

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
PRELIMINARY OPEN MEETING
March 26, 2007**

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pat Evans, Mayor
Scott Johnson, Mayor Pro Tem
Sally Magnuson, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Shep Stahel
Loretta Ellerbe
Harry LaRosiliere
Jean Callison
Lee Dunlap

STAFF

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck, City Manager
Frank Turner, Executive Director
Bruce Glasscock, Executive Director
Rod Hogan, Executive Director
Diane C. Wetherbee, City Attorney
Elaine Bealke, City Secretary
Diane Zucco, Assistant City Secretary

Mayor Evans called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., Monday, March 26, 2007, 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 Evans 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 and to discuss Litigation, Section 551.071, and discuss 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 Evans reconvened the meeting back into the Preliminary Open Meeting at 6:05 p.m. in the Council Chambers where the following matters were discussed:

Consideration and Action Resulting From Executive Session Discussion: Personnel Appointment – Building Standards Commission

Upon a motion made by Council Member Stahel and a second by Council Member Dunlap, the Council voted 8-0 to appoint Jim Kesterson as an alternate to an interim term expiring in October of 2008.

Boards and Commissions Appointment Process

Assistant City Secretary Zucco reviewed the board and commission reappointment and appointment processes and calendar of events. After consideration of the Plano Independent School District's start date, the Council concurred to move the reception and appointments to later dates. The Council concurred to move forward with the flyer format as submitted.

Mobility Report

Transportation Engineering Manager Neal spoke to review of signal timings along S.H. 121 and pedestrian signal applications throughout the City. He spoke to consideration of improvements at S.H. 190 and US 75 to address congestion going northbound from S.H. 190 onto US 75. He advised that the proposal would keep two separate lanes as traffic moves through this area with a right lane forced off as an exit and a left lane serving as a merge-weave area. He spoke to the cost estimate of \$15.2 million with several agencies participating, work with the Council of Governments (COG), and other construction in the area. He responded to the Council stating that participation from the City of Plano would be \$3 million, COG is committed for \$4.1 million, NTTA for \$2.5 million and TxDOT for \$2.8 million for voluntary in-kind services. Mr. Neal spoke to efforts to make up the deficit.

Council Member Stahel spoke to traffic problems in the area and the need for enforcement. Mr. Neal responded that construction of the long weave-merge lane may alleviate problems and stated he would contact the Police Department regarding enforcement. He responded to Council Member Dunlap stating that he has not seen the plans for S.H. 190 and the Dallas North Tollway. Council Member Stahel spoke similar problems in that area.

Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report

Finance Director McGrane spoke regarding the Comprehensive Monthly Finance Report for the month of February 2007, stating that year-to-date revenues in the General Fund are doing quite well and that the Water & Sewer Fund is \$1.8 million off in revenue as compared to last year. He advised that expenditure funds are where they should be, the strong upward trend in sales tax revenues continues, the unemployment rate is up over last month but down compared to last year and the solid waste account is at a strong level. Mr. McGrane advised that single-family housing starts are down, but show steady tracking when annualized and spoke to the big rise in commercial building permits. He spoke to hotel/motel taxes being solid and steady and to a May 1, 2007 bond sale requiring a Special Called Council meeting. Mr. McGrane spoke to the portfolio's diversification and responded to Mayor Pro Tem Johnson stating that the level of hotel/motel taxes is similar across the state.

Presentation from Turkish American Education Foundation

Nuray Fuller, representing the Turkish American Education Foundation, spoke to Plano being a special place, her participation in the Multi-Cultural Outreach Roundtable and Mayor Evans' consideration for different ethnic groups and encouragement of participation in civic matters. She presented a trip to Turkey to Mayor Evans on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Turkish American Education Foundation, which will provide inside knowledge of Turkish culture, cuisine and people and foster good will for years to come.

Progress Report Regarding Lexington Development

Scott Schaefer of Lexington Luxury Builders, spoke regarding landscape and hardscape plans submitted to the City, drawings approved by the Heritage Commission in December 2006, completion of construction drawings and pulling permits. He spoke to proceeding with construction of twin buildings and community involvement in the project. Mr. Schaefer responded to the Council stating that construction should begin in mid-April with the first units available for move-in in mid-October. He advised that the size would range from 1,700 to 2,400 square feet with prices ranging from \$270,000 to \$340,000. Mr. Schaefer further spoke to monuments in the central park area with plaques commemorating the Rice family and the heritage of the football field. He spoke to fourteen units being completed in the first phase with six more three weeks later.

Council Items for Discussion/Action on Future Agendas

Council Member Stahel requested a general progress report on the Downtown area.

Consent Agenda

Council Member Stahel advised that he will be stepping down on Consent Agenda Item "D," a contract with Museumscapes, LLC for the design, development and installation of interactive software for the Sustainability and Environmental Services Department due to a possible conflict of interest.

Council Member Dunlap requested that Consent Agenda Item "E," a resolution to endorse certain legislative changes to enhance the competitive electric market supported by Cities Aggregation Power Project, Inc. be removed for individual consideration.

Council Reports

Mayor Evans spoke to an opportunity for Council Members to apply for a National League of Cities Board position.

Nothing further was discussed. Mayor Evans recessed the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

Pat Evans, Mayor

ATTEST

Diane Zucco, Assistant City Secretary