

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
PRELIMINARY OPEN MEETING
February 14, 2011**

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Phil Dyer, Mayor
Lee Dunlap, Mayor Pro Tem
Pat Miner, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Ben Harris
André Davidson
Lissa Smith
Harry LaRosiliere
Jean Callison

STAFF

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

Mayor Dyer called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m., Monday, February 14, 2011, in Training Room A of the Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. All Council Members were present. Council Member Callison arrived at 5:09 p.m. 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; Personnel, Section 551.074 and to receive information regarding 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 Dyer reconvened the meeting back into the Preliminary Open Meeting at 6:16 p.m.

Consideration and Action Resulting From Executive Session

No items were considered.

Presentation and discussion re proposed improvements to US 75 and President George Bush Turnpike

Transportation Engineering Manager Neal spoke to the project under review by the City of Plano, Texas Department of Transportation, North Texas Tollway Authority, and DART addressing a consensus of needs from the various agencies. He spoke to corrective actions already taken including ramp reversals, HOV Lane Construction, frontage road speed revisions, and Parker Road interchange renovation.

Mr. Neal spoke to issues at US 75 and S.H. 190 including the high traffic volume, ramp back-ups, access to exits, frontage road queue jumps, access to area business and HOV operations. He spoke to the anticipated project length of 1.42 miles with a total cost of \$34 million, anticipated funding, and scheduling. Mr. Neal reviewed potential improvements including sign modification, lane and ramp revisions, changes to surface streets to improve flow, possible impact on access from Collin Creek Mall, and foundation work on the railroad south of Plano Parkway to accommodate double tracks. He responded to Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Miner regarding the potential for improvements to exit ramps and to Council Member Davidson regarding mall access and advised that improvements would be a regional shared partnership among participating agencies. He advised that while no timeframe has been developed, the area is in need of improvements.

Discussion and direction on Planning Activities for Proposed Rail Stations on the Cotton Belt Line

Planning Director Jarrell spoke to the North Central Texas Council of Governments and DART continuing to look at funding for a station, preliminary engineering studies and Plano's preference for a 12th Street station and one in the Research/Technology area. She advised regarding discussions related to the 12th Street station with support for the area becoming an extension of Downtown and benefits of a station in the Research/Technology area to serve employees and boost ridership of those in other communities. She requested Council direction to move forward with amendments to the Future Land Use Plan to designate the station locations to which the Council stated a consensus. Ms. Jarrell spoke to development of a conceptual plan for the 12th Street Station including general goals for housing and commercial space. Mayor Dyer spoke in support of beginning a layout and receiving Planning and Zoning Commission input regarding the number of housing units and potential for single-family infill. Ms. Jarrell spoke to rezoning the area once station locations are determined, development of incentives and utilization of public/private partnerships. She responded to the Council regarding the assignment of TIF No. 2 funds for projects, reviewing the potential impact on school populations and advised regarding the expansion of growth from the downtown area which would intensify with development of a 12th Street Station.

Discussion and direction re Heritage Preservation Plan Update

Heritage Commission Chair Anne Quaintance-Howard spoke to the plan as a guide for programs and policies, establishing a basis for decision making, and functioning similar to the Comprehensive Plan. She reviewed the content including an overview, context, current conditions/future considerations and strategic framework. Ms. Quaintance-Howard spoke to heritage preservation as the process of passing attributes from one generation to the next and determining a structure's significance based on its attributes and advised that it results from a sense of place connection. She spoke to the Plan's vision to recognize the ongoing transition facing the region and City, noting that redevelopment/revitalization can positively impact preservation and that preserving/re-using historic assets is consistent with sustainability. Ms. Quaintance-Howard spoke to the challenges of limited heritage resources, determining which structures are appropriate for designation, infill/redevelopment, Plano's geography and lack of physical connection with the historic areas, and limited contributions to preservation activities.

She reviewed opportunities including the Heritage Preservation Grant Program, Tax Exemption Program, Plano's Preservation Program, ongoing property restoration, local museums and new technologies. She spoke to the goals of resource identification, preservation and interpretation; heritage resource designation; promoting preservation and reinvestment in historic assets; education and community outreach; and implementation. The Council stated a consensus with the items recommended and directed Staff to move forward preparing the Plan for adoption.

Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report

Finance Director Tacke advised that for the month of December 2010, General Fund, Water/Sewer, Civic Center and Golf Course revenues were up as a percentage of budget when compared to last year. She advised that actual figures indicate the General Fund revenues were up due to a \$1.2 million increase in sales tax offset by a decrease in court fine revenues and spoke to expenditures down slightly as a percentage of budget. Ms. Tacke advised that actual expenditures were down \$1.2 million due to the timing of the September 2010 payroll and a reduction in the annual contribution to the 115 Trust. Ms. Tacke advised that the unemployment rate is up slightly at 7% and sales tax collections for December are up by 19.63%. She spoke to increases in actual water/sewer revenue due to the lack of rain and rate increases and expenditures down \$1.1 million. Ms. Tacke spoke to increases in municipal drainage revenues and a decline in expenses based on contract costs for debris hauling.

Personnel Appointments - Civil Service Commission

Upon a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Dunlap and seconded by Council Member Callison, the Council voted 8-0 to appoint NiCole Freeman Williams as an interim member.

Council items for discussion/action on future agendas

Council Member Smith requested an update on the budget process, an item for discussion and direction regarding scheduling additional meetings for departmental budget reviews, and verified an upcoming report regarding the City's response to recent ice storms.

Consent and Regular Agenda

Council Member Smith requested that Consent Agenda Item "G," a resolution to authorize the purchase of a Northrop Grumman Remotec F6B Bomb Robot from Remotec, Inc., in the amount of \$242,672 be removed for individual consideration.

Nothing further was discussed. Mayor Dyer adjourned the Preliminary Meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Phil Dyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Diane Zucco, City Secretary