

**MILWAUKIE CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
OCTOBER 16, 2000**

The work session came to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Milwaukie City Hall Conference Room.

City Council present: Mayor Tomei and Councilors King, Lancaster, Marshall, and Newman.

City staff present: City Manager Pro Tem Swanson and Assistant City Managers Bennett and Richards.

Information Sharing

The group discussed format for the consultant interviews and suggested questions.

Councilor King recently attended the Poverty Conference and reviewed several ideas she brought out of the sessions including a utility bill donation program to assist low-income property owners with clean up projects. **Councilor Marshall** suggested directing that type of project through the Neighborhood District Associations (NDA).

There was consensus on preparing a letter of support for a Johnson Creek Watershed grant application as recommended by **Councilor King**.

The group discussed rescheduling the November 6 work session so Councilors could attend the Living History Day event, but some were concerned with the volume of agenda items.

The Council discussed the process for citizens contacting Council.

Councilor Lancaster discussed support for the Parks District's bond measure.

Councilor Marshall suggested submitting Milwaukie's neighborhood grant program for presentation at next year's Innovations Group event in Dublin, Ohio.

Councilor Newman was selected as Milwaukie's voting delegate at the League of Oregon Cities annual business meeting.

Swanson updated the Council on a recent 2001 Festival Daze planning meeting.

Swanson addressed the issue of sewer service within the urban growth boundary and reviewed the provisions of the 1990 Urban Growth Management Agreement (UGMA) between Milwaukie and Clackamas County. He recommended expanding the number of coordinating committees from 4 to 6 and creating a management group to oversee the activities of these committees.

These committees would consider sewer, storm, water, transportation, planning, and law enforcement services. He proposed a 4-member oversight group consisting of one Clackamas County Commissioner and County Administrator and a Milwaukie Councilor and City Manager. The Agreement calls for quarterly meetings, and Swanson felt it was time to adhere to the provisions of the agreement in order to move the processes forward and consider service issues. He also recommended the City Council meet quarterly with the Board of Commissioners. The Council supported Swanson's proposal.

Open Public Forum

Keith Faust expressed concerns with Milwaukie High School student parking in the neighborhoods and more specifically on 27th Avenue. The student parking lots are closed because of construction, and those who drive have no where to park but on the residential streets. Some drivers even park their cars in front of driveways. When informed of the neighborhood's concerns, the School responded nothing could be done about the situation. The School made no effort to involve residents in what has proven to be a disruption in their daily lives. He understood 2 houses would be demolished on Washington Street to build a parking lot, but that does not solve the current problem.

Bennett recommended Faust call the police department if a car is parked in front of his driveway. Staff is evaluating the scope of the problem and what can be done to alleviate it.

Councilor Marshall suggested the neighborhood talk to the School Board.

Ed Zumwalt said the Downtown and Riverfront Land Use Framework Plan was adopted with the understanding there would be a traffic impact study budgeted for the next fiscal year. He warned there will be a lot of problems if the traffic management plan is not done. From his perspective, things were not being done in order, and he was concerned neighborhoods would suffer. Parking needs must be addressed before any development takes place. He understood the importance of downtown revitalization, but someone needs to champion the neighborhoods.

Councilor Marshall felt the Neighborhood District Associations (NDA) could be very influential if they worked together.

Zumwalt heard comments during the budget process that the neighborhoods should not get more grant money because they represent too few residents. The downtown is important, but things are going too far. He would like the NDAs to have something to say about what goes on in the City.

Councilor Marshall encouraged NDAs to get involved. If residents want to form a committee to work on traffic impacts, that alone would influence the Council. There are avenues available to citizens such as working with the Traffic Safety Board.

Zumwalt urged Council not to cut funds for the traffic impact study.

Councilor King felt the City could do a better job of communicating how much NDA input is valued.

Zumwalt said people are apathetic and feel the NDAs are only called on when they are needed to help with a project such as developing a vision statement.

Councilor Newman recommended Zumwalt encourage his colleagues to contact the City Council. The City spends a lot of its resources on the neighborhoods through grants, neighborhood parks, and traffic calming.

Councilor Lancaster suggested quarterly joint Council/neighborhood leadership meetings.

Susan Stone said the Traffic Safety Board (TSB) considered the recent Council decision on location of 32nd Avenue speed bumps. At the Board's recent meeting, Julie Wisner moved to recommend the northernmost speed bump be moved to Hillside, and Linda Montgomery seconded the motion. The TSB unanimously approved the motion.

Stone provided statistics on the number of citations issued in the area, density, and stopping distances. Traffic speed is an issue of both livability and safety. Speed bumps discourage bad driving behavior, and she urged the City Council to approve the full project. She stated Providence Milwaukie Hospital and the emergency service providers are not opposed to speed bumping the southern end of 32nd Avenue.

Bennett outlined three issues:

1. The area south of Harvey Street is zoned commercial and there are efforts to develop as office and commercial;
2. Additional work needs to be done with emergency providers because initial discussions indicate they may not be totally in favor of speed bumps at Hillside; and
3. Speed humps on 32nd Avenue may result in more vehicles entering the hospital from 36th Avenue and impacting that neighborhood.

Stone said 36th Avenue is not an issue since it does not have the volume to qualify for traffic calming. She provided a letter from TSB