

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
PRELIMINARY OPEN MEETING
January 27, 2014**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Harry LaRosiliere, Mayor
Lissa Smith, Mayor Pro Tem (arrived at 6:17 p.m.)
Ben Harris, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Pat Miner
André Davidson
Jim Duggan
Patrick Gallagher
David Downs

STAFF PRESENT

Bruce Glasscock, City Manager
Frank Turner, Deputy City Manager
LaShon Ross, Deputy City Manager
Paige Mims, City Attorney
Diane Zucco, City Secretary
Alice D. Snyder, Assistant City Secretary

Mayor LaRosiliere called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m., Monday, January 27, 2014, in Training Room A of the Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. A quorum was present. Mayor LaRosiliere 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; to receive information regarding Economic Development, Section 551.087 and Real Estate, Section 551.072 for which a certified agenda will be kept in the office of the City Secretary for a period of two years as required.

Mayor LaRosiliere reconvened the meeting back into the Preliminary Open Meeting at 6:16 p.m. in the Senator Florence Shapiro Council Chambers.

Consideration and action resulting from Executive Session discussion

No items were brought forward.

Rescue Squad Update

Fire Chief Crawford stated that after careful review of the previous Strategic Plan in 2013, the Fire Department made a significant shift in strategy based on incident volume data that demonstrated a major and continuing trend in customer service demand for emergency medical response, and determined that two smaller alternative response vehicles (Suburbans) called Rescue "Squads" would serve the Emergency Operations mission of the Fire Department better than adding an additional engine company. He spoke to the purpose of the program to add a level of public safety service, creating greater operational effectiveness and fiscal efficiency by providing the right-sized emergency and non-emergency response to calls. Chief Crawford also stated that the Squad program increased the

availability of other emergency equipment to respond to calls as well as providing an expected decrease in fuel maintenance costs, wear and tear on the engines and ladder trucks and reduces the City's carbon footprint.

Chief Crawford reviewed the different levels of medical calls that the squads respond to. He stated the two squads were placed in service on October 8, 2013 and have responded to 1,151 calls. Chief Crawford responded to Council on the levels of response and how 9-1-1 can determine the need. He spoke of the significant decline in major apparatus commit times during this period, equating to the engines and trucks at Station 1 and 4 being available to respond to calls in their own district 30% more often. He spoke to an average of 17.5% reduction in "cover company" responses in Fire Station 1 and 4 districts and estimated fuel cost savings of \$3,479 with the use of the smaller vehicles in the 90-day implementation period.

Chief Crawford responded to Council Member Downs regarding the increase in call volumes for the period of study and plans for additional units, stating they are studying this program for one year and will evaluate if there is a need in particular areas to create operational effectiveness. He spoke to the program being as effective as it can be right now since they are located in a high volume, high density area. Chief Crawford spoke to possibly creating a light alternative response vehicle in the future called a mini-pumper which has everything that the squad has plus fire-fighting capabilities but on a smaller scale.

Oak Point Park and Nature Preserve Improvements

Parks and Recreation Director Fortenberry spoke to the improvements at Oak Point Park that are about to begin on the northeast side that are not directly related to the music festival, but are long term in nature. She stated that Old Morton Vale Road will be extended through the park to facilitate trucks for the festival. Ms. Fortenberry reviewed drop-off area, stage area, smaller parking lot, park preserve area for the prairie, and road-based maintenance yard on the east side of Los Rios Boulevard and spoke to the festival layout. She stated permanent park improvements will include road base that will create a 14 foot wide trail, parking lot, large reservable pavilion, restrooms and water fountains, play feature, small trailhead parking, bump-out area and connectivity. Ms. Fortenberry spoke to the improvements being done in a phased approach, beginning with road base before the music festival this year and evaluating traffic flow and how everything works at the event, continuing to study park improvements, bids going out before the 2015 festival, and permanent improvements in place before the second festival. She responded to Council Member Downs inquiry regarding the preservation of prairie area.

Health Plan Update

Assistant City Manager Parrish spoke to review of Fiscal Year 2013 in regards to the City's health plan. He stated there are currently 4600 members on the plan and medical claims were up 15.3% (\$2.1 million) last year due to an increase in large claims (over \$50,000), and pharmacy had an increase of 2,500 prescriptions. Mr. Parrish responded to Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Harris regarding pharmacy cost structure – generic versus name brand and pharmacy programs/plans. He reviewed the key drivers for medical claims: neoplasms (cancers), musculoskeletal disease and circulatory system. Mr. Parrish spoke to inpatient care which increased 30% and primary care/OB/GYN which accounted for less than 10% of spending and the City's focus on these areas. He reviewed medical and pharmacy cost by member type, and yearly medical costs by relationship and a breakdown of employees by plan

("employees only" account for 39%). Mr. Parrish gave an update on the Affordable Care Act which will cost the City \$310,000 next year for fees that have to be paid to the Federal Government.

Mr. Parrish reviewed the Health Plan Vision, strategic priorities, tactics to achieve strategic priorities and went over options being currently evaluated for employee contributions which will increase in 2015. He responded to Mayor Pro Tem Smith considering the option of decreasing the subsidy for spouses of new hires and not for current employees and verification of available coverage for spouses. City Manager Glasscock spoke to the previous verification process. Mr. Parrish spoke to Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Harris' inquiry regarding the Connect for Health program and accountability. He spoke to the initiatives for 2014, including Live Healthy Plano and updating the workout facilities at Parkway Service Center and Municipal Center. Mr. Parrish responded to Council Member Davidson regarding the implementation of a proposed employee surcharge.

Council items for discussion/action on future agendas

No items were discussed.

Consent and Regular Agendas

No items were discussed.

Nothing further was discussed. Remaining items were presented during the Regular meeting. Mayor LaRosiliere adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Harry LaRosiliere, MAYOR

ATTEST

Diane Zucco, City Secretary