

**PLANO CITY COUNCIL
PRELIMINARY OPEN MEETING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2007**

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pat Evans, Mayor
Sally Magnuson, Mayor Pro Tem
Jean Callison, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Shep Stahel
Scott Johnson
Loretta Ellerbe
Harry LaRosiliere
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
Diane Zucco, City Secretary

Mayor Evans called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m., Monday, September 24, 2007, in Training Room A of the Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue. All Council Members were present with the exception of Mayor Pro Tem Magnuson. Council Member LaRosiliere arrived at 5:33 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, Section 551.071 and to 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 5:51 p.m. in the Council Chambers where the following matters were discussed:

**Consideration and Action Resulting from Executive Session Discussion:
Personnel Appointments**

Board of Adjustment

Upon a motion made by Council Member Ellerbe and seconded by Council Member Dunlap, the Council voted 7-0 to move Michael Pirek and Donnie Swango from Alternate positions to Regular positions, to appoint Roger Bolin to a one-year term as an Alternate and Carolyn Kalchthaler to a two-year term as an Alternate and Chris Polito as Chair.

Building Standards Commission

Upon a motion made by Council Member Stahel and seconded by Council Member Dunlap, the Council voted 7-0 to move Brian L. Eisenrich from an Alternate position to a Regular position, to appoint Doug A. Bender to an Alternate position and to appoint Jim Degnan as Chair.

Denton Central Appraisal District

The Council declined to take action on a nomination for the appraisal district board.

Heritage Commission

Upon a motion made by Council Member Dunlap and seconded by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Callison, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Karen Bellessa as a member and Clinton Osteen as Chair.

Planning and Zoning Commission

Upon a motion made by Council Member Johnson and seconded by Council Member Ellerbe, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Christopher Caso and Jeff D. Bulla III as members and James Duggan as Chair. The Council deferred appointment of another member.

Plano Housing Authority

Upon a motion made by Council Member Stahel and seconded by Council Member LaRosiliere, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Kathy Hines as the Resident member.

Retirement Security Plan Committee

The Council deferred this item.

Personnel Appointments

Transition and Revitalization Commission

Upon a motion made by Council Member Johnson and seconded by Council Member LaRosiliere, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Barbara Oldenburg and Irfan Uddin as members, to affirm the recommendation of the Plano Chamber of Commerce naming Jerry Kezhaya as their representative, and to appoint Pat Miner as Chair.

Parks and Recreation Planning Board

Upon a motion made by Council Member Stahel and seconded by Council Member Ellerbe, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Paul Jasina and Megan Greene as members and Susan Plonka as Chair.

Library Advisory Board

Upon a motion made by Council Member LaRosiliere and seconded by Council Member Johnson, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Ellen Peralta and Erma Spencer as members and Gregory J. Myer as Chair.

Community Relations Commission

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Callison and seconded by Council Member Ellerbe, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Shirley Aguilar and Richard Grady as members. The Council deferred appointment of a Chair.

Cultural Affairs Commission

Upon a motion made by Council Member LaRosiliere and seconded by Council Member Johnson, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Andrea Stroh and Margaret S. C. Tsai as members. The Council deferred appointment of a Chair.

Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

Upon a motion made by Council Member Stahel and seconded by Council Member LaRosiliere, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Sunny Ruth as a member and Eloisa Sue Muzquiz as Chair.

Global Advisory Committee

The Council deferred this item.

Keep Plano Beautiful Commission

Upon a motion made by Council Member Stahel and seconded by Council Member Dunlap, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint David M. Shipp and to reappoint John Caldwell as Chair.

Self Sufficiency Committee

The Council deferred this item.

Senior Citizens Advisory Board

Upon a motion made by Council Member Dunlap and seconded by Council Member Johnson, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Dee Taylor to a two-year term and Jay C. Lewis to a one-year interim term and further to reappoint Mary Jane Ketcham as Chair.

Tax Increment Financing Reinvestment Zone #1 Board

Upon a motion made by Council Member Johnson and seconded by Council Member Ellerbe, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Howard Steven Garfield to a one-year interim term.

Transportation Advisory Committee

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Callison and seconded by Council Member Dunlap, the Council voted 7-0 to appoint Connie Gilliland. The Council deferred appointment of another member and the Chair position.

Mobility Report

Transportation Engineering Manager Neal spoke to an agenda item proposing an increase from 45 to 50 mph on U.S. 75 service roads and to discussions held with TxDOT regarding the recommendation. He advised that the intersection of McDermott Road and Coit Road is being recommended for a school zone and to the scheduling of meetings related to ramp reversals on the Dallas North Tollway.

