

Des Moines City Council PS&T Committee Minutes – 03/03/11

Meeting called to order: 6:09 PM on March 3, 2011, in North Conference Room @ 21630 11th Avenue So., Des Moines WA 98198

Council Members

Dave Kaplan - Chairman & Mayor Pro Tem
Scott Thomasson - Councilmember
Matt Pina – Councilmember

City Staff

Tony Piasecki - City Manager
Lorri Ericson – Asst. City Manager
John O’Leary – Interim Police Chief
Dan Brewer – Asst. Dir. Transportation Engineer
Brandon Carver – Assoc. Transportation Engineer
Paula Henderson – Finance Director
Tim George – Assistant City Attorney
Jennefer Johnson – Court Administrator
Terryann Dell – Office Manager

AGENDA:

1. Approve Minutes 10/07/10 and 11/04/10 (previously sent via email)
2. Update School Zone Cameras – John O’Leary
3. Update Police Technology – John O’Leary
4. Update Transportation Capital Improvement Program – Dan Brewer
5. Current Projects Update – Dan Brewer
 - S. 216 MVD 11th
 - N. Twin Bridge
 - Gateway
 - S. 250th water line break/paving: Completed 2010

MEETING:

Chairman Kaplan had not arrived by the start time of the meeting and at 6:09 pm, Vice Chair Thomasson began the meeting.

1. Approve Minutes 10/07/10 and 11/04/10 (previously sent via email)

There were no proposed changes to these minutes. A motion was made to accept the minutes and the council members were all in favor.

2. Update School Zone Cameras: Interim Chief O’Leary advised there had been changes made since the last time the PS&T Committee had reviewed it. He passed out an informational sheet to all present.

One of the concerns voiced was about the amount of time between when the infraction occurred, the review by an officer and the issuance of the infraction. There was also a concern this would create a time commitment the department would be unable to complete. The response was the time impact would be about 1 to 1.5 hours per day. Obviously it would be higher at first and would lessen as commuters became aware of the enforcement. City Manager Piasecki asked if it had to be a commissioned officer that completed the review or could it be a community service officer. Assistant City Attorney George replied it had to be a commissioned officer.

It was then asked how an infraction issued in this manner would compare to an infraction issued by an officer for how the money would be divided. If the infraction is written under a state code, the money is

divided among several different pots. We only get 36.47% of the fine which equates to \$69.00. If the infraction is written under a municipal code, we would keep the entire \$189.00 fine. Councilman Pina asked what portion of the money the vendor gets. The vendor gets a base monthly flat fee of \$4,750 per camera per month. There is a clause in the contract stating if you don't write a certain number of cites, the amount changes on a sliding scale. A minimum of 2.5 tickets per day would cover the monthly base fees.

Councilman Pina asked how the fees compare to the cost of an officer doing the enforcement. It was responded that officers can only write a certain number of citations during the times the lights are flashing due to the amount of time involved for each traffic stop. The camera can "write" for each infraction while the lights are flashing.

Assistant City Attorney George informed the committee of some new house bills that are restricting the use of camera enforcement. He passed out a sheet that explained the 3 proposed house bills. He stated HB 1098 and 1099 did not make it out of committee, but HB 1279 is moving forward.

The committee then talked about the placement of the equipment. Asst. Dir. Transportation Engineer Dan Brewer recommended to the committee that the first installation of cameras be on 16th Avenue by Woodmont Elementary because the lights are already installed. The installation of cameras on 16th would occur during the first half of 2011. The City has secured a grant to pay for a portion of the installation of flashing school zone lights on 24th Avenue. Court Administrator Jennefer Johnson asked the committee to start with only one enforcement location so it doesn't inundate the court. Assoc. Transportation Engineer Brandon Carver stated due to cost, we would be trying solar powered equipment. He does have some reservations and is going to see it in action at another location prior to installing it here. They are starting to run basic conduit in case the solar equipment doesn't work out. Chairman Kaplan stated we would need to bring it to full council before we make that decision. Councilman Thomasson pointed out it ended up in the CIP and City Manager Piasecki stated that was just for the flashing lights and not cameras. Even if we don't decide to put a camera down there, the flashing lights will make people more aware the kids are there. Councilman Pina asked if the vendor would only conduct one pilot program at a time. City Manager Piasecki answered he would have staff ask the vendor if they would do a pilot program in more than one location. He also stated he would get council a copy of the contract so they can answer some of these questions. Interim Chief O'Leary asked if council was considering piggy backing another municipality's contract. Assistant City Attorney George stated we could to that or go out to bid. But there might be problems if another company comes in under bid and we up having to go with them. Chairman Kaplan stated it made more sense to piggy back another municipality's contract. Interim Chief O'Leary asked if the committee wanted the vendor to come in and give a presentation. The committee felt that was a good idea as it would help answer questions. In addition, having it recorded and shown on Channel 21 would give our citizens an opportunity to see it as well. Hopefully, that would throw out any misconceptions. City Manager Piasecki said he would talk with everyone about pulling information together and it will come to full council in about a month.

3. Police Technology Update: Interim Chief O'Leary passed out a document describing each item.

Item #1 – Re-banding of Valley Com's 800 MegaHertz System – This is being done because of signal strength issues. Re-banding will pay for radios that are too old to be updated. 70% of our radios are programmable, 30% are not. This project includes both vehicle radios and portable radios. It was asked what our cost for this project was going to be and it is only the amount time needed to identify the radios that need replacing. For those that do need replacing, Nextel will absorb those costs. Councilman Thomasson asked if this project included the public works radios and it does not.

Item #2 – **Tri County Intra-Operability Radio System** – This project is fairly new and is being led by Valley Com and other regional Public Safety Communication Centers. It would be very beneficial for events such as an earthquake or other emergency management situations or for a more localized event such as a mall shooting. Interim Chief O’Leary anticipates this will come to fruition in about 10 years.

