

MINUTES
RICHARDSON CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2012

WORK SESSION — 6:00 P.M.

• **Call to Order**

Mayor Townsend called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. with the following Council members present:

Bob Townsend	Mayor
Laura Maczka	Mayor Pro Tem
Mark Solomon	Council member
Kendal Hartley	Council member
Steve Mitchell	Council member
Amir Omar	Council member

Absent

Scott Dunn	Council member
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The following staff members were also present:

Dan Johnson	City Manager
David Morgan	Deputy City Manager
Cliff Miller	Assistant City Manager Development Services
Samantha Woodmancy	Management Analyst
Aimee Nemer	City Secretary
Michael Massey	Director of Parks and Recreation
Roger Scott	Assistant Director of Parks and Planning
Jim Spivey	Chief of Police

A. Visitors

No visitors submitted comments.

B. Review and Discuss the Midyear Crime Statistics and Police Department Update

Staff Comments

Chief Spivey reviewed the mid-year Crime Statistics and Police Department Update noting that it is a very good report showing percentages down in nearly every category. He explained that the department is working diligently on business burglary cases, which have increased.

Chief Spivey reviewed the department initiatives, including an explanation of reporting styles which recently changed from Incident Based Reporting to Uniform Crime Reporting. Chief Spivey discussed other initiatives such as the Operational Support Unit, cross-over crime meetings with surrounding departments, Facebook/Twitter, and the Emergency Operations Center. Chief noted that many of these initiatives have been reestablished due to the department being fully staffed.

Chief Spivey reminded Council of the upcoming National Night Out in which the department has placed 2nd nationwide in the City's population category.

Council Comments

Councilmember's Mitchell commented on the burglary of motor vehicles statistics and expressed a desire to use these statistics to persuade legislators to reinstate legislation making this crime a felony. Councilmember Solomon stated that the funds from the Automobile Theft Prevention Authority have been diverted and he hoped they would be reinstated for this cause. Chief Spivey responded that this initiative was also a priority for the Texas Police Chiefs Association.

Councilmember Hartley inquired if the 191 residential burglaries were in the same general locations. Chief Spivey indicated that they were not in one particular area.

Councilmember Mitchell asked about the Spring Valley initiative. Chief Spivey reported that the area is still a focus of the department.

Mayor Townsend stated that it was a good report and thanked Chief Spivey.

C. Review and Discuss the Heights Recreation Center, Heights Aquatics Center and Gymnastic Center Project

Staff Comments

Mick Massey, Director of Parks and Recreation updated Council on the progress of these projects stating that the Gymnastics Center is scheduled to open January 2, 2013, Heights Recreation Center is scheduled for May 27, 2013, and the Heights Family Aquatics Center is scheduled for June 2013.

Mr. Massey explained to Council that the Aquatics Center is a month behind schedule due to some utility issues, but noted that the contractor is working diligently to get the schedule back on track. Mr. Massey also informed Council that the aquatic slides, which were originally an add-alternative, would be brought forward to Council on a future agenda as a change order for approximately \$370,000. He explained that staff is forecasting funding the slides through cost savings on this and other projects as well as the project contingency.

Mr. Massey also explained to Council that this is the appropriate time to conduct a rate review of the Gymnastics Center and commented that proposed rates would be consistent with other public sector facilities and below or comparable to private sector fees. He noted that new rates would be effective with the opening of the new facility.

Council Comments

Councilmember Omar asked if there would be any cost savings on these projects. Roger Scott, Assistant Director of Parks and Planning responded that staff doesn't anticipate any more cost savings, but noted that several cost saving options were executed early in the projects.

There was some discussion about the metal skin on the Gymnastics Center and the cost difference to add the metal piece. Deputy City Manager David Morgan stated he would get the cost difference on the metal piece for Council. He explained that many decisions on add-alternates had to be made early in the project, but staff has identified other add-alternates that can be added later when

funding is determined. Mr. Morgan noted that staff is not recommending the monument sign and the flag poles but is recommending the ceiling fans.

