

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
PRELIMINARY OPEN MEETING
January 26, 2009**

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pat Evans, Mayor
Jean Callison, Mayor Pro Tem
Harry LaRosiliere, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Pat Miner
Scott Johnson
Mabrie Jackson
Sally Magnuson
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
Diane Zucco, City Secretary

Mayor Evans called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m., Monday, January 26, 2009, in Training Room A of the Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. All Council Members were present. Council Member Jackson arrived at 5:11 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, Section 551.071, and to discuss Economic Development, Section 551.087 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 6:04 p.m. in the Council Chambers where the following matters were discussed:

Consideration and Action Resulting from Executive Session Discussion:

No items were brought forward.

Personnel Appointments

Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

Upon a motion made by Council Member Miner and seconded by Council Member Jackson, the Council voted 8-0 to appoint Sunny Lee Ruth to the Veterinarian position and upon a motion made by Council Member Miner and seconded by Council Member Jackson, the Council voted 8-0 to appoint Elizabeth Ann Bodden to the resulting citizen position with a term ending October, 2010.

Community Relations Commission

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem LaRosiliere and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Callison, the Council voted 8-0 to appoint Elias Baron to a term expiring October 2010.

DART Report

Dart Board of Directors Member Ellerbe spoke to development of new parking spaces at the Parker Road Station and the loss of spaces during construction. She spoke to the shortage of funding for the Northwest Park and Ride, ridership increases and a request for additional vehicles for the Van Pool Program. Ms. Ellerbe advised that the Green Line is on schedule and spoke to contracting for the Orange Line from Irving to DFW Airport. She spoke to the criteria for a shelter as fifty or more daily boardings, consideration of a "Smart Card Program" allowing for collection of revenues, and expansion of rail car capacity through the use of an insert providing for additional seating and standing room. Ms. Ellerbe responded to Council Member Johnson regarding the HOV lanes on U.S. 75 and advised she would look into the reasons for configuration utilizing lane separators. Mr. Johnson spoke to the participation of Plano as a member city of DART and configuration of the HOV lanes restricting resident use. Ms. Ellerbe advised the Council she would provide a photo of the rail car insert.

Mobility Report

Transportation Engineering Manager Neal spoke to a three-year study of yellow light timing at Preston Road/Legacy Drive, Dallas North Tollway/Plano Parkway and Preston Road/Spring Creek Parkway; modifications to Cloverhaven Way including revision to parking prohibition, turn lanes and crosswalk; work to resolve issues related to the Senior Taxi Voucher Program; and invited Council to view the DFW Commuter Traffic Study online. He responded to Council Member Dunlap regarding locations for the yellow light timing study and the impact of red light cameras on vehicles approaching from the opposite direction. Mr. Neal spoke to the reduction in accidents following implementation of red light cameras and responded to Deputy Mayor Pro Tem LaRosiliere that work should be complete at Parkwood Boulevard/Windhaven Road in the next 30 days.

Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report

Director of Finance Tacke spoke to the December 2008 report indicating actual revenues higher in both the General Fund and Water & Sewer Fund and increases in the Water & Sewer Fund expenses related to payments to the North Texas Municipal Water District. She spoke to unemployment lower than the U.S. or Texas but being over 5%; increases in sales tax collection and new refuse accounts; and a decrease in single-family housing starts. Ms. Tacke spoke to the increase in the price per square foot for housing, the lack of significant changes in Hotel/Motel taxes and the liquid position of the City's portfolio.

Discussion and Direction Regarding 2009 Bond Referendum

Director of Budget and Research Rhodes-Whitley spoke to the current total bond package of \$140.5 million, elimination of the Public Safety Communications Building with expansion in the lower level covered by Capital Reserve Funds, and possible revocation of \$3.5 million authorized in 2001 for the Preston Road/Legacy Drive overpass due to a change in policy. She spoke to the tax rate impact as projected and possible decrease from two cents based on favorable bond sales.

Director of Parks and Recreation Wendell spoke to renovations addressing existing facilities with improvements being new additions. He spoke to work with a consultant on Pecan Hollow and refining figures to accurately reflect the total cost of improvements. City Manager Muehlenbeck spoke to the change in Council policy as a reason for including a revocation of bonds on a ballot for citizens. Ms. Rhodes-Whitley advised that monies requested for Fire Station #7 are for reconfiguration and not expansion. Mr. Wendell advised that the White Rock Community Park is located south of Spring Creek Parkway along White Rock Creek and advised that the request is related to development funding. Council Member Miner stated concern about the appearance reflected with this park being completed in Fiscal Year 2011 and Oak Point Park not scheduled to be online until 2012. Mr. Wendell spoke to the phasing of park projects to spread their costs and development complete at Oak Point Park including the amphitheater and City Manager Muehlenbeck spoke to considering economics and the costs of operations. He responded to Council Member Jackson regarding the policy of bringing bond issues to the voters every four years and issues related to street improvements with matching funds available from other jurisdictions. Ms. Rhodes-Whitley spoke to the City's shortage of street funds and there being no General Election scheduled in 2010.

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem LaRosiliere spoke to passage of the referendum and scheduling projects based on economic conditions. He spoke to consideration of items that add to the quality of life in Plano and can be provided to citizens at a lower cost than by public providers such as recreation centers. Mr. Muehlenbeck spoke to Council's review of the Capital Improvement Program and balancing the expectations of citizens. Ms. Rhodes-Whitley advised that another presentation will be made on February 17.

Council items for discussion/action on future agendas

Council Member Miner requested consideration of an item to address resident parking in neighborhoods around Oak Point Park during the Balloon Festival.

Consent and Regular Agenda

Council Member Jackson advised that she would step down on Regular Agenda Item "1," a resolution to approve the terms and conditions of an Economic Development Incentive Agreement by and between the City of Plano, Texas and Bear Transportation Services, LP due to a possible conflict of interest.

Nothing further was discussed. Mayor Evans adjourned the Preliminary Meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Pat Evans, MAYOR

ATTEST

Diane Zucco, City Secretary