DART Report

DART Board Representative Paulk was unavailable and will provide a presentation at a later meeting.

Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report

Director of Finance McGrane presented the Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report for the month of August 2007, advising the Council that the General and the Water/Sewer Funds are behind where they were last year and spoke to the decrease in traffic fines, sales tax adjustment from the Comptroller's office and decrease in franchise fees. He spoke to expenses for the Water/Sewer Fund being up, the increase in the unemployment rate which is still at a very good level and stated that the source of this information is the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Mr. McGrane spoke to the leveling off of housing starts, absorption of homes on the market and value of existing homes. Mr. McGrane spoke regarding the Hotel/Motel Occupancy tax being slightly above where it was for June and average sales price of a home this year as compared to last. He spoke regarding the City's investments, anticipating a cash flow need for debt service and the possible effects of the Federal Reserve lowering interest rates.

Benefits Plan Review

Director of Human Resources Ross spoke to a decision made in 2006 to take a more formalized strategic approach to management of the City's health benefits plan and a subsequent agreement with HayGroup to act as a health benefit consultant. Anne DiFiore of HayGroup spoke to a long-term strategic perspective and a philosophical position for the City and the establishment of a benefits philosophy statement that "The City will provide benefits that offer affordable choices, consistent level of cost structure and encourage healthy living." She spoke to implementations to offer affordable and simple choices for the medical plan, pharmacy plan, dental plan and voluntary products as well as a consistent level of cost structures. Ms. DiFiore spoke to review of the medical and pharmacy claims and projections going forward into 2008.

Ms. DiFiore reviewed revisions for 2008 including adjustment of premium equivalent rates to four tiers, looking at equitable contribution levels and adjustments to employee contributions, minor revisions to the medical plan, design changes to the pharmacy plan to provide for coinsurance rather than co-pay, and the consolidating of dental offerings to one PPO plan. She spoke to retirees over 65 having a choice of Medicare-based plans, a change in the policy prohibiting retirees from re-enrolling, and elimination of the cancer policy and pre-paid legal plan. Ms. DiFiore responded to Council Member Ellerbe regarding mail-order prescriptions and stated that employees may only make a choice of plans during open enrollment unless there is a lifestyle change during the year. She further advised regarding lifetime maximum benefits.

Bridge and Culvert Report

Director of Public Works Foster spoke regarding the bridge collapse in Minneapolis raising interest in the condition of bridges and culverts in the City. He spoke to the national level where 12% of bridges are structurally deficient. Mr. Foster spoke to TxDOT records indicating that 4% of the state's bridges are structurally deficient and regarding the definitions of "structurally deficient" and "functionally obsolete." He spoke to the terms being used by the Federal Highway Administration to classify and prioritize bridges for federal funding.

Mr. Foster spoke to the bridges and culverts in Plano being inspected every two years and reviewed those culverts that have been rehabilitated. He spoke to the release of a "sufficiency rating" from TxDOT, stated that all bridges and culverts in the City are structurally sound and that traffic safety is the paramount goal of the Plano Public Works and Transportation Engineering Departments. City Manager Muehlenbeck responded to Council Member Stahel stating that specifications for the bridge at Parker Road and U.S. 75 are being reviewed by TxDOT and thanked Staff for their efforts in providing this information.

Renewable Energy Credits

Director of Customer and Utility Services Israelson spoke to the state's goal of 2,000 megawatts of renewable power by 2009 and purchase of energy credits through the Cities Aggregation Power Project. He spoke to the City supporting sustainable energy and an item on the agenda in the amount of \$14,500. The Council stated a consensus to move forward.

Council Items for Discussion/Action on Future Agendas

No items were discussed

Consent Agenda

Council Member Stahel advised that due to a possible conflict of interest he would be stepping down on Consent Agenda Item "G," to approve the purchase of support services for servers and printers in the amount of \$42,876 from Hewlett Packard Company.

Council Reports

Mayor Evans spoke to the good level of attendance at the Multi-Cultural Outreach Roundtable and thanked the Council for their support.

Council Member Stahel spoke regarding the turnout at the Plano Balloon Fest, media coverage and launches unimpeded by weather conditions.

Nothing further was discussed. Mayor Evans adjourned the Preliminary meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Pat Evans, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Diane Zucco, City Secretary