REGULAR MEETING DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES October 25, 2001

At 7:25 p.m., the City Attorney announced that the City Council would remain in executive session for approximately ten minutes longer.

The regular meeting of the Des Moines City Council was called to order at 7:43 p.m. by Mayor Thomasson in the Council Chambers, 21630 11th Avenue South, Suite B.

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

ROLL CALL – Present: Mayor Scott Thomasson, Councilmembers Terry Brazil, Dave Kaplan, Dan Sherman, Gary Towe, and Don Wasson. Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Bob Sheckler (illness). Also present were City Manager Bob Olander, Assistant City Manager Tony Piasecki, City Attorney Gary McLean, Finance Director Scott McCarty, Chief of Police Don Obermiller, Commanders Kevin Tucker and John O'Leary, Harbormaster Joe Dusenbury, Public Works Director Tim Heydon, Senior Planner Robert Ruth, Assistant Planner Celeste Carlson, , Court Services Manager Jennefer Hensen, Judge Colleen Hartl, and Deputy City Clerk Angela Chaufty.

**MOTION** was made by Councilmember Brazil, seconded by Councilmember Kaplan and passed unanimously to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Sheckler from attendance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Patti Brumfield, 22923 23rd Place South

Ms. Brumfield asked Council to address the drug activity problem that was occurring in her neighborhood. She noted that three schools were within four blocks of her residence. Ms. Brumfield said that she had contacted the Police Department about the issue but had not received any response.

Matt Brumfield, 22923 23rd Place South

Mr. Brumfield reiterated the previous speaker's comments.

Chief Obermiller arranged to meet with Ms. and Mr. Brumfield to discuss their concerns in detail.

CONSENT CALENDAR was read by Deputy City Clerk Chaufty.

1. Motion is to approve the minutes of October 11, 2001.
2. Findings: Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.080, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the City Council.

Motion: As of this date the Des Moines City Council, by unanimous vote, does approve for payment those vouchers and payroll transfers included in the above list and further described as follows:

Claim check #78384 through #78580 in the total amount of $475,740.20
Payroll fund transfers in the total amount of $274,671.32

**MOTION** was made by Councilmember Kaplan, seconded by Councilmember Sherman, and approved unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar as read.

OLD BUSINESS

Draft Resolution No. 01-159 ***[Assigned Res. No. 917]*** Preliminary Plat "Mediterranean Heights" - Single Family, 13 Lots

Mayor Thomasson introduced the subject.

Assistant Planner Carlson reported that a public hearing for the plat was conducted on September 13, 2001. In response to Council's concerns voiced at the hearing, Assistant Planner noted that the following revisions to the plat were proposed:

1. The internal street was aligned with 13th Avenue South.
2. The detention vault design was moved to new area.
3. Park, wetland, and storm site was designed as one integrated feature.

Assistant Planner Carlson clarified that the covenant would be placed on the face of the final plat and would run with the land. She explained that the City would be responsible for the maintenance of the streets, detention pond, and wetland and park areas. Assistant Planner Carlson voiced staff's recommendation that any portion of the wall over six feet in height be terraced. In closing, she explained that all internal utilities would be underground.

Senior Planner Ruth explained that the proposed motion would bring all the necessary documents into agreement.

**MOTION** was made by Councilmember Sherman and seconded by Councilmember Towe to adopt Draft Resolution No. 01-159 approving the proposed Mediterranean Heights preliminary subdivision, conditions of approval, environmental mitigation agreement, and findings of fact.

Mayor Thomasson read the title of the proposed resolution.

**MOTION** was made by Mayor Thomasson, seconded by Councilmember Towe and passed unanimously to amend Section 3(1) of Draft Resolution No. 01-159 to state "The preliminary plat shall be consistent with the environmental mitigation agreement in Exhibit 2, attached hereto and incorporated by this reference; except that Mitigation Item 3 shall be updated to read as follows: The Developer shall submit to city staff for review and approval detailed plans for surface improvements and construct and maintain the surface improvements for the tract containing the proposed underground drainage vault. The Developer shall also dedicate the proposed park/open drainage tract to the city for future operation and maintenance. Notations shall be placed on the final plat specifying the purpose, ownership and maintenance of all tracts and common areas."

