

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
OPEN MEETING
July 24, 2013**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Harry LaRosiliere, Mayor
Lissa Smith, Mayor Pro Tem
Ben Harris, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Pat Miner
André Davidson
Jim Duggan
Patrick Gallagher
David Downs

STAFF PRESENT

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

Mayor LaRosiliere convened the Council into the Regular Session on Wednesday, July 24, 2013, at 5:00 p.m. in the Senator Florence Shapiro Council Chambers of the Plano Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. A quorum was present.

Mayor LaRosiliere inquired if anyone in the audience wished to address the Council; seeing none, he proceeded with the agenda.

Public Hearing and Consideration of Annexation Case A2013-01 - Request to annex 3.14± acres of land located within the right-of-way of West Park Boulevard east of Midway Road, including the intersection of the two roadways, in the J. Myers Survey, Abstract No. 619 (Collin County) and the J. Myers Survey, Abstract No. 882 (Denton County). Applicant: City of Plano. Second Public Hearing. First Public Hearing held 7/22/13. (Agenda Item "I")

Planning Director Jarrell advised that the request, which includes the Park Boulevard/Midway Road intersection, will result in the City gaining control over the roadway to clarify emergency response. She further advised that an ordinance would come forward in August for Council consideration.

Mayor LaRosiliere opened the Public Hearing. No one spoke for or against the request. The Public Hearing was closed.

The Council concurred in directing Staff to move forward.

Consideration of an Architectural Services Agreement by and between the City of Plano and H+UO Architects, LLP, in the amount of \$326,850 for the Oak Point Park - Visitor Center and Parks and Recreation Offices; and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents. (Agenda Item "II")

Director of Parks and Recreation Fortenberry spoke to usage of Oak Point Park and the center acting as an introduction and gateway to amenities. She spoke to possibly using a term other than "visitor" to describe the center and focusing on providing interpretive exhibits and outdoor-based educational offerings. Ms. Fortenberry reviewed the history of the project from its inception to the 2005 bond election approved by citizens, and spoke regarding delays resulting from the economic downturn. She spoke to the opening of trails in the summer of 2009, citizen interest in the center, its potential for outdoor special events, redevelopment of downtown with the movement of Staff to another location, more effective use of an on-staff outdoor adventure supervisor at this location and grade work, utilities and parking in place.

City Manager Glasscock spoke to consideration of sites to relocate Parks and Recreation Staff and the opportunity to move forward on a project approved by voters in 2005. Ms. Fortenberry responded to Council Member Duggan regarding projected revenues from retreat bookings and classes with initial visitation estimated at 200-250 per day. She further responded to Council Member Gallagher, advising that the center will provide a different setting for retreats than that of Plano Centre and to Council Member Downs regarding the opportunity to provide more outdoor-based programming. Council Member Miner spoke regarding current use of the trails and potential use of retreat space. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Harris spoke to receiving more budget information before making a decision.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith spoke to validating the voters' decision made in 2005 and Staff developing a way to finance the project. Council Member Davidson spoke of the viability of the proposal, making maximum use of bond funds, the need for retreat space and indoor/outdoor learning opportunities. Mayor LaRosiliere spoke to voter approval in 2005 and similar outdoor educational facilities in the region. Council Member Gallagher stated concern regarding the cost of the project and tabling the item to receive information on various options at a range of prices. Council Member Duggan stated concern related to the long-term viability of the center. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Harris spoke to budget cuts over the last several years and in support of delaying consideration.

A motion was made by Council Member Miner and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Smith to approve the Architectural Services Agreement by and between the City of Plano and H+UO Architects, LLP, in the amount of \$326,850 for the Oak Point Park - Visitor Center and Parks & Recreation Office. The Council voted 5-3 with Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Harris and Council Members Duggan and Gallagher voting in opposition. The motion carried.

Presentation of the 2013-2014 Recommended Budget and Proposed Community Investment Program (CIP) to the City Council (Agenda Item “III”)

City Manager Glasscock thanked Staff for their efforts and spoke to the Council’s upcoming Budget Worksession to be held on August 17. He spoke to focusing on the restoration of services to maintain the quality citizens have come to expect and meet Council goals of enhancing public safety and responding to the backlog of major capital projects. Mr. Glasscock advised that the budget is balanced with 30 days of operation and maintains the 48.86 tax rate, funds two cents for economic development with an additional transfer of \$1 million for a total of \$6.3 million and provides salary increases for all employees.

Budget and Research Director Rhodes-Whitley spoke to combined budget expenditures of \$446 million reflecting an increase of \$21 million over 2012-13, primarily due to water and waste water costs, with Public Safety consisting of 26.5%, Water/Sewer 26.4% and General Government 17% of the budget. She spoke to a 3% across-the-board salary increase for non-civil service, 2% for civil service employees in the total amount of \$4 million and various other salary adjustments and Mr. Glasscock spoke to efforts to maintain competitive compensation levels. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Harris requested information regarding the percentages of the total increase that will be spent on civil service versus non-civil service employees. Ms. Rhodes-Whitley spoke to the hiring of 22 full-time positions with 20 for restoration and enhancement of public safety programs, one for capital improvement projects and one GIS Data Base Administrator at a total cost of \$1.7 million. Mr. Glasscock responded to Council Member Gallagher that 110 positions have been cut in recent years, and that recommendations restore service at “pinch points.”

Ms. Rhodes-Whitley spoke to the increase of \$2.1 million to the Capital Reserve Fund, an additional \$5.3 million for Water and Sewer CIP projects based on the pay-as-you-go program, CIP operation and maintenance coming on-line at \$225,377 and a projected increase of \$6.2 million of water district contract costs. Mr. Glasscock responded to Council Member Downs, advising that some of the increase in water district costs are related to pipeline construction and will remain in place for the duration of the bonds funding the projects.

Ms. Rhodes-Whitley spoke to general fund revenues of \$223 million with 39.5% from property taxes, 27.5% from sales tax and 33% from other revenue. She spoke to increases in assessed property values of 5% or \$1.3 million and spoke to Plano’s tax rate as compared to other area municipalities based on 2012-13 rates. She spoke to sales tax projections of \$61.5 million, a conservative projection of building and development revenues, and General Fund expenditures with Public Safety/Health at 48.4% and non-departmental expenses and transfers at 21.0%. She spoke to North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) projections of a 10.6% increase in water rates and 5.7% in sewer rates, projected usage and refunds, advising that additional information will be coming forward on August 17. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Harris requested a five-year projection of the costs associated with payments for “unused” water.

Ms. Rhodes-Whitley advised regarding \$116 million in Capital Improvement Projects with streets at 24%, capital reserve at 23%, and Parks and Recreation at 23%. She spoke to inclusion of \$225,000 for facility maintenance and service costs, one Senior Equipment Operator, and Parks and Recreation maintenance. Ms. Rhodes-Whitley reviewed the budget calendar and advised that information will be posted to the City's website.

Nothing further was discussed. Mayor LaRosiliere adjourned the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

Harry LaRosiliere, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Diane Zucco, City Secretary