

PLANO CITY COUNCIL
Worksession
August 5, 2015

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Harry LaRosiliere, Mayor
Lissa Smith, Mayor Pro Tem
Ben Harris, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Angela Miner
Rick Grady
Ron Kelley
Tom Harrison

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

David Downs

STAFF PRESENT

Bruce Glasscock, City Manager
Frank Turner, Deputy City Manager
LaShon Ross, Deputy City Manager
Jim Parrish, Deputy City Manager
Mark Israelson, Assistant City Manager
Paige Mims, City Attorney
Lisa C. Henderson, City Secretary

Mayor LaRosiliere convened the Council into the Work Session on Wednesday, August 5, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the Senator Florence Shapiro Council Chambers of the Plano Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. A quorum was present.

Opening Remarks

City Manager Glasscock stated the Council would be receiving presentations on funding requests for Buffington Community Service Grants, Cultural Affairs Commission and the Heritage Commission. He advised Director of Budget and Research Rhodes-Whitley and the Commission Chairs will walk the Council through the grant requests.

Funding Requests

Buffington Community Service Grants

Due to a conflict of interest, Mayor Pro Tem Smith stepped down from the dais.

Community Relations Commission Vice-Chair Thomas advised that the fund was established in 1998 to address community needs and provide for programs addressing short-term, urgent economic assistance or care services; offer immediate relief of a crisis impacting the physical and/or mental health of Plano residents; and meet a consolidated plan goal. She advised that grants are limited to 50% of any agency's budget by state law, are available to non-profit agencies that have been in operation for three years or more, and general categories of assistance include food, clothing, shelter, transportation, and medical or crisis counseling.

Ms. Thomas advised that of the 30 applications for funding, 5 were funded with federal monies (\$195,461) and 17 with Buffington Community Service funds (\$270,900 or \$1/capita). She reviewed the financial challenges for grants, advising that there was a gap of \$395,444 between the requests and the allocation. Ms. Thomas reviewed the types of programs that will be supported by the recommended funding including: at-risk youth; home-delivered meal services for seniors; senior wellness/healthcare; clothing for school children; housing for homeless; services for battered/abused women and children; crisis counseling and/or intervention; and information and referral services. She further spoke to coordination among organizations reducing duplication of efforts. The Council stated concurrence in supporting the recommendations. Mayor Pro Tem Smith returned to the dais.

Presentation of Cultural Affairs Commission

Cultural Affairs Commission Chair Brockett spoke regarding the electronic grant application process and the calendar for the review process. He advised nineteen applications were reviewed and two did not meet minimum scores. Mr. Brockett stated funding is recommended for three special event/urban-town centers programs in the amount of \$32,002 from the General Fund, 14 major arts groups in the amount of \$800,000 and \$200,849 from the Hotel/Motel Fund for the Special Events. The Council stated concurrence in supporting the recommendations.

Presentation of Heritage Commission

Heritage Commission Vice-Chair Fox spoke to funding for these grants coming from hotel/motel taxes and earmarked for items that will build heritage tourism in Plano. She stated in considering the grants, the Heritage Commission uses the cumulative weighted criteria of 50% Heritage Tourism and Education, 25% Historic Preservation Merit, and 25% Administrative and Fiscal Responsibility. Ms. Fox provided a history of past Heritage Grants. She spoke to recommended grants covering operations/maintenance and projects for the Heritage Farmstead Museum (\$496,500), the Plano Conservancy for Historic Preservation, Inc. (\$250,358) and the North Texas Masonic Historical Museum and Library (\$35,500). The Council stated concurrence in supporting the recommendations.

Special Events Funding Recommendations

Senior Budget Analyst Layne presented the Special Events that are funded through the General fund. She stated the funding for the events totals \$150,000, and includes \$104,681 for City produced events and \$45,319 for non-profit produced events. Ms. Layne stated the non-profit requests are mainly for in-kind donation of services. The Council stated concurrence in supporting the recommendations.

Major Jonathan Rich of the Salvation Army introduced himself and the local staff. Tom McAllister of the Lion’s Club spoke to the number of volunteers for the parade.

Council Items and Issues for Discussion

No items were considered

Nothing further was discussed. Mayor LaRosiliere adjourned the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Harry LaRosiliere, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Lisa C. Henderson, City Secretary