

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL  
PRELIMINARY OPEN MEETING**

**January 8, 2001**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Jeran Akers, Mayor  
Rick Neudorff, Mayor Pro tem  
Phil Dyer, Deputy Mayor Pro tem  
Shep Stahel  
Pat Evans  
Steve Stovall  
John R. Roach, Jr.  
Ken Lambert

**STAFF**

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

Mayor Akers called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m., Monday, January 8, 2001, in the Council Conference Room of the Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. All Council Members were present with the exception of Mayor Pro tem Neudorff.

Mayor Akers 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 for which a certified agenda is not required.

Mayor Akers reconvened the Council into the Preliminary Open Meeting at 5:48 p.m. in the Council Chambers wherein the following matters were discussed.

**Consideration and Action Resulting From Executive Session**

No items were brought forward.

## **Discussion and Direction on Providing Funding For the Plano Arts and Cultural Endowment, Inc.**

Plano Arts and Cultural Endowment (PACE) Chairman Ralph Stow advised he is here to respond to questions regarding the initial funding for the Plano Arts and Cultural Endowment, documents from the State of Texas have been received, an initial set of bylaws will be approved in the next week, "501(c)(3)" application has been started, and that election of new board members will be completed.

Mr. Stow advised Council Member Lambert that the PACE name itself will not be used in any formal documentation and will instead spell out "Plano Arts and Cultural Endowment" to avoid any conflicts with other organizations utilizing the name "PACE." Mr. Stow further advised Mr. Lambert that the major mission of the organization is to promote the arts and to raise the level of awareness in the community as to why the arts are important, with the small theater and large hall collectively contributing to this end.

City Attorney Wetherbee spoke to federal regulations not allowing non-profit organizations to spend a substantial amount of their funding or resources for the promotion of bond propositions, and further spoke to not exceeding the expenditure ceilings in order to maintain the tax exempt status.

Mr. Stow advised Deputy Mayor Pro tem Dyer that the endowment does not hinge on one physical location, and spoke to the importance of the art community irrespective of the existence of a large hall. Mr. Stow advised Mayor Akers that the request is for the Council to authorize expenditures, that the endowment intends to raise \$50,000, and to not make this labor intensive by coming back repeatedly to the Council asking for additional monies. He spoke to a plan of \$10,000 seed funding from the City, proof of matched funds received by the endowment, authorization then given by the Council to fund an additional \$30,000 to the endowment to be matched again, after which time an additional \$10,000 would be given and matched. Mr. Stow stated that the belief is that this amount will carry the endowment for approximately one and one-half years.

Mr. Stow advised Council Member Lambert that the intent of the endowment is to build credibility, spoke to fees associated with the program, and to the initial request of \$10,000 as not being too large. Mr. Lambert expressed concern with the City funding the \$40,000. Mr. Stow advised that monies requested from the City can be broken down into smaller amounts. Council Member Evans spoke in support of the request, the credibility of this endowment, and establishing support towards this type of focus in the community. She spoke to monies needed for initial expenditures and recommended approval.

Mr. Stow advised Council Member Stovall that the mission of the endowment is to raise \$5 to \$10 million from the community, to be able to provide operating funds mostly to the performing arts center, and spoke to subsidizing the opening of the systemic arts community in Plano.

Mr. Stow advised Mr. Stovall that it is his belief that the organization is aiding the City, and spoke to helping the City grow from the benefits that the arts community can provide. Mr. Stovall stated that the request is for the City to provide a small amount of seed money in exchange for tremendous leverage and a return to the citizens of this City far beyond this small amount of money. Council Member Stovall spoke in support of the request.

Council Member Stahel advised that he is in favor of the phased-in approach, and to testing support in the community. Mayor Akers advised that the City Attorney will bring back necessary documentation at the January 22 Council meeting to phase in \$10,000, \$30,000, and then the balance of \$10,000 as a matching process goes forward.

### **Discussion of Board/Commission Process**

Council Member Lambert spoke to changes in the process to include making the reappointment decision first by utilizing an earlier date to determine the eligibility and desire of members currently serving, vacancy slots not matching applicant numbers, and current members applying to other boards. He further recommended that the application form include an area for the applicant to list boards they are currently serving on and any past involvement.

Council Member Evans recommended holding the job fair earlier in the summer in order for applicants to make a better determination which boards they might be more qualified for or that they might prefer. Council Member Roach spoke to knowing then what the openings would be with concurrence from Ms. Evans. Council Members Lambert and Evans spoke to holding the actual reception separate from the job fair and at a later date. Mayor Akers spoke to holding the receptions after summer vacation in late August or early September. Ms. Evans spoke to the job fair involving Staff and board chairpersons and not the Council. The Council discussed holding two job fairs in August, and two receptions in September or October.