Mayor Townsend asked staff to explain the cost of the slide and funding for the Aquatic Center. Mr. Morgan responded that savings from this project and other capital projects has been identified as well as the ability to release some contingency funding at this point in the project. Mr. Morgan also explained that the facility is a family aquatic center and the slide provides an option for the middle school and high school aged kids.

City Manager Johnson explained that the slide is specifically designed and located for safety and the cost includes the system for the slide to be piped with water and drained properly.

Councilmember Solomon noted that the slide was in the original concept and it is high on the priority list for patrons. He also stated that the Park Commission unanimously approved this item.

Councilmember Mitchell asked staff to assess the use of a construction project manager on this project. Mr. Morgan stated that due to the complexity, it made sense on this project. He explained that staff would evaluate future projects to determine the need for a construction project manager.

D. Review and Discuss a Proposal for a Regional Trail Connection at Breckinridge Park

Staff Comments

Mr. Massey, Director of Parks and Recreation reviewed the proposal from the City of Plano to construct a concrete trail from Murphy Road to Rowlett Creek/Breckinridge Park totaling 1.9 miles. He explained that this project is 100% funded by the City of Plano and is part of the Six Cities Trail Plan and the Collin County Regional Trails Master Plan. Mr. Massey said that Phase 1 is planned to go from the west side of Murphy Road to the existing trail on Rowlett Creek in Breckinridge Park. He explained that the goal is to provide a trail connection to Otto Middle School, and then ultimately continue to the DART station and President George Bush Tollway. He stated that currently, Phase 2 (to Otto Middle School) is unfunded, but the City of Plano has applied for a Collin County grant. Mr. Massey explained that the next step is for Council to approve an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Plano which will be on a future agenda.

Council Comments

Councilmember Solomon noted that this item received unanimous consent from the Park Commission.

E. Review and Discuss the Scenic City Gold Award Presented to City of Richardson

Staff Comments

Samantha Woodmancy, Management Analyst, reviewed this item with Council explaining the background and requirements of the Scenic City Certification program. She stated that there are five levels of certification: Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Recognized; and noted the City of Richardson has been recognized with the Gold Certification 2012-2017. She explained that the City is able to reapply for higher ranking as City regulations and ordinances are updated. Ms. Woodmancy highlighted below some of the areas recognized:

- Streetscape: protection of native & established trees, landscaping and sidewalks

- Parks, Trails and Public Spaces
- Sign Ordinance requirements and enforcement
- Lighting standards for streetscapes & public spaces
- Protection of landscaping during construction activities
- Clearly stated unity of design standards

Ms. Woodmancy informed Council of several upcoming events in which the City will be recognized for the award. She also explained that with the Gold Certification, the City has full use of the Scenic City logo and emblem for use in various media and signage.

Council Comments

Councilmember Solomon inquired why the City didn't receive the Platinum Certification. Mr. Morgan explained that the City received minor deductions in various categories and reiterated that the City can reapply especially with the recent approval of the new sign ordinance.

Councilmember Omar inquired about publicizing with signage at the City entry portals. Mr. Morgan stated that staff is reviewing options that will be the most effective.

F. Report on Items of Community Interest

Council Comments

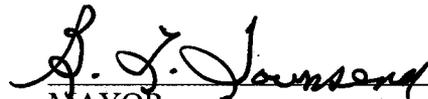
Councilmember Omar commented on Community Arts Day and stated he was impressed with the number of attendees. He said that he heard from many people that the event should be held annually.

Councilmember Mitchell commented on the Four Seasons Market held at the NTX parking lot stating it was very popular event and it is nice to have this type of farmer's style market organized by the private sector.

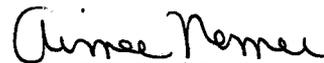
Councilmember Solomon commended Bruce MacPherson and the entire Eisemann Center staff on a great weekend of events to celebrate the 10th Anniversary.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY SECRETARY