



COMMITTEE WORK SESSION JANUARY 4, 2010

Committee Members Present: Todd Bergstrom
Don Nicolard
Brenda Hlas
Bill Mowery
Ken Braman
Scott Pelot
Mike Zita

Also Present: Mayor David Koontz (Excused at 8:10 PM)
Rick Ryland
John Moss
Karla Richards
Ann Campbell

The Committee Work Session convened on Monday, January 4, 2010 at 7:26 PM, in the Council Chambers of the Safety Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mike Zita, President of Council. Following a salute to the flag and the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a moment of silent prayer.

Public Comment-Agenda and Non Agenda Items:

There was no communication from the public this evening

General Topics of Discussion

Approve 2010 Meeting Schedule:

Mr. Pelot moved to approve the 2010 Meetings Schedule, seconded by Mr. Braman.

Roll Call: Yeas: Pelot, Braman, Bergstrom, Nicolard, Hlas, Mowery, Zita
Nays: None

Motion passed 7-0.

Finance Issues:

Mr. Moss stated there is an advance and several transfers that need authorization by Council even though they are outlined within the 2010 Budget. Mr. Moss stated there are also two expenses that exceed the \$3,000.00 threshold and he needs Councils approval for then and now certificates in order to pay these. Mrs. Hlas asked for the details for the advances and transfers and Mr. Moss replied that the advance is in the amount of

\$200,000.00 for Barber Road. Mr. Moss indicated there were a total of seven (7) transfers as were outlined in the 2010 Budget. Mrs. Hlas indicated that is an approximate total of \$900,000.00 in transfers and Mr. Moss concurred. Mrs. Hlas questioned the percentages in the tipping fees, and Mr. Moss explained that a percentage is spread out and distributed to the Service Department. Mrs. Hlas stated that originally when this account was set up 100% of the tipping fee was supposed to go to that department. Mr. Moss stated he has not changed anything, he has just been following past practices the way it was originally set up. Mrs. Hlas asked about the need for the then and now certificates. Mr. Moss explained that one is to pay the \$4,500.00 expense for copies of the plans for the new fire station, which was not anticipated. The other expense is for Comp Management Inc. for \$6,300.00 and relates to Workers Compensation fees. There was brief discussion on future finance needs for the purchase of the Lindeman property, construction of Gardner Blvd. Phase III for approximately \$306,605.00 and the new fire station. Mr. Moss indicated he would have more detailed information on these issues ready for the next work session on January 19, 2010. Mrs. Hlas moved to place the advance for \$200,000.00 Barber Debt Service (773) on Councils next agenda, seconded by Mr. Zita.

Roll Call: Yeas: Hlas, Zita, Bergstrom, Nicolard, Mowery, Braman, Pelot
Nays: None

Motion passed 7-0.

Mrs. Hlas moved to place the seven (7) transfers for the Street Fund #102 for \$470,000.00; Debt Service Fund #771 for \$105,000.00; Community Center Fund #117 for \$25,000.00; Historical House Fund #118 for \$1,000.00; Tipping Fees Fund #102 for \$8,000.00; Street Fund #440 for \$40,000.00 and Road Program Fund #170 for \$290,000.00 on Council's next agenda, with emergency language and waiving second and third readings, seconded by Mr. Zita.

Roll Call: Yeas: Hlas, Zita, Bergstrom, Nicolard, Mowery, Braman, Pelot
Nays: None

Motion passed 7-0.

City Wide Trash Service:

Mr. Ryland stated that in the next few weeks he would have legislation ready to authorize for bids to allow for one (1) citywide trash hauler. Mr. Ryland explained the damage caused to the roads by allowing so many trucks, and that just three (3) trucks per week is the same impact as five hundred (500) cars. Our goal is to have one (1) truck per week to limit the impact. Mr. Ryland indicated that he is not asking Council for legislation tonight, and he will be looking at providing you with more details. Mr. Zita questioned when the contract is up with J & J Refuse and Mr. Ryland replied it was up at the end of December. Mr. Ryland stated this new citywide plan would only be for residential and would not affect commercial customers or dwellings with eight (8) or more occupants. Mr. Nicolard asked if we are looking at option #4 in the packet provided and Mr. Ryland replied yes, most likely. Mr. Ryland stated that financially this is a better deal for the