Councilmember Kaplan said that he was glad Council's concerns had been addressed but recognized that it will add to the expenses of the developer.

Councilmember Sherman voiced support for the plat and felt that the changes would result in a better long-term project for the City.

**VOTE ON MOTION**: Motion passed unanimously.

2002 Preliminary Budget - Continued Department Reviews

Finance Director McCarty led Council in a review of the proposed 2002 budgets for the following funds and departments:

**Judicial** – Expenditures increased due to a 5% increase in public defender and interpreter costs.
**Legal**
**Jail Services** – Expenditures increased due to a 10% King County rate increase of booking and daily maintenance fees.
**Grant Control**
**Police Administration** – Expenditures increased due to the addition of four Records Specialists to allow for 24-hour operation of the Police Station and increased dispatch fees.

In response to Councilmember Sherman's questioning, City Manager Olander informed Council that the City had researched a few years ago the possibility of contracting for court services. He reported that the study indicated that contracted court services would be more expensive for the City. He also noted that the City would lose its ability to control police overtime expenses due to court appearances.

Councilmember Kaplan suggested that a letter be sent to the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office and to the King County Executive and Council asking them to shift the emphasis from the civil division to the criminal division.

In regard to the jail services budget, City Attorney McLean explained that 25% of the individuals were held in jail due to pre-trial holds, 72% were held due to commitments, and 3% were held due to investigative requirements.

City Manager Olander explained that the majority of King County's jail costs were fixed. He noted that the Jail Services Negotiating Team, of which the City was a part, was encouraging the study of alternatives to jail time.

Councilmember Towe asked that a discussion regarding jail services' policies, direction, options and costs be conducted at a later meeting.

In response to Councilmember Wasson's questioning, City Attorney McLean explained that state law did not allow for a private firm to provide jail services.

In regard to the grants, Commander Tucker explained that the US Department of Justice Grant for bulletproof vests would provide for one half of their costs. He noted that the Mobile Data Equipment grant would allow for the purchase of thirteen mobile data computers for the police vehicles.

In regard to the increased dispatch fees, Commander Tucker explained that Valleycom had redefined their fees to reflect their actual workload. As alternatives to the rising dispatch fees, Commander Tucker said the City could choose to apply for joint ownership of ValleyCom or they could open their own dispatch center. He estimated the start up capital required for establishing a dispatch center to be $2,500,000 and its annual operating budget to be $1,000,000. He also noted that an additional $1,000,000 would be required every eight to ten years for the replacement of equipment. He felt that ValleyCom provided an advantage to the department as they had access to the neighboring communities' frequencies and could offer a quick back-up response when needed.

Mayor Thomasson voiced support for initiating conversations with ValleyCom regarding ownership in the program. He suggested that Fire District No. 26 might be interested in joining with the City in the discussions.

At 9:05 p.m, Mayor Thomasson declared a ten-minute break.

Finance Director McCarty continued review of the following proposed departmental budgets:

**Detectives**
**Patrol** – Includes purchase of six video cameras for the police vehicles, two MGZ vehicle radios and two strobe kits.
**Traffic Unit**
**Animal Control**
**Drug Seizure**
**Public Works Engineering Services**
**Public Works Street Maintenance** – Expenditures increased due to the cost of electricity and the maintenance of city streetlights and traffic signals.

Commander O'Leary listed shift coverage ($40,833), Special Emphasis ($33,426), End of Shift/Excessive Work ($28,300), and Special Details ($16,000) as the primary contributors to patrol overtime. He explained that each officer was required to participate in approximately 54 hours of specific training each year.

