

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL**  
**Worksession**  
**August 8, 2012**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Phil Dyer, Mayor  
Lissa Smith, Mayor Pro Tem  
Ben Harris, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem  
Pat Miner  
André Davidson  
James Duggan  
Patrick Gallagher  
Lee Dunlap

**STAFF PRESENT**

Bruce Glasscock, City Manager  
Frank Turner, Deputy City Manager  
LaShon Ross, Deputy City Manager  
Diane Wetherbee, City Attorney  
Diane Zucco, City Secretary

Mayor Dyer convened the Council into the Worksession on Wednesday, August 8, 2012, at 6:02 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Plano Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. All Council Members were present.

**Funding Requests**

Presentation of Cultural Affairs Commission

Cultural Affairs Commission Chair Mahoney thanked the Council, commission members and Staff and spoke regarding the increase in hotel/motel funds and the grant application process. She advised that walks/runs are no longer eligible for funding through the Cultural Affairs Commission and spoke to the review of 23 applicants with 4 for events/urban-town center items and 19 for arts grants. She spoke to the receipt of two incomplete applications, one for a group that no longer qualifies and those not receiving recommendations following review. Ms. Mahoney advised that recommendations include a total of \$38,227 from the General Fund and \$157,168 from the Hotel/Motel Fund for special events and a total of \$735,583 from the Hotel/Motel Fund for the arts.

Mayor Dyer invited speakers from the audience. Jason Rice of Rover Dramaworks spoke in support of the Cultural Affairs Commission and their decisions and stated concern regarding an organization's possible misrepresentation as the Arts Centre of Plano. Jamey Jamison of Art and Drama Centre Theatre spoke regarding their programs/participation and requested Council reconsideration of their request. Bonnie Shea of the Historic Downtown Plano Association spoke to prior grants received for in-kind services to fund police coverage and growth of the festival. She spoke to preparation of financial statement and attendance at quarterly meetings and requested reconsideration of the grant request. No other audience members addressed the Council.

Mayor Dyer commended the Commission on their work and spoke to the City's efforts towards development of the downtown area and in support of the Historic Downtown Plano request. Ms. Mahoney responded to the Council regarding other groups that utilize in-kind services and meeting attendance requirements for those receiving grants. She advised regarding the Commission's diligent consideration of all requests and concerns related to the administrative/fiscal responsibility portion of the application. The Council thanked the board for their efforts and spoke to the importance of follow-up with grant recipients. City Manager Glasscock advised that in the future, Staff will consider the funding in-kind requests for community events through the General Fund rather than the grant process with appeals coming forward to Council. The Council stated a consensus to provide a \$10,000 grant to the Historic Downtown Plano Association.

Mayor Dyer spoke regarding the close scoring for Art and Drama Centre Theatre. Mr. Glasscock advised that, should Council provide funding to the group, other allocations would need to be adjusted and Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Harris spoke to the increase in funding requested over last year. Ms. Mahoney advised regarding concerns related to the group's administration/fiscal responsibility due to the lack of budget reports and IRS forms. The Council spoke in support of the Commission's work and requested they be available to provide assistance to the group. The Council stated a consensus in support of the Commission's denial. Mr. Jamison spoke to the delay in reports received from the IRS, scoring by the Commission, and success of the program. Mayor Dyer expressed his appreciation for the process, but disagreement with the decision.

#### Special Event Funding Discussion

Director of Public Information Conklin spoke regarding large community events coordinated by outside organizations including Christmas Parade, July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade, Sunset at Memorial Park, All-American 4<sup>th</sup>, Dickens in Historic Downtown Plano, and Holiday Lights in Downtown. She spoke to a reduction in funding for the Christmas and July 4<sup>th</sup> parade as organizers have reduced insurance costs. City Manager Glasscock spoke to this item as Council's reaffirmation of the importance of these events, inclusion in the budget process and advised that other in-kind funding as discussed for the Historic Downtown Plano Association will be included in future years.

#### Presentation of Heritage Commission

Planning Manager Firgens advised that monies are provided by hotel/motel taxes and spoke to consideration of how projects support hospitality and tourism in Plano. She advised that four agencies requested funding and spoke to operations/maintenance awards capped at their 2009-10 funding levels impacting the Heritage Farmstead and Plano Conservancy for Historic Preservation. Ms. Firgens responded to the Council, advising that because the hotel/motel tax revenues may fluctuate, the City may adjust the final payment should funds be unavailable. Heritage Commission Chair Quaintance-Howard spoke to recommended grants and projects for the Heritage Farmstead Museum (\$530,000), Plano Conservancy for Historic Preservation, Inc. (\$189,500) and North Texas Masonic Historical Museum and Library (\$16,083). She advised that the Parks and Recreation Department requested funding for an architectural study of the Saigling House which was declined based on the lack of ties to tourism, undefined plans, and ownership of property. Ms. Quaintance-Howard responded to the Council regarding the cost for electrical repairs at the Masonic museum and the group's pursuit of other resources.

### Buffington Community Service Grants

Community Relations Chair Grady thanked the Council, commissioners and Staff for their efforts. He advised that the fund was established in 1998 to address community needs and provide for programs addressing short-term, urgent economic assistance or care services; offer immediate relief of a crisis impacting the physical and/or mental health of Plano residents and meet a consolidated plan goal. He advised that grants are limited to 50% of any agency's budget by state law and are available to non-profit agencies that have been in operation for three years. Mr. Grady reviewed data regarding City poverty, homelessness and unemployment levels, spoke to financial challenges, and advised that of the 28 applications for funding, 7 were funded with federal monies (\$175,344) and 15 with Buffington Community Service funds (\$263,500 or \$1/capita). He reviewed the impact of funding and progress toward the five-year goals of supporting the creation of additional shelter, support services, and transitional housing for homeless and under-housed (68% complete) and supporting organizations engaging in public services for special needs populations of Plano residents (133% complete). He responded to the Council, advising that monies from the Buffington Grants must be used for Plano individuals. Mayor Dyer thanked the board for their efforts and the Council stated consensus for their recommendations.

### Council Items and Issues for Discussion

Mayor Pro Tem Smith requested a future agenda item regarding the Preston/Legacy Median Left Turn.

Nothing further was discussed. Mayor Dyer thanked staff, spoke to the August 18, 2012, Budget Worksession, and adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

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**Phil Dyer, MAYOR**

ATTEST:

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Diane Zucco, City Secretary