receivable for Airport Defense be defeased and the true ending fund balance for the Revenue Stabilization Fund be reflected in the budget.

Finance Director Henderson briefly reviewed the proposed budgets of the <u>Facility Repair and Replacement</u> fund, <u>Equipment Rental Replacement</u> fund, and the <u>Computer Operations – Replacement</u>. She noted that no assessments or purchases were scheduled for 2003 for the Equipment Rental Replacement and Computer Operations- Replacement funds.

<u>Years 2003 – 2008 Capital Improvement Plan</u>

In order to clarify the specific projects, Councilmember Thomasson requested that a picture or map of every capital improvement project be included in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Finance Director Henderson reviewed the <u>Accounting Software Upgrade</u> request form. She said that software installation and training was scheduled for the second quarter of 2003. In response to Councilmember Steenrod's questioning, Finance Director Henderson said that she would see if a forecasting module was included with the software.

Assistant City Manager Loch explained that the <u>City Hall North Wing Facility Upgrade</u> project began a reserve in preparation for the upgrade of the electrical, noise insulation, flooring and HVAC system in the north wing of City Hall.

Park and Recreation Director Thorell said that the Ad Hoc Parks Recreation and Senior Services Master Plan Committee would be presenting their proposed master plan to Council in January. She then reviewed the <u>Des Moines Beach Park Facility Repairs</u> request form. Park and Recreation Director Thorell noted that the request included the allocation of $1,400,000 in 2005 for the repair of the Dining Hall and other buildings.

Councilmember Thomasson said that he was not comfortable with the 2005 project being listed in the CIP now as Council had not yet discussed or set policy on the issue. He said that the item should be removed until after the Master Plan process was complete.

Councilmember Steenrod asked that the CIP projects be numbered.

Park and Recreation Director Thorell reviewed the <u>Field House ADA Renovation</u> project. She explained that CDBG funds would be utilized to upgrade the electrical system, install new door hardware, replace drainage and walkways, and repair some of the log chinking.

In regard to the <u>Steven J. Underwood Memorial Park, Phase IB</u> project, Park and Recreation Director Thorell explained that the Community Center money had been reprogrammed to this project. The project included the installation of an additional baseball field and restrooms to complete the baseball complex and provide for tournament play at the park.

In response to Councilmember Steenrod's request for tournament revenue projections, Park and Recreation Director Thorell said that it would be difficult to project them for the first year as the park will have just opened.

At 9:04 p.m., Mayor Wasson declared a ten-minute break.

Park and Recreation Director Thorell briefly highlighted the Park and Recreation Master Plan and Woodmont Park Land Acquisition projects. She noted that the City had not yet met the acreage per capita threshold identified in the last Park Master Plan.

Councilmember Steenrod suggested that the $50,000 allocated to the land acquisition project might be better spent addressing ACORN's park concerns as significant work and money was needed for Woodmont Park. She said that the improvement to Woodmont Park would also require road improvements. Councilmember Steenrod recommended that signage be placed at the parks. She suggested that Council prioritize park needs.

Councilmember Thomasson said that the prioritization of park needs would involve the balancing of the improvements to existing parks with the acquisition of new park land.

Park and Recreation Director Thorell described the Play Equipment Repairs and Replacement request form.

Councilmember Thomasson recommended that the City enter into negotiations with the Highline School District to purchase the land of Zenith Park. He felt it was a higher priority to maintain an existing park than to purchase future park land. Councilmember Thomasson suggested that Council consider their policy regarding the replacement of play equipment.

Councilmember Steenrod said that community groups often donate or contribute toward play equipment while the City was responsible for obtaining park land.

Public Works Director Heydon informed Council that the outcome of Initiative 776 and Referendum 51 would greatly affect the Arterial Streets CIP. He referred Council to the project list displayed on page 44 of their packets.

Assistant City Engineer Andrews informed Council that the proposed budget for the arterial maintenance program had been reduced to $350,000. She said that the budgeted amount would not adequately maintain the city's roadways.

Councilmember Thomasson suggested that Council discuss the impact of GASB 34 during the Transportation Plan process.

Public Works Director Heydon said that the condition of the pavement had been evaluated but more data needed to be collected in order to complete the requirements of GASB 34.

Councilmember Thomasson noted that transportation impact fees could assist with the funding of arterial maintenance. He felt that streets were essential to government. Councilmember Thomasson said that Council might wish to allocate money to arterial street maintenance rather than to another project.

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin agreed that streets needed to remain a priority of the city. He noted that a drop in the streets' condition would make them more expensive to maintain.

Assistant City Engineer Andrews reviewed the following projects:

Neighborhood Traffic Control Program

Pacific Highway South Project

16th Avenue South Improvement (Phase 1)

- Construction of project moved to 2004 per Council's direction.
- "Other" funding source line item added.

Kent Des Moines Road – 16th Avenue South to 24th Avenue South

- Grant funding was being sought for the project.

Wesley Homes Pedestrian Signal

South 216th Street/24th Avenue South Traffic Signal

- Corners of rights-of-way would need to be purchased.
- Position of the signal equipment follows the recommendation of the Comprehensive Plan.
- A grant has been received for the construction phase of the project.

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin said that he would like to see a plan for pedestrian crossing on Marine View Drive. He said that drivers were not honoring crosswalks.

Mayor Wasson felt Marine View Drive should be a high priority for the Neighborhood Traffic Control Program.

Assistant City Engineer Andrews explained that Marine View Drive improvements would need to be covered through a different program as the area did not meet the criteria identified by the Neighborhood Traffic Control program.

At 10:00 p.m., Councilmember Sheckler left the meeting.

Public Works Director Heydon referred Council to the Surface Water Capital Fund project summary listed on Page 100 of the packet. He said that the Woodmont Culvert/Overflow project was the only new project proposed. Public Works Director Heydon said that the Des Moines Basin project would be affected by Referendum 51.

Due to the flooding problems on Kent Des Moines Road, Councilmember Steenrod suggested that the Kent Des Moines road project be moved to the Surface Water Management budget.

City Manager Piasecki explained that surface water management funds can only finance surface water management related projects.

Assistant City Engineer Reinhold briefly reviewed the 10th Avenue South Culvert Replacement and Intersection Improvement Project, the McSorley Creek Basin Plan, and the Barnes Creek Detention Facility/223rd Culvert Replacement Project. He noted that a Public Works Trust Fund Loan was proposed to fund the Barnes Creek Detention Facility/223rd Culvert Replacement project.

Mayor Wasson asked for a map of all the various creeks located in Des Moines.

Assistant City Engineer Reinhold informed Council that the request form for the Des Moines Creek Basin Project reflected 15% of the actual costs as the project is shared with other Des Moines Creek Basin Committee members.

Public Works Director Heydon confirmed that the City of SeaTac had requested water rights for the area. He confirmed that the SR509 extension committee has participated in the project and has financed a portion of the design work.

In regard to the Marine View Drive Bridge project, Public Works Director Heydon said that interlocals for the Des Moines Creek Basin Plan, its preliminary design, and the design work had been signed. An agreement for the construction of the project and its long term maintenance was still needed.

City Manager Piasecki confirmed that construction of the project would not begin until the agreement was signed.

Public Works Director Heydon informed Council that the plans for the project had been approved by all of the cities throughout the process. A maximum of $2,000,000 could be financed through the Public Works Trust Fund.

Mayor Wasson noted that Referendum 51 might affect the SR509 committee's contribution to the project.

Public Works Director Heydon said that the development of the plan and its preliminary design had already been completed.

NEXT MEETING DATE – Regular Meeting, November 14, 2002

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:29 p.m., **motion** was made by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin and seconded by Councilmember Thomasson to extend the meeting fifteen minutes. **VOTE ON MOTION**: Motion failed, 3 –2, with Councilmembers Steenrod and White opposed. *[Editor's Note: Motion to extend the meeting requires approval of three fourths of the Councilmembers who are present and eligible to vote.]*

At 10:30 p.m., the meeting expired.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Chaufty, Deputy City Clerk