Item #3 – **VCC HAWC Project** – This project involved removing the radio modems from the patrol vehicles and replacing them with air cards. This new connectivity allows for encryption standards to be met and allows officers to receive information in the vehicles much quicker than before. We have completed this project and did so ahead of deadlines required by Valley Com.

Item #4 – **Valley Com CAD Upgrade** – This project is well underway and is expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2012.

Item #5 – **School Mapping Project** – This is a state wide program funded by WASPC to map out each public school (K-12) with pre-programmed response plans in the event of a critical event. The WASPC funding for this project has run out but we have made alternative plans to complete the project in the next couple months. Committee members asked if this included private schools, such as St. Philomena’s or Highline Community College. Interim Chief O’Leary stated the project did not include them. With the head start and GED classes going on at the college, it was wondered if that would make them eligible. Unfortunately, even if it did, the funding is no longer available through WASPC. It was asked who did the work and how was it done? The completed schools were done by school security, fire department, Valley Com, our GIS person, and the police department. It was then asked if we and the fire department could do the remaining schools? What if we went to the private schools and started the conversation with them? Engage the schools rather than put the entire burden for this on our city staff.

✓ **Interim Chief agreed talking with the college would be a good starting point for expanding this project.**

Item #6 – **Video** – The video system within the police department facility needs an upgrade. Currently none of the station video is recorded. Critical areas such as the lobby, parking lot, booking area and prisoner transport area should be recorded but are not. We have tried to put this in our department’s budget several times and it has never moved forward. Costs to upgrade the system would be approximately \$70,000.

In addition to the video system in the building, there is an issue with the in-car video cameras currently in use in the patrol vehicles. There is no inter-fund established for those cameras and at some point they will need replacing to the cost of \$5,000 per camera. Councilman Thomasson stated we should be budgeting for the entire police vehicle, not just certain parts.

When asked where the figures came from for these two issues, Interim Chief O’Leary stated it was from bids received approximately 3 years ago. It was suggested with the advancements in technology, we should do another bid to see if the figures come in lower.

✓ **Interim Chief O’Leary will be speaking with IT Manager Dale Southwick regarding these issues and obtaining a more current bid.**

4. **Transportation CIP:** Finance Director Paula Henderson handed out a spreadsheet entitled “Trans Capitol Improvement Funds’ Cashflow”. The concern is trying to keep this fund in a positives situation. Right now, we’re approaching negative in the fund. When the SCORE Escrow Funds come in, we will be back in the black. If that comes through, we will be fine. If it doesn’t, we will need to ask council to do an inter-fund loan. The Equipment Rental Replacement Fund has about \$349,000 which

we could borrow from. The committee discussed property tax not coming in and how sales tax was up 1.4%. Chairman Kaplan stated at some point we need a conversation about what gets done and what doesn't.

5. Current Projects Update:

Item #1 – **Transportation Gateway** – Asst. Dir. Transportation Engineer Dan Brewer passed out a document outlining current projects and went through each of the Transportation Gateway projects giving committee members an update on its status.

S. 216th Street, Segment 1a: During this discussion, he passed out a flyer advertising Bartell Drugs at 216th / Pacific Highway as being for sale. It was asked what we'd learned about the gas station on the northwest corner. Can we purchase it for our project? It doesn't make any sense to purchase the entire property as we only need a slice of it in order to expand the right of way. Plus it could be expensive if we buy the whole property due to possible cleanup costs for the gasoline tanks.

Item #2 – **Sound Transit** - Asst. Dir. Transportation Engineer Dan Brewer passed out a flyer for Sound Transit that talks about extending link light rail from SeaTac Airport to South 200th he obtained at a recent Sound Transit extension meeting. There were a lot of Des Moines North Hill residents at this meeting. At the meeting they attended, they learned Sound Transit is looking at putting a parking garage for 600-700 vehicles at South 200th Street. Asst. Dir. Transportation Engineer Dan Brewer feels the Sound Transit planners are making decisions and not including us. Chairman Kaplan stated they are required to take into consideration our Growth Management Plan. Asst. Dir. Transportation Engineer Dan Brewer agreed and stated he has requested to be a party of record on any information regarding the Sound Transit expansion. He did get to meet Cindy Baker from SeaTac and hopes we can work with her to keep better informed. He feels we need to have a meeting with Joanie Earl and Sound Transit and find out what's going on that may affect us.

Item #3 – **Midway School Zone Flasher** – This subject had already been discussed previously, but the committee did ask a few more questions. In response to how we picked the vendor, Assoc. Transportation Engineer Brandon Carver stated we called other cities and went with the vendor that got the highest marks. It was also asked how this system will accommodate an early dismissal at the school and Asst. Dir. Transportation Engineer Dan Brewer responded we can get the school's schedule and program it into the system.

Item #3 – **North Twin Bridges** - Asst. Dir. Transportation Engineer Dan Brewer stated there are contract deficiencies and he will have an agenda item coming to them next week regarding this. The sub-contractor is submitting thing for review that are not complete. Chairman Kaplan asked if we had budgeted a certain amount for this project. Asst. Dir. Transportation Engineer Dan Brewer stated so far, budget is not the issue, the issue is the contractor. This project is funded 100% by the state BRAC money. We will be tracking and submitting liquidated damages.

There are disputes on all 4 drill shafts over issues with entitlement. There have been changes in conditions such as higher costs to drill, etc. If we can't resolve these issues, we will end up in front of a DRB or in court. Asst. Dir. Transportation Engineer Dan Brewer will let you know before that occurs.

Adjourned 7:34 PM

Terryann Dell
Office Manager