residents, the cost would be less than what they are paying now and we would be asking for less money for road programs. Mr. Pelot stated that in the past we had a lot of controversy with this issue. One topic was when you have an elderly resident who only generated one or two bags of trash a week and this would be mandated. Mr. Moss stated the solution for that could be that a smaller bin might be available at a lower cost for single residents. Mr. Nicolard indicated a Norton resident who owns a trash hauling business was present in the audience and perhaps he would like to comment. Mr. George Arsic owner of 123 Disposal, commented about the proposed idea. Mr. Arsic stated that although this is an investment, it could be accommodated. Mr. Arsic indicated that in Norton you have about 4300 homes being serviced and he sees no downside to this, its attractive to him as a homeowner. As a business owner you would be guaranteed a set income. Mr. Moss asked if there was anything in our discussions here tonight that would prohibit drawing in any local business from bidding? Mr. Arsic stated that if you decided you want to limit pickup to one (1) day a week you would be getting the most skilled companies that are detailed and very interested. Mr. Arsic stated that bids will be all over the place, for instance in New York City, they restrict pick up to evening hours because of the daytime traffic. Some cities require that the trucks have snowplows attached and charge extra if they plow. Mr. Arsic indicated that two (2) trucks could service approximately 500 homes. Mr. Nicolard asked if we would still be able to keep the annual appliance pick up with this new program? Mr. Ryland replied yes. Ms. Gayle Brenner, a Norton resident, reminded Council to really check the details when you make this decision. With some companies if your trash won't all fit into their containers they will not take it, and if some falls out they will not get out of their trucks to pick it up. Mr. Ryland stated Ms. Brenner's points were well taken, but if we go to one carrier that might not be the case. There was more discussion on this issue such as leaf pick up in the fall, and the pros and cons to this, in house billing, etc, and Mr. Bergstrom decided to keep this on the next Work Session agenda for more discussions.

Highway Enforcement Cameras:

Mr. Mowery moved to remove this item from tonight's agenda and keep it on the Matters Referred list, seconded by Mr. Nicolard. Mr. Mowery stated that Mr. Ryland is waiting for more detailed information and would like to hold off on discussions at this time.

Roll Call: Yeas: Mowery, Nicolard, Bergstrom, Hlas, Braman, Pelot, Zita
Nays: None

Motion passed 7-0.

Engineering for Parkway Blvd. Resurfacing:

Mr. Ryland stated this road is the worst in the city, it slants in the wrong direction and we have serious drainage issues in this area. The whole road needs to be re-engineered. Mr. Ryland indicated the preliminary estimates are around \$25,000.00 and is on the boarder for going to Board of Control so he would just as well take it to Council now for approval. There was further discussion and it was decided to place a limit of not to exceed \$30,000.00 for an engineering study.

Mr. Braman moved to allow for the Administration to seek engineering bids not to exceed \$30,000.00 on Council's next agenda, seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yeas: Braman, Pelot, Bergstrom, Nicolard, Hlas, Mowery, Zita
Nays: None

Motion passed 7-0.

Non-Bargaining Employee Dental Benefits:

Mr. Ryland stated the city has reached tentative agreements with the three (3) labor units and that in the past dental was part of the self-insured plan. Mr. Ryland indicated that part of the negotiations he has asked to include all non-bargaining employees into the AFSCME Dental III plan, which requires Council's approval. Mr. Pelot asked what is the cost per employee and Mr. Ryland replied \$56.00 per employee per month. Mr. Pelot moved to add this to Council's next agenda with emergency language waiving second and third readings, seconded by Mr. Nicolard.

Roll Call: Yeas: Pelot, Nicolard, Bergstrom, Hlas, Mowery, Braman, Zita
Nays: None

Motion passed 7-0.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Ryland advised Council he would be meeting this week with the Dep. Director of ODOT to review the status of the \$16,575.00 change order for St. Rt. 261. Mr. Ryland cautioned Council that depending on the outcome of this meeting, he may be looking to Council for further direction on this issue. There was brief discussion as to the background on how this situation occurred and Mr. Bergstrom asked to have a copy of the plans because he had a hard time justifying the cost for the extra asphalt aprons. Mr. Ryland stated he would get a copy of those plans when he meets with ODOT on Friday.

New Business:

None

Topics for the next Work Session:

City wide trash hauler

Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Committee Work Session, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Mike Zita, President of Council

*NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM** All Committee Meetings will be held at the Norton Safety Administration Building, unless otherwise noted.