

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
PRELIMINARY OPEN MEETING**

April 22, 2002

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jeran Akers, Mayor
Rick Neudorff, Mayor Pro tem
Phil Dyer, Deputy Mayor Pro tem
Shep Stahel
Scott Johnson
Steve Stovall
Jim McGee
Ken Lambert

STAFF

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck, City Manager
Frank Turner, Executive Director
Bruce Glasscock, Executive Director
Rod Hogan, Executive Director
Diane C. Wetherbee, City Attorney
John Gilliam, First Assistant City Attorney
Elaine Bealke, City Secretary

Mayor Akers called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m., Monday, April 22, 2002, in Training Room A of the Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. All Council Members were present. 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, receive Legal Advice, and discuss pending and potential Litigation, Section 551.071, for which a certified agenda is not required.

Mayor Akers reconvened the meeting back into the Preliminary Open Meeting at 5:55 p.m. in the Council Chambers for which the following matters were discussed:

Consideration and Action Resulting From Executive Session

No items were brought forward.

City Hall Meeting Room Reservation Policy Update

Executive Director Hogan stated that existing policy does not provide building supervision for public meetings being held and that there is no security in place other than janitorial.

Mr. Hogan stated that a proposed revision of the current policy includes an update of rental fees, and stated that direction is sought from the Council as to moving forward. He spoke to existing and proposed fee structures, historical usage of the building, and to those groups previously not charged for weekend usage of the building. Mr. Hogan spoke to existing bookings for this year and to the City funding security needs for these committed bookings, and stated that this change would not affect library or park facility policies. He advised the Council that groups unable to pay security fees could schedule their events in the day and during normal hours working around City usage of meeting rooms and further that fees outlined in the packet are comparatively less than what is charged at the recreation centers and were determined by a "best guess" by Staff as to what the cost would be to provide the service. Mr. Hogan further advised the Council that if approved, the City would fund security for existing reservations made prior to October 1, 2002 with the exception of new reservations received if and when new policy is adopted. He spoke to calculation of rates, not calculating square footage, equipment set-up needs, and advised the Council that no contact has been made to the user groups.

Council Member Lambert spoke to contacting the user groups and receiving input from them regarding the proposed policy change. Mr. Hogan spoke to receiving direction from the Council with regard to providing building security. Mr. Lambert agreed there should be some measure of security, that it should be up to Staff and the Police Department as to what security is needed, and that the important thing is to not leave the building open with neither Staff or Police personnel. Mayor Akers recommended touching base with the users and obtaining this information. Mr. Hogan advised he would put together a mailing. Council Member Stovall spoke to the need for a different charge for use of the Council Chambers as opposed to other rooms. Mr. Hogan spoke to using only the first floor meeting rooms in order to avoid use of the elevators.

Discussion and Direction regarding Modifications to Keep Plano Beautiful Ordinance

Council Member McGee spoke to recommendations made by the Keep Plano Beautiful (KPB) Commission to the Sunset Review Committee to increase the KPB Commission membership from seven to nine and to eliminate the "standing committees." Mr. McGee stated that he and Mayor Pro tem Neudorff recommend that the Commission be increased to eight members rather than nine and further concurred to eliminating the "standing committees" allowing the Commission to work on specific assignments identified to them by the Council. The Council concurred with the recommendation as presented and as scheduled on the Consent Agenda with the exception being to appoint eight members rather than nine.

Discussion and Direction regarding City Center Study Implementation Plan

Senior Planner Adams spoke to the City Center Strategic Implementation Plan previously adopted by the Council and to follow-up of the recommendations from the Plan as provided in the packet. He spoke to on-going or existing initiatives and policies as well as new initiatives and stated that some do have capital expenditures attached to them and have been identified. Mr. Adams stated that the level of financial commitment which would be required to fully implement the recommendations is outlined in the packet.

Mr. Adams advised the Council regarding development of a hike, bike and pedestrian trail linking the 190 Station to the Parker Road Station and tying into COG's regional "Veloweb" of going from and to Plano with connecting cities. Executive Director Turner advised the Council that with regard to the possibility of CDBG grant monies funding part of the Downtown area of the City with low interest loans for property owners that this would be available through housing rehabilitation being done in the adjoining neighborhoods, and that a small portion of CDBG monies may be used for historic preservation work. Planning Director Jarrell advised the Council that the City has chosen to utilize most of the CDBG funds towards housing rehabilitation in the neighborhoods rather than using the monies for commercial buildings or historic preservation purposes. Council Member Lambert spoke to the need for rehabilitation of the backs of the downtown buildings and spoke to participation of public funds to do this. Mayor Akers spoke to historic tax credits/rebates and stated that in essence this is being done.

