

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
PRELIMINARY OPEN MEETING
JULY 23, 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 D. Glasscock, City Manager
Frank Turner, Deputy City Manager
LaShon Ross, Deputy City Manager
Diane Wetherbee, City Attorney
Diane Zucco, City Secretary

Mayor Dyer called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m., Monday, July 23, 2012, in Training Room A of the Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. A quorum was present. 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, Section 551.071; receive information regarding Economic Development, Section 551.087; and to discuss Real Estate, Section 551.072 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 6:10 p.m.

Consideration and action resulting from Executive Session discussion.

No items were discussed.

Personnel - Reappointments

Cultural Affairs Commission

Upon a motion made by Council Member Davidson and seconded by Council Member Duggan, the Council voted 8-0 to reappoint Marilyn Mahoney to a one-year term.

Photographic Traffic Signal Advisory Committee

Mayor Dyer reappointed Phil Head.

Self Sufficiency Committee

Upon a motion made by Council Member Davidson and seconded by Council Member Duggan, the Council voted 8-0 to reappoint Casey Mueller and Cynthia Nye.

Discussion and Direction Regarding Preston at Legacy – Median Left Turn

Director of Public Works Cosgrove provided information on the history of this location including significant traffic congestion and crashes, potential benefits of a median left-turn (MLT) design and Council's desire to explore innovative at-grade improvements. He spoke to Council support in 2005 for an MLT at three locations including Plano Parkway/Preston Road and Spring Creek Parkway/Coit Road, phased implementation, and maintaining flexibility to minimize "change back" impact. Mr. Cosgrove spoke to the design providing a high benefit-to-cost ratio, requiring minimal additional right-of-way, incurring less disruption during construction, providing an improved level of service, and utilizing a Texas U-turn. He advised that other municipalities in Texas are considering similar configurations and spoke to issues following installation including driver inattention, unfamiliarity, and undesirable U-turns and benefits including reductions in crashes and backups.

Mr. Cosgrove advised that a post-construction study by The Texas Transportation Institute found that the design increased traffic flow, improved air quality, reduced backups, eliminated failure to yield crashes, and spoke to the recommendation to install a red-light camera. He reviewed the options of retaining the median left turn or converting back to a conventional design and constructing the other locations, or converting those to conventional designs. Mayor Dyer stated concern regarding the design. Mr. Cosgrove responded to the Council, stating that the design will address high levels of traffic in the future and spoke to the potential for "roundabouts" in the City.

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Harris spoke in support of converting the intersection back to a conventional design. Mayor Pro Tem Smith and Council Members Davidson and Miner spoke in support of the current design. Mr. Cosgrove spoke to potential improvements that could be made to the other intersections before consideration of MLT's and the potential impact of delays on funding. Mayor Dyer requested continued updates regarding the status of the intersections.

Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report

Director of Finance Tacke advised that the June 2012 report finds General Fund revenues up slightly as a percentage of budget as compared to last year while Water and Sewer revenues are down slightly. She stated that actual General Fund revenues are up \$11.7 million, primarily due to an increase in ad valorem taxes and an increase in sales tax resulting from an audit adjustment. Ms. Tacke also stated revenues were up in court fines, electric and cable franchises, and ambulance services. Ms. Tacke advised that General, Water & Sewer Fund, and Golf Course Fund expenditures are up as a percentage of budget. She advised that the unemployment rate is at 6.2% and that sales tax collections for the month of June are up by \$1.2 million. Ms. Tacke advised that actual revenues for the Water & Sewer Fund are down by \$4 million compared to the prior year due to drought conditions and water restrictions while expenses are up by \$6.5 million.

Spring Citizens Government Academy Review

Director of Public Information Conklin spoke to the sessions held from March 29 through June 7 including the following topics: *Where it All Begins, Building a City, A Day in My Life, Who Ya Gonna Call?, Community Building, and Into Tomorrow*. She spoke to 22 of the 26 participants completing the course, positive survey responses and adjustments for the fall session scheduled for August 30 through November 8. City Manager Glasscock spoke to drawing from current applicants for the next session.

Discussion and Direction Regarding Council Neighborhood Meetings Format

City Manager Glasscock spoke to positive citizen feedback received and requested Council's direction regarding the new format of the neighborhood meetings. The Council spoke positively and concurred with its continuation.

Consideration of 2013 City Council Meeting Dates

City Manager Glasscock spoke to rescheduling dates that conflict with conferences, holidays, etc. and the recommendations to reschedule meetings in March, May and December. The Council concurred with the recommendations.

Council items for discussion/action on future agendas

No items were discussed.

Consent and Regular Agendas

Council Member Dunlap requested that Consent Agenda Item "D," Bid No. 2012-201-B for Alley Reconstruction – Ports O'Call Area to Estrada Concrete Co., LLC, in the amount of \$407,633 be removed for individual consideration due to a possible conflict of interest.

Mayor Dyer recessed the Preliminary Open Meeting at 6:52 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Discussion and Direction Regarding The Arts Center of North Texas Budget

City Manager Glasscock advised that The Arts Center of North Texas bylaws require preparation/submittal of a budget and stated their intention to dissolve and reorganize as a 501(c)3. He stated that the recommended budget for the remainder of 2011-12 (\$56,000) utilizes only private revenue and no city funds. The Council stated concurrence with the recommendation.

Nothing further was discussed. Mayor Dyer adjourned the Preliminary Meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Phil Dyer, MAYOR

ATTEST

Diane Zucco, City Secretary