

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
PRELIMINARY OPEN MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2013**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

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

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 Dyer called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m., Monday, January 28, 2013, 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 and to receive information regarding Economic Development, Section 551.087 and Personnel, Section 551.074 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 6:28 p.m.

Consideration and action resulting from Executive Session discussion

Upon a motion made by Council Member Miner and seconded by Council Member Gallagher, the Council voted 8-0 to appoint Richard Michael Grady to an interim term expiring October 31, 2013.

Update and Overview of Street Lights and Electric Services

Oncor Area Manager Michael Baldwin provided an overview of facilities maintained in Plano, advising that there are 1,658 miles of underground and 411 miles of overhead distribution lines. He stated that there are 105,505 electric meters and 13,297 street lights and reviewed the levels of maintenance as reported to the Public Utility Commission. Mr. Baldwin advised that during 2012, routine repairs to street lights were completed within five calendar days 98.37% of the time; circuit repairs (underground along thoroughfares) were completed within 15 calendar days 83.3% of the time; and knockdowns were repaired within 30 days 93.3% of the time.

Mr. Baldwin reviewed a project started in 2010 which reviewed the effectiveness of light emitting diodes in street lights. He spoke to installation of 46 lights in the City, incidences of high temperatures and severe storms, and the overall failure rate by vendors of 11%. Mr. Baldwin advised that, at this time, projected energy savings do not offset the high initial costs. He reviewed enhancements to customer communications including an updated website, mobile applications and "Ask Oncor." He responded to Council Member Miner, advising that Oncor asks customers to provide location information when home and street lights are out of service, and that the rate structure is designed for repair/maintenance and not aesthetic painting of light poles; but that homeowner associations may repaint them. He advised that only a few residences are without the advanced metering system and that Oncor will review leaning poles when provided information regarding their locations. He further stated that a piece of equipment will be installed soon at the electrical substation on Legacy Drive and Coit Road and that landscaping will be provided. He further advised the Council that street lights are controlled by photocells.

Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report

Director of Finance Tacke advised that the December 2012 report finds General Fund revenues down as a percentage of budget as compared to last year while Water and Sewer revenues are up slightly. She stated that actual General Fund revenues are down \$3.9 million, primarily due to a decrease in collection of ad valorem taxes which will self-correct. She spoke to the overall improvement in sales tax figures. She advised that General Fund expenditures are up due to a 3% non-civil and 2% civil service pay increase effective in October and she spoke to the annual maintenance agreement for the new radio system and contract for park field services. She advised that the unemployment rate is at 5.2%.

Screening Wall Update

Public Works Director Cosgrove advised that in the mid-1970's, the City instituted a policy wherein homes that back to a street or alley/street were required to have a screening wall. He spoke to the Zoning Ordinance requiring a wall when a non-residential use abuts a residential one which is the responsibility of the owner rather than the City. Mr. Cosgrove advised that there are 153 miles of screening walls in the City, with 50% the responsibility of the City to maintain. He spoke to a 1974 resolution, providing City participation to those requesting a wall, advising that the level of contribution is not nearly the cost of construction today. He reviewed various examples of wall structure, design and maintenance issues including brick, concrete and living screens. Mr. Cosgrove spoke to Council consideration of repealing the 1974 resolution and Staff review and reporting to Council regarding issues of concern. The Council concurred with the recommendations and Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Harris requested consideration of the sustainability of the program and City involvement. Mr. Cosgrove responded to Council Member Davidson, advising that the repair of walls is expensive and the only recourse for addressing privately-owned situations is through Property Standards.

Council items for discussion/action on future agendas

No items were discussed.

Consent and Regular Agendas

No items were discussed

Nothing further was discussed. Mayor Dyer adjourned the Preliminary Meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Phil Dyer, MAYOR

ATTEST

Diane Zucco, City Secretary