Chief Obermiller confirmed that the police department had met the Council's identified ratio target of one police officer per 670 citizens.

In regard to the Traffic Unit, Commander Tucker noted that the officers had concentrated on high traffic complaint areas such as North Hill, Redondo, Kent-Des Moines Road, and the Retirement Home areas. He said that the number of traffic related complaints had dropped since the unit had become operational. Commander Tucker explained that the Traffic Unit was responsible for traffic, DUI enforcement, traffic schools, accident investigation and disabled vehicle removal.

In response to Mayor Thomasson's questioning, Finance Director McCarty explained that the following factors impacted the financial analysis of the Traffic Unit:

- Number of citations issued
- Traffic unit hours worked
- Citations issued per hour
- Citation status (accounts receivable)
- Amount paid per citation issued

He said that the last two factors were difficult to determine due to the varied payment schedules.

City Manager Olander noted that the Traffic Unit had not been fully operational all year. He felt that more time was needed to determine whether staff's financial assumptions were accurate.

City Attorney McLean explained that state law determined the fees for certain offenses. Only a mitigation hearing could result in a lower cost for an offense.

Councilmember Towe felt that the traffic unit revenue should cover the costs associated with traffic stops.

Chief Obermiller stressed the importance of encouraging officer discretion during traffic stops.

Councilmember Kaplan questioned whether the dispatch fee could be added to the citation fee.

City Attorney McLean said that he would research the question.

Commander Tucker mentioned that ValleyCom was researching whether traffic unit calls required the full dispatch fee.

Councilmember Sherman reiterated that the purpose of the Police Department was to provide safety. He felt that the department should continue to work to improve efficiencies while maintaining safety.

Upon questioning from Councilmember Sherman, Commander O'Leary reported that the Police Department had been in daily communication with King County and Fire District No. 26's emergency response centers since September 11, 2001. He noted that a protocol regarding how to respond to Anthrax related calls was being developed. He said that Des Moines had not received any specific, viable threats.

City Manager Olander noted that the proposed budget included the purchase of some repeating stations to improve communication between Park, Public Works, and other city departments. He said that City staff would be meeting with other jurisdictions next week to discuss bio-terrorism response.

In regard to the Street Maintenance budget, Public Works Director Heydon explained that the street overlay schedule would be discussed during review of the proposed Capital Improvement Plan.

Finance Director McCarty then led Council in a review of the proposed Marina budget. He displayed graphs of the 2002 Marina Net Revenue before Debt Service and of the Marina Revenue Fund. In the context of the master plan, Finance Director McCarty noted that the bond covenants had been met and fully covered.

Harbormaster Dusenbury explained that the proposed Marina Repair and Replacement Fund budget included piling replacement on D dock.

Finance Director McCarty briefly reviewed the Marina Depreciation and Improvement Fund Year 2002 Projections. In reference to the Marina Master Plan, he explained that the City planned to do four different project at different phases and at different levels. He noted that grants would be applied for to support those expenditures. He said that the City planned to issue approximately $4,000,000 in bonds to cover the land purchase and the costs associated with the 2002 – 2005 Master Plan improvements.

Harbormaster Dusenbury said that the Municipal Facilities Committee would review the dry stack boat storage plan next week. He noted that the following four Master Plan Projects were scheduled for 2002:

- Dry Stack Storage Construction
- Electrical Upgrades on M and N docks
- Redondo design and permitting work
- Expanded guest moorage design and permitting.

Finance Director McCarty stated that the current bond market was favorable.

City Manager Olander noted that the Master Plan was tracking with its model to handle debt service. He said that there were no major changes proposed for the operational side of the Marina budget.

Finance Director McCarty noted that a budget process calendar had been distributed to Council.

In response to Mayor Thomasson's question, City Manager Olander explained that the business license fees would be reviewed during the November 15, 2001 meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE - Study Session November 1, 2001

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Chaufty
Deputy City Clerk