

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL  
PRELIMINARY OPEN MEETING  
February 12, 2007**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Pat Evans, Mayor  
Scott Johnson, Mayor Pro Tem  
Sally Magnuson, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem  
Shep Stahel  
Loretta Ellerbe  
Harry LaRosiliere  
Jean Callison  
Lee Dunlap

**STAFF**

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

Mayor Evans called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m., Monday, February 12, 2007, in Training Room A of the Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. All Council Members were present with the exception of Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Magnuson. Council Member Callison arrived at 5:10 p.m. Mayor Evans 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 and to discuss Litigation, Section 551.071, discuss Real Estate, Section 551.072 and discuss Personnel, Section 551.074 for which a certified agenda will be kept in the office of the City Secretary for a period of two years as required.

Mayor Evans reconvened the meeting back into the Preliminary Open Meeting at 5:54 p.m. in the Council Chambers where the following matters were discussed:

**Consideration and Action Resulting From Executive Session Discussion**

**Personnel Appointments**

Planning & Zoning Commission

Upon a motion made by Council Member Ellerbe and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Michael Coleman to an interim term expiring in October of 2008.

## **Personnel Appointment**

### Technology Commission

Upon a motion made by Council Member Stahel and seconded by Council Member Dunlap, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Javed Azam to an interim term expiring in October of 2007.

## **Mobility Report**

Traffic Engineering Manager Neal spoke to the timing of yellow traffic lights and stated that this has become an issue primarily arising from the installation of red light cameras. He spoke to maximizing the safety of existing signal operations, identified yellow time and red time, spoke to the driver determining whether or not the vehicle can stop, and stated that Texas law prohibits the entering of an intersection when the light is red. Mr. Neal stated that yellow time is broken into segments of reaction time and stopping distance. He spoke to red time and taking into consideration whether there are crosswalks, the length of the vehicle, reaction time, acceleration speed, and particulars such as the slope of the road which will impact stopping distance. Mr. Neal spoke to vehicle speed, road surface interaction, viewing of the signal from a distance and obstructions that may be present. He stated that yellow time should not exceed six seconds or be less than three seconds and spoke to determining the time in seconds that it will take to stop or proceed through an intersection. Mr. Neal identified resources available to the public to view and receive related information.

## **Street Light Audit Report**

Director of Customer and Utility Services Israelson addressed the Council regarding the results of the street light audit report, identified Republic Electric ITS Consultant Jeff Engle whose company oversaw the audit, Kevin Slay TXU Delivery Area Manager, and spoke to the excellent assistance provided by Administrative Coordinator Nancy Rodriquez.

Mr. Israelson stated that TXU reported an under billing with the City of nearly 400 streetlights. He spoke to receipt of a spreadsheet identifying light locations, GIS mapping done by the City, and the assignment of Republic Electric to perform a complete city wide streetlight audit and condition assessment. Mr. Israelson spoke to there being no TXU standards for streetlight maintenance other than safety and stated that on average the City pays \$220 per year for each streetlight regardless of the condition.

Mr. Israelson stated that the consultant identified 13,000 streetlights which included over 12,250 belonging to TXU and 700 belonging to CoServ. He spoke to maintenance issues which included various levels of damage, streetlights actually located outside the City that were included in the billing numbers, and 144 streetlights with incorrect attributes.

Mr. Israelson stated that the burden of proof is now on TXU to address the issue of duplicate billings and billing for service outside the City and further stated that a report has been turned over to TXU and CoServ with a request that standards for service be developed.

Mr. Israelson responded to the Council that the study took approximately six/seven months from start to finish at a cost of \$100,000. He stated that issues with CoServ are mainly due to poles not being marked resulting in response issues when repairs are needed and that all repairs are completed by TXU.

City Manager Muehlenbeck spoke to these issues being an ongoing problem with TXU for over fifteen years and stated that a request was made to TXU to share the cost of the study but was declined. He spoke to the percentage of street lights that were non-working and to this being unacceptable. Mayor Evans spoke to meeting with TXU previously regarding street lights that were out and issues regarding reporting this problem and recommended that a number be posted on the light poles every two miles so that citizens could call TXU directly to report the outage. Mr. Israelson responded that a number for this is posted on the City web page but that difficulties arise in correctly identifying the exact location of the pole. He responded to the Council that there is no contract with TXU and that no standard for maintenance or repair exists. Council Member Callison spoke to also addressing the aesthetic aspect of the light fixtures that are in disrepair. Mr. Israelson responded to the Council that TXU has stated that a certain dollar amount is built into their rate which allows for maintenance with no additional funding available and further stated that no dollar amount has been given him regarding what it would take to keep the lights maintained. He stated that study results will be distributed to whomever wishes to receive a copy. Mayor Pro Tem Johnson spoke to getting control of this situation, allowing a period of time for TXU to improve their performance and provide clearer details of what is being received for the money.

### **Report Regarding Large Sewer Line Repair**

Director of Public Works Foster spoke to the North Dallas Trunk Sewer line running west of Coit Road almost to Alma Road that is problematic at this time. He stated that this line is reinforced concrete pipe and was installed in various stages between 1976 and 1983. He stated that a failure in this line was experienced in mid-October on West Plano Parkway in the area east of Woodburn Corners which turned out to be an early warning sign of the bigger problem. Mr. Foster stated that while City crews have kept service going the pipe is virtually gone and on January 14 the line collapsed east of Custer Road creating a blockage and resulting in sewage outflow. He stated that equipment was brought in and bypass pipe installed, spoke to three projects involved and reviewed the steps to be taken. Mr. Foster stated that approximately 26,000 additional feet of reinforced concrete pipe in the City has been identified. He spoke to the great job done by Public Works Department Staff who have worked non-stop and in all types of weather conditions.

City Engineer Upchurch spoke to failures previously found and stated that a consulting engineer is being retained to begin design of a three phased project which will result in approximately \$7 Million in costs. He advised that two ten-hour shifts will be operated during the first phase of the project with some closure of Plano Parkway.

City Manager Muehlenbeck stated that this expense is unbudgeted with alternatives being short term debt, certificates of obligation, and internal loans.

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

Council Member Stahel requested that an update be provided on the Lexington Townhouse project at a future agenda.

### **Consent Agenda**

Council Member Stahel requested that Consent Item "N," approval of a contract for a technical consultant for JDEdwards EnterpriseOne ERP System, be removed for individual consideration due to a possible conflict of interest.

Citizen Tony Mauro requested that Consent Item "W," ordinance to amend licenses and business regulations in Chapter 11 of the Code of Ordinances, be removed for individual consideration.

### **Council Reports**

No reports were presented.

Mayor Evans convened the meeting directly into the Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m. where the remaining Preliminary Item was discussed.

---

**Pat Evans, Mayor**

ATTEST

---

Elaine Bealke, City Secretary