

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

June 1, 1997

The special meeting of the Des Moines City Council was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Mayor Thomasson at the Enzian Motor Inn, 590 Highway 2, Leavenworth, Washington.

ROLL CALL - Present: Mayor Scott Thomasson, Mayor Pro Tem Terry Brazil, Councilmembers Bruce Roberts, Bob Sheckler, Dan Sherman, Gary Towe, and Don Wasson. Also present were City Manager Bob Olander, Assistant City Manager Tony Piasecki, City Attorney Gary McLean, Community Development Director Judith Kilgore, Chief of Police Don Obermiller, Park and Recreation Director Patrice Thorell, Finance Director Jim Hathaway, Public Works Director Tim Heydon, Harbormaster Joe Dusenbury, and Deputy City Clerk Angela Chaufy. Facilitator: Nancy Truitt Pierce.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Review of Revised Strategic Objectives

Council reviewed and approved the following revised strategic objectives:

Objective #4

Increase and develop facilities for active recreation.

- Explore city-school joint use and field improvements.
- Explore possible property acquisition and long range development for sports fields.

Objective #6

Improve and expand community facilities including Public Works maintenance base, Community/Senior Center, Marina, and City Service Center.

Objective #7

Maintain the peace and security of the community by aggressively deterring criminal activity through community based policing, urban design, and effective prosecution and court systems.

New Objective

Update and rewrite zoning and other land use implementation codes.

View Preservation

Councilmember Sherman noted that recent testimony regarding view preservation had been submitted to Council. He questioned whether Council was interested in developing an ordinance that would protect the people who had already built on their residential property to a height of 25 feet and would apply to permanent structures only.

After discussing the legalities and enforcement difficulties of such an ordinance, Council concurred to not direct staff to draft a view preservation ordinance.

Modernizing of City Hall

Mayor Pro Tem Brazil suggested that technology be used to improve communication between councilmembers and City Hall. He also suggested that office space at City Hall be set aside for council use.

City Manager Olander informed Council that external E-mail is currently being connected and will be available for councilmembers. He noted that some cities provide computer equipment to councilmembers on a loan basis.

After brief discussion, council concurred that the city should not provide computer equipment to councilmembers on a loan basis.

City Manager Olander noted that a desk area could be provided for council's use. He also stated that the conference room was available for meetings.

City Council Review Process

Councilmember Wasson questioned whether Council was interested in setting aside an annual time to review the effectiveness of their process.

Council concurred to review their process biannually at the mini retreat.

Prioritization of Identified Actions

Council prioritized the identified actions as followed:

1. Prepare Comprehensive Plan for Pacific Highway South.
2. Develop low cost options to provide more sports facilities (i.e. - school partnerships).
3. Update Transportation Plan (Impact Fees)
4. Study utility services.

Review of Successes

Council and staff identified the following successes:

- Cooperation and approachability of all;
- Very good Council;
- Cohesive, respectful Council;
- Positive working relationships;
- Staff provides solid answers;
- Staff's level of community activities and service;
- High quality of staff's work;
- No hidden agendas;
- Ability to move on after a vote;
- Respect for Council and their opinions;
- Involvement of all as stewards of the community.
- Concern for Des Moines and its future;
- Progress in City.
- Good job in moving from little city to bigger city.
- Ability to retain small town responsiveness despite city size.
- Knowledgeable and challenging Council.

- Long term decision making.
- Team atmosphere.
- Functional staff and Council.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Chaufty
Deputy City Clerk