Council Member Lambert requested regarding the Parker Road Transit Station location that property owners be kept involved in the process towards obtaining a final plan and that with regard to the area around the George Bush Turnpike and to looking at the possibility of residential in the area rather than commercial. Mr. Adams advised that no specific recommendations have been considered for the land use, that current zoning is non-residential but that this could be looked into. Mr. Lambert requested working very closely with property owners on the implementation schedule for the station area.

Mr. Adams advised the Council that a conservation district (Douglass Neighborhood) identified in the packet is a tool to be used to preserve the integrity of the neighborhood. Mr. Turner advised the Council regarding support of historic preservation programs and using unused funds that might be carried over, that monies have been set aside in past budget years but stated that he is not aware of any funds being held in reserve at this time. Mr. Adams advised the Council that initiatives in the downtown area do include non-specific uses of public art.

Council Member McGee spoke to preserving the corridor along K Avenue and the DART rail line and making possible zoning changes to preserve this corridor, and further spoke to the need for public restroom facilities in the Courtyard Theater/park/downtown area.

Mr. Turner stated that public restrooms are located in Haggard Park and that temporary facilities can be brought in for special events but that no plans exist for additional restroom buildings. Mr. McGee spoke to dedicating a section of the first floor parking garage to be built to restroom facilities.

Mr. Adams advised the Council that there are north and south hike and bike trails scheduled in the areas of the DART right-of-way, on the west side of the City following the power lines and the Rowlett Creek area. Executive Director Turner spoke to the Chisholm Trail running diagonally. Council Member Stovall spoke to the high dollar amount of the trails. Mr. Turner spoke to most of the funding for the trails identified in the packet is being provided from the North Central Council of Governments grant.

Mr. Stovall spoke to moving towards the recommendation of 2% of Capital Improvements going toward Public Art and to Staff development of this policy. Council Member Lambert spoke to this being addressed in the Public Arts Master Plan. Council Member Stahel spoke to working on the non-capital items with DART's proposed use of a rubber tired shuttle program (van) and the ongoing efforts with DART to have mass transit circulation and stated that parking will not be provided in the downtown area. Mr. Adams stated that the downtown shuttle with DART should begin this summer.

Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report

Director of Finance McGrane presented the Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report for March, 2002. He stated that sales tax, franchise fees, and licenses and permits are down. Mr. McGrane spoke to sales tax comparisons between the cities, and stated that in general the City's portfolio is doing well.

Council Member Lambert spoke to receiving information on revenue shortfalls and identifying what the projected savings will be due to the Budget Contingency Plan. Mr. McGrane stated that the Budget Department is tracking savings on the Contingency Plan and are also indicating what the thought is on where revenues are going in the five-month update. Council Member Stovall spoke regarding franchise fees such as with AT&T Cable Modem service and further requested figures of what costs to the City will be based on recent FCC rulings.

Council Items for Discussion/Action on Future Agendas

No items were discussed.

Consent and Regular Agenda

Council Members Stovall and Stahel advised that they will be stepping down from Consent Item "N", approval of a contract to maintain the PeopleSoft human resources and payroll system; "O", approval of purchase of an eGovernment application; "P", approval of an expenditure for the purchase from CDW-G; and "Q", approval of an expenditure for purchase and installation of personal computers and related software due to conflicts of interest.

The Council requested that Consent Item "L", ordinance to amend sections of the Keep Plano Beautiful Commission ordinance be removed for individual consideration in order to reflect a change to the ordinance as discussed.

Council Reports

Reactivation of the Council Outreach Committee

Mayor Akers spoke to the need for Asian Americans to be provided a formal means for which this community can communicate to the Council and to Council Member Stovall and Deputy Mayor Pro tem Dyer looking at suggestions from this area of the community under the umbrella of the Outreach Committee.

Nothing further was discussed. Mayor Akers recessed the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Jeran Akers, **MAYOR (Outgoing)**

Pat Evans, **MAYOR (Incoming)**

ATTEST:

Elaine Bealke, City Secretary