Council Member Stahel spoke to the Sunset Committee addressing this issue, and to having the job fair in mid-August and no sooner. The Council discussed publicizing the job fair and determining the reappointments in June. After discussion by the Council, Mayor Akers recommended that the Sunset Committee review this request, receive any input that the Council might have, and bring back recommendations. Council Member Stovall recommended that the application provide a space for any additional information felt pertinent.

## **Discussion regarding Boards and Commission Comments for 2001 Bond Referendum Projects**

Council Member Dyer spoke to the bond committee reviewing recommended bond projects totaling \$130 million, and stated that there was general consensus on the street projects, fire, and Tri-City expansion, and that the areas where concerns exist are the Haggard Library and the parking structure outside the municipal center. He spoke to Fire Station No. 12 and possible use of existing City land rather than acquiring additional land and use of the Carpenter Park area in order to save monies. Council Member Stovall spoke to Fire Station No. 11 and money savings in this area. Council Member Evans and Deputy Mayor Pro tem Dyer spoke to the Oak Point Recreation Center and proposed seating and to not placing this on the list at this time.

Council Member Evans spoke to street improvements and to the grade separation listed separately at Plano Parkway and Preston Road, and to the reflection of the express wish for an underpass and recommended that this be clearly labeled as such. Mayor Akers stated understanding that Staff was to ask the consultant to consider this and that this not to be placed on the bond referendum. Ms. Evans spoke to a pending traffic study and to this being a preliminary number.

Deputy Mayor Pro tem Dyer spoke to the Haggard Library expansion and to overcrowding, the opening of the Parr Library in April relieving some crowding problems at Haggard, and possibly reassessing the expansion after the Parr Library has been open for a time. Council Member Stovall spoke to the demand for the children's program at Haggard, and stated that while the Parr Library will relieve overcrowding to some degree, it will rapidly fill up again. Council Member Roach spoke to not waiting on the Haggard issue, and to asking for the authority for this and not issuing the bonds. Mayor Akers stated that with regard to placing the item on the bond referendum, the Council should remember that there is an accompanying tax base and rate required to support the total package.

Council Member Roach spoke to a consensus regarding items to be taken off the bond referendum and to reducing the final amount of the bond dollars. Mayor Akers recommended that a written report be provided with regard to what was discussed by the committee. Deputy Mayor Pro tem Dyer advised that this could be brought back on the January 22 meeting. Mayor Akers requested this be sent to the Council for review prior to the meeting. Director of Budget and Research Rhodes advised that a packet provided to the Council committee members could also be provided the Council along with minutes from the meeting. Ms. Rhodes advised Council Member Lambert that she will provide information regarding the amount necessary for keeping the debt service tax rate.

## **Council Items for Discussion/Action on Future Agendas**

Council Member Stovall requested that Staff provide a report regarding video streaming in order that citizens can access the Council and Commission meetings live and on tape. He stated that at this point in time, televising occurs on Channel 30 and that if video streaming capabilities were available it would only require that a personal computer be connected to the internet. He stated that a cost is associated and spoke to the current capabilities existing now in PTN. Executive Director Turner advised this will be reported back to the Council. Mayor Akers advised that this will come back on the January 22 meeting.

Deputy Mayor Pro tem Dyer requested that Mr. Wendell be prepared to discuss the South Central Plano Community Park acquisition on the January 22 meeting. He spoke to existing budget questions and requested justification be given on the numbers.

Council Member Roach requested that Staff provide a report regarding the availability of land in Plano for the two fire stations on the January 22 meeting.

Council Member Stahel spoke to the fire station at the entrance of Arbor Hills, providing added security and visibility and that this enhances rather than detracts in any way. He stated that if it meets the service requirements for Fire Chief Peterson, he would be happy placing Fire Station Number 11 in conjunction with the visitor's center at Oak Point Park. Executive Director Turner advised that Staff will report information back as to the effect on park land and suitability as a fire station site.

Planning Director Jarrell advised Council Member Lambert that Planning and Zoning Commission Chair McGee will provide an update to the Council regarding the televising of the Commission worksessions tentatively at the January 22 meeting.

## **Consent and Regular Agenda**

City Secretary Bealke stated that members of Council and a citizen have requested that Consent Item "F", Bid for construction of the courtyard theater, be removed for individual consideration; that members of Council have requested that Consent Item "X", Approval of change order for construction of the courtyard theater be removed for individual consideration; that Staff is pulling and holding Consent Item "G", Bid for cart maintenance; that Council Members Stovall and Stahel are requesting that Consent Item "V", Approval of QISV expenditure for a core routing switch, be removed for individual consideration due to a conflict of interest. Mr. Turner advised that Consent Item "G" will be on the January 22 meeting.

## **Council Reports**

No reports were given.

Nothing further was discussed. Mayor Akers recessed the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

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Jeran Akers, MAYOR

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Elaine Bealke, City Secretary