

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
PRELIMINARY OPEN MEETING
August 23, 2010**

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Phil Dyer, Mayor
Lee Dunlap, Mayor Pro Tem
Pat Miner, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Ben Harris
André Davidson
Lissa Smith
Harry LaRosiliere
Jean Callison

STAFF

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck, City Manager
Frank Turner, Deputy City Manager
Bruce Glasscock, Deputy City Manager
LaShon Ross, Deputy City Manager
Mark Israelson, Assistant City Manager
Diane C. Wetherbee, City Attorney
Diane Zucco, City Secretary

Mayor Dyer called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m., Monday, August 23, 2010, in Training Room A of the Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. All Council Members were present. Council Member Callison arrived at 5:07 p.m. Mayor Dyer then stated that the Council would retire into Executive Session in compliance with Chapter 551, Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, Annotated, in order to consult with an attorney and receive Legal Advice/Litigation; and to receive information regarding Economic Development, Section 551.087 for which a certified agenda will be kept in the office of the City Secretary for a period of two years as required.

Mayor Dyer reconvened the meeting back into the Preliminary Open Meeting at 6:17 p.m.

Consideration and action resulting from Executive Session discussion

No items were brought forward.

Personnel: Reappointments

Senior Citizens Advisory Board

Upon a motion made by Council Member Davidson and seconded by Council Member Callison, the Council voted 8-0 to reappoint Dolvin Mack and John J. Pfister.

Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report

Finance Director Tacke advised that for the month of July 2010, General Fund revenue was the same as a percentage of budget when compared to last year with the Water/Sewer Fund down slightly and the Sustainability Fund up slightly. She advised that actual figures indicate the General Fund is down \$2.3 million as compared to last year due to reductions in ad valorem taxes and franchise fees. Ms. Tacke spoke the level of sales tax being up as compared to the prior year and advised regarding lower General Fund expenses resulting from open positions, a decrease in funding post-employment benefits, and lower utility costs. Ms. Tacke advised that the unemployment rate rose slightly to 7.5%, provided a recap of the real estate market and responded to City Manager Muehlenbeck regarding water usage advising that the City ended the year 5 billion gallons short of the minimum required by contract with the district. She spoke to funding of the environmental facility through monies from Sustainability and Water/Sewer Funds.

Discussion re Heritage Preservation Grant Program

Planning Manager Firgens advised regarding Staff recommended revisions to the program to help agencies become less reliant on City funding including: placing a cap on funding for salaries and operations at the 2009-10 level; new grant recipients may not receive funding for salaries and operations; withholding funding equal to one-third of the grant unless recipients raise funds from outside sources; and requiring grant recipients to provide information from visitor sign-ins to demonstrate a link to increased tourism. She spoke to Staff review of applicant budget statements and volunteer hours to determine the impact of including hours as part of the outside sources.

Ms. Firgens advised regarding Option 1 implementing the one-third match grant requirement in 2010-11; not allowing volunteer hours to count toward the match grant; donated in-kind services and supplies, financial contributions, revenues generated, counting towards the match grant; and which would potentially have the most negative impact on the groups that receive larger funding. She spoke to concern that several of the organizations may not meet the one-third requirement for matching grants. Ms. Firgens spoke to Option 2 which would be phased in and for 2010-11 implement the one-third match grant requirement; allow the volunteer hours to count towards the match grant; and use the federal volunteer hour rate for 2011-12. She advised that in 2011-12 the one-third match grant requirement would continue and the volunteer hours would not count towards the match grant. She spoke to donated in-kind services and supplies, financial contributions, and revenues generated that would count toward match grant and advised that this option would provide an opportunity for organizations to better prepare financially.

Ms. Firgens advised that under Option 3, the City would fund a certain percentage only of each agency's overall total budget based upon their most recently completed fiscal year's expenditures less ineligible expenses and volunteer hours; begin in program year 2011-12; include no match grant requirement; and the Heritage Commission would recommend funding for operations and maintenance and specific projects programs. She spoke to the benefits including less of an administrative burden on the agencies and City staff and being similar to what is done for cultural arts/and community services grants and advised that Option 3 is recommended by Staff.

Ms. Firgens responded to the Council, advising that based on current projections, no agency would receive more than 75% funding and spoke to the impact on Heritage Farmstead and the Plano Conservancy if it were reduced to 67%. She stated that the recommendation would be to implement changes in 2011-12 and Mayor Pro Tem Dunlap spoke to receiving input from the Heritage Commission on funding percentages.

Departmental Reports

City Secretary

City Secretary Zucco introduced Staff in attendance and reviewed responsibilities of the department including records management, mail service, open records requests, action center, preparation of Council packets, ordinance/resolution processing, elections, alcohol license permitting, ordinance codification and legal publications. She reviewed implementation of electronic submittal and review of board and commission applicants for the annual appointment process.

Customer/Utility Services

Assistant City Manager/Customer Utility Services Director Israelson spoke to the core business functions and the volumes of the call center, revenue/collections, systems and billing, field services, and meter reading. He spoke to online services available for review of bills and the fixed network project updating all meters across the City. Mr. Israelson reviewed franchise fees collected and spoke to Staff response to telephone inquiries related to street light outages, an audit of street lights and work on right-of-way agreements with a variety of companies.

Council items for discussion/action on future agendas

No items were discussed.

Consent and Regular Agendas

Mayor Pro Tem Dunlap requested that Consent Agenda Items "B," Bid No. 2010-178-B for the 2009-10 Arterial Concrete Pavement Rehab of Custer Road and "C," Bid No. 2010-186-B for the 2009-2010 Residential Concrete Pavement Rehab, Zone G7 & G4 be removed for individual consideration due to possible conflicts of interest.

Staff requested that Consent Agenda Item "Q," Consideration of an ordinance to add Section 12-100.5 to Chapter 12 (Traffic Code), of the Code of Ordinances to prohibit stopping, standing, or parking of a vehicle within ten (10) feet of a curbside residential mailbox between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday be removed for individual consideration.

Nothing further was discussed. Mayor Dyer adjourned the Preliminary Meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Phil Dyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Diane Zucco, City Secretary