

PRELIMINARY
REGULAR MEETING DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

December 5, 2002

The regular meeting of the Des Moines City Council was called to order by Mayor Wasson at 7:32 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 21630 11th Avenue South, Suite B.

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

ROLL CALL - Present: Mayor Don Wasson, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Benjamin, Councilmembers Maggie Steenrod, Scott Thomasson and Susan White. Absent: Councilmembers Gary Petersen and Bob Sheckler. Also present were City Manager Tony Piasecki, Assistant City Manager Corbitt Loch, City Attorney Linda Marousek, Public Works Director Tim Heydon, Assistant City Engineer Maiya Andrews, Harbormaster Joe Dusenbury, Finance Director Paula Henderson, Budget Account Peggy Watson and City Clerk Denis Staab.

MOTION was made by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, seconded by Councilmember White and passed unanimously, to excuse Councilmembers Petersen and Sheckler.

BOARD & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Economic Development Committee

Councilmember Steenrod reported that the Committee has been meeting weekly. She noted that at the next Council meeting Community Development Director Kilgore will have an item regarding economic development.

Mt. Rainier Pool Ad-hoc Committee

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin advised that a lot of progress has been made in the efforts to save the pool. Only a small portion of funding remains to be accomplished and should have a conclusion by next month.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Marina Bond Sale

City Manager Piasecki advised that the sale of the Marina Bonds was completed today, with funds received and invested.

Mt. Rainier Pool

City Manager Piasecki referenced a Seattle Times news article regarding Mt. Rainier Pool and a possible vote by the King County Council to transfer of ownership to "Northwest Center" at their December 16th meeting. He noted this was released as a public notice which is required should the County Council be ready to take action. He noted this will depend entirely on whether an agreement is ready with the Northwest Center.

Repairs to the Public Fishing Pier

In response to a request by Council for a second opinion, Harbormaster Dusenbury supplied Council with a letter from EISI Consulting Engineers summarizing their inspection and review of the repairs. He noted that after EISI reviewed the procedures, methods and materials that Reid

Middleton specified in the construction documents and review of the original plans for the pier, and has stated in their letter: "The methods observed are standard procedures for this type of work. In conclusion, the repair work being performed should restore the pile caps and pile to its design capacity." He proceeded to inform Council that he will begin preparation for a bid for additional work and if Council concurs will request Council's permission to spend the additional funds. In conclusion, he advised that it is not clear at this time what the insurance carriers will consider repairs and what will be considered an upgrade. He further stated that staff is requesting additional funds from FEMA to help cover the extra expenses.

CONSENT CALENDAR was read by City Clerk Staab.

1. Motion is to approve the minutes of November 14 and 21, 2002.
2. Draft Resolution No. 02-182 [ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 941] - Title: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Washington, relating to City reimbursement of street development costs, benefiting the City's developments of Steven J. Underwood Memorial Park, providing for payment of \$48,359.87 in Steven J. Underwood Memorial Park, Phase I, funds to G3 Holdings, LLC, doing business in Des Moines as Grakon International, Inc., as the City's share of reimbursement to Grakon for its street development costs that were required by the street standards of the City of Des Moines.

MOTION is to approve Draft Resolution No. 02-182.

3. Motion is to approve the Agreement between the City of Des Moines and Fire District No. 26 to provide fire protection and basic life support services to all real and personal properties owned by the City located in Fire District No. 26, and for additional services described in this Agreement, and to authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement substantially in the form as submitted.
4. Motion is to adopt Draft Resolution No. 02-236 **[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 942]**, adopting an agreement between the City of Des Moines and the Public, Professional & Office-Clerical Employees and Drivers Local Union No. 763 (Teamsters) regarding wages, hours and working conditions for the period December 1, 2002 to December 31, 2004 and approving the agreement resolving unfair labor practice charges and authorizing the City Manager to sign both documents substantially in the form as submitted.
5. Motion is to adopt Draft Resolution No. 02-268 **[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 943]** adopting an agreement between the City of Des Moines and the Des Moines Police Guild for the period January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2004, and authorizing the City Manager to sign the agreement substantially in the form as submitted.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Thomasson, seconded by Councilmember White, to approve the Consent Calendar as read. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

Draft Resolution No. 02-259 [ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 944] Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Mayor Wasson introduced the agenda item and declared the hearing open.

City Attorney Marousek read the rules for conducting the Public Hearing.

Public Works Director Heydon advised Council that the Council's Public Safety and Transportation Committee over the past two years has spent a great deal of time and effort to ensure a transportation plan that will work now, and for years into the future. He stated that the

Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) is the document which is used by Council, staff, citizens and other interested parties, to plan for the future needs of the City's core arterial system. This draft Plan contains an analysis of projected transportation needs out to the year 2020 based on the expected City and area wide growth. He advised that the Public Safety & Transportation Committee is recommending that the Plan as submitted be adopted by Council. He introduced Larry Toedtli, the City's consultant on the Plan from The Transpo Group, Inc.

Mr. Toedtli proceed to provide an overview of the scope and process used to prepare the Draft Plan being presented to Council tonight, highlighting the following:

Update Existing Conditions Inventory

- Traffic Volumes
- Intersection control & level of service
- Accident Rates
- Transit Service

Update Traffic Model

- Reflect existing land use data by transportation analysis zone
- Speed Limits, capacities & travel distances

Analyze Future Travel Conditions

- Inclusion/Exclusion of SR 509 Extension/South Airport Access Road & 14th-18th Ave. S. connection
- Transportation needs of proposed Pacific Ridge Redevelopment

Revised Transportation Improvement Projects & System Plan

- Major & minor roadway capacity improvements
- Traffic safety & operation improvements
- Construction of pedestrian & bicycle facilities
- Arterial maintenance
- Neighborhood traffic control
- Construction of sidewalks
- Transit service enhancements

Mr. Toedtli reviewed the projects and noted the following project cost summary for 2001-2020 would be:

\$112,763,500 - Total cost (Capital Projects & Non-capital needs)
\$ 5,638,175 - Cost per year

He proceeded to review existing revenue sources, potential revenue sources, and what is required to address the revenue shortfall. In conclusion, he noted one of the main strategies for a current financing plan would include developer traffic impact fees, which Council will be asked to approve.

Councilmember Steenrod requested a priority list be furnished to Council detailing the high, medium and low priority projects.

Upon questioning by Council, Public Works Director Heydon noted that he is confident that the data collected is up to date for use in preparation of the draft Plan.

Mr. Toedtli reminded Council that the 6 Year Transportation Plan will always allow Council a yearly look at current information and that projects will be implemented through this yearly update that Council is required to do.

City Manager Piasecki reminded Council that traffic patterns do not change that much year to year unless major changes have occurred to create such a change.

Councilmember Steenrod felt that the four year old information for Kent-Des Moines Road is not acceptable and suggested that new traffic counts be taken as she felt this could quickly and easily be accomplished. Assistant City Engineer Andrews commented that the engineering staff has very old equipment and that to accomplish a new count would be very expensive and time consuming.

Councilmember Steenrod stated that she felt it is important for staff to have the proper equipment to do their jobs. She requested that staff investigate the cost of a new traffic counter.

Councilmember Thomasson advised that the Comprehensive Transportation Plan is a roadmap to be used for planning future needs. He noted that one of the real corner stones to implement the Plan will be the impact fees that Council will be asked to approve next week.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ben Stark, 1310 South 230th

Mr. Stark commented that Kent-Des Moines Road traffic has gotten much worse and requested that the City conduct a new traffic count.

As there were no further comments from the public, Mayor Wasson CLOSED the Public Hearing.

MOTION was made by Councilmember White, seconded by Councilmember Thomasson, to adopt Draft Resolution No. 02-259.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Thomasson, seconded by Councilmember White, to amend the draft resolution to include language to repeal Resolution No. 921. Motion passed unanimously.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Motion passed unanimously.

8:47 p.m. Mayor Wasson called for a 10 minute break.

OLD BUSINESS

Continued Discussion: 2003 Budget Items

City Manager Piasecki noted that there are several Budget policy items Council still needs to address. Discussion and direction were as follows:

Human Services Budget - Leave as is, reallocate funds or increase overall level of funds?

Councilmember Steenrod requested Council add the “Reinvesting in Youth” to the Human Services Budget and reallocate funds to achieve this. She encouraged Council to consider this program as she feels this youth crime prevention program will save money down the road.

Gene Snyder, Des Moines Human Services Advisory Board Member, informed Council of the strict criteria requirements the Board uses in determining which services shall be recommended to the City Council for funding. Criteria used includes hours of operation, how many Des Moines citizens are served, as well as a formula to determine effectiveness of the services offered. He informed Council that members of the Board actually drop in to the various agencies unannounced. He noted that application forms are available to the human service agencies each year, and no timely request was received by the “Reinvesting in Youth” program.

Councilmember Thomasson voiced the opinion that the Human Services Advisory Board is a valuable committee that performs a great service that Councilmembers does not have the time to do. He would prefer to accept the Board’s recommendations.

Councilmember Steenrod acknowledged there are many struggling worthwhile organizations and rather than eliminating any of the recommended agencies she would prefer to reduce the funds to a few and add in the “Reinvesting in Youth” program.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Steenrod, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, to make the following changes to the Human Services Budget:

- Add \$1,000 to Pregnancy Aid

- Reduce Highline School Dist. - Community in Sch. by \$1,800

- Reduce Senior Services of South King County by \$1,000

- Reduce Auburn Youth Services by \$1,000

- Add the “Reinvesting In Youth Program and fund with \$2,800

Motion passed 3 to 2 with Councilmember Thomasson and Mayor Wasson voting NO.

Move the Funds for the Historical society’s rent to all City Buildings budget?

Yes.

Does Council want to budget funds to join the Economic Development Council (EDC) \$2,960.00

Councilmember Thomasson spoke in opposition to joining the EDC. He noted that they support the 3rd runway effort and spending City funds to join would be sending a mixed message.

Councilmember Steenrod spoke in support of joining EDC. She felt this group will help increase the City’s ability to promote economic development

Councilmember White voiced agreement with Councilmember Thomasson.

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin noted that the 3rd runway is only one of many activities that the EDC is involved in. He believes that with Des Moines budget shortfall, it is critical to develop economic development and if through this group only one large new business is located in Des Moines, it would more than pay for the dues. He noted that he does not want the 3rd runway, but Des Moines needs the help EDC may give.

MOTION was made by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, seconded by Councilmember Steenrod, to join the Economic Development Council for the year 2003. Motion passed 3 to 2 with Councilmembers Thomasson and White voting NO.

Does Council want to allocate an additional \$50,000 now to Airport Defense, or wait until ACC determines it needs this level of funding mid-year?

Councilmember Thomasson noted that the City has entered into an agreement with ACC and he would prefer to budget the \$200,000, and perhaps release the \$150,000 immediately and release the remaining \$50,000 based upon ACC's needs.

City Manager Piasecki advised that the City could budget the \$200,000 with the agreement stipulating the \$150,000 would be released immediately, with the remaining amount to be released based upon what their actual expenditures are and what they need the additional funding for.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Thomasson, seconded by Councilmember White, to allocate \$200,000 to ACC in the Budget, but control the expenditures through the Interlocal Agreement.

Councilmember Steenrod noted she has no problem with the \$150,000, however expressed concern with some of the expenses other than legal ones. She noted that she would need to see some justification for any funds above the \$150,000 to ensure the money is being spent wisely.

Councilmember Thomasson advised that since Des Moines is part of the ACC we have a voice and influence how money is spent, and should remain active in how funds are used.

VOTE ON MOTION: Motion FAILED 3 to 2 with Councilmembers Thomasson and White voting yes.

Does Council want to allocate funds for efficiency studies in one or more department budgets?

City Manager Piasecki advised that various departments have determined that such studies would run between \$5,000 to \$15,000, with the exception of Surface Water Management, which was estimated at \$45,000 which would include a rate study. He advised that he has placed money in the budget for the rate study as this has not been done for several years and is long overdue.

Councilmember Thomasson voiced the opinion that it is important to do a SWM rate study annually, but questioned what, if anything, the City would gain with any efficiency studies.

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin felt there are areas that could be more efficient particularly when Parks, Public Works and Marina employees are all doing landscaping in one form or another. He felt this is one area where consolidation could be more efficient.

Councilmember Steenrod noted that she felt it would be wiser to allocate funds between \$15 to \$20 thousand each year to begin an efficiency study review of a different department each year.

City Manager Piasecki noted that one area where an efficiency study may show cost savings would be Community Development permitting procedures.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Steenrod, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, to allocate \$45,000 for a SWM rate study and up to \$15,000 for review of the permitting process for Community Development Department. This additional funding is to come from the Revenue Stabilization Fund.

The following **FRIENDLY AMENDMENT** was made by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin and accepted, to amend the motion to add looking at specific parts of Parks, Recreation and Street Maintenance, which would include all City maintenance.

Councilmember Thomasson noted that staff has already spent hours reviewing consolidation of services and cost savings, therefore he does not feel paying a consultant to duplicate the effort would be cost effective. He also advised that most stumbling blocks in regards to permitting are those items that the applicant does not want to do.

Upon questioning by Council, City Manager Piasecki confirmed that staff has reviewed and consolidated some services, has reduced janitorial costs, and took a look at the landscape maintenance function and will combine some of the Park and Marina functions as there was some overlap. Parks and Public Works were also looked at and it was determined that there really was not any costs savings that could be realized because of the different functions that the two departments perform such as working in the street right-of-way versus parks.

Councilmember Thomasson stated that he believed that the Revenue Stabilization Fund was going to be able to carry the City through the next four years, however if Council keeps spending those funds, i.e. Mt. Rainier Pool, he does not feel there will be funds to pay for police services in two years.

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin felt that to have a professional specialist look at how the departments are functioning will save the City money in the long run and the dollar investment is worth it.

VOTE ON MOTION: Motion passed 3 to 2 with Councilmembers Thomasson and White voting NO.

Does Council want to leave the balance of the Revenue Stabilization Fund at \$1.4 million or move \$400,000 into the General Fund Balance?

MOTION was made by Councilmember Thomasson, seconded by Councilmember Steenrod and passed unanimously, to leave the balance of the Revenue Stabilization Fund at \$1.4 million.

Does Council want to consider a hotel/motel tax?

City Manager Piasecki noted if Council institutes such a tax, revenue is expected to be \$18-20 thousand a year. He advised this revenue is limited to funding activities aimed at increasing/supporting tourism. He further noted that a board, that must include representatives of the hotel/motel industry, would need to be established to oversee these funds.

Council consensus was more information needs to be gathered before making such a determination. City Manager Piasecki stated he will research this item and bring the information back to Council at a later meeting.

Does council want to set aside any funding or make cuts now to deal with the potential impacts of I-790 (and if so which option does Council want to consider), or wait until further analysis is complete?

Council's consensus was to wait and see, while acknowledging there may be a need to make more cuts.

With the passage of I-776, Des Moines stands to lose approximately \$270,000 in vehicle registration revenue. Does the Council want to make changes to the budget now to remove this funding from the Arterial Streets budget, move funds from another source into this budget, or wait until more is known?

Councilmember Thomasson felt that Council should budget that the funds will not be there. He also noted that he is not pleased with having the resurfacing program stricken from the CIP. He advised that when Council reviews the CIP next week he has a list of items that he will address and that will impact transfers to the Arterial Street Fund.

10:29 p.m. **MOTION** was made by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, seconded by Councilmember White and passed unanimously, to extend the meeting 10 additional minutes.

How does Council want to deal with the expected average increase of 63% in 2003 for the L&I premiums?

City Manager Piasecki advised that this has already been budgeted for. Upon questioning by Council, City Manager Piasecki advised that Des Moines' has had a couple of significant injuries over the last few years which has increased the L&I higher than the average state wide. He noted that the City has a very active employee safety & accident inquiry board, and they types of injuries that happened had nothing to do with employee training, but were unfortunate accidents.

Capital Budget Priorities

City Manager Piasecki announced that this item will be handled next week.

Airport Defense Fund Loan - Does Council want to "forgive" the loans to the Airport Defense Fund?

City Manager Piasecki noted that the amount owed to the Revenue Stabilization Fund is \$353,646 and \$70,000 to the General Fund. He noted that there is sufficient funds in the Airport Defense Fund to pay back the \$70,000 to the General Fund and pay the Revenue Stabilization Fund \$175,000, leaving a balance of around \$170,000 due.

Consensus was to "repay" the loan and then transfer money back as a separate action.

Finance Director Henderson reminded Council that this is an accounting entry, and by forgiving the loan, we would fix the deficit and there would be no need to transfer any real cash.

Upon concurrence of Council, City Manager Piasecki advised that he will have the appropriate resolution or ordinance for Council consideration to forgive the remaining balance.

Support for Transportation Projects

City Manager Piasecki advised that it is recommended that another civil engineer be authorized for at least the next two years to provide support to the City's transportation efforts.

Council's consensus was to approve the recommendation provided it is well documented that this is a temporary position through specific projects only.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Mayor Wasson announced that the next regular meeting will be December 12, 2002.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m. as time expired.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis Staab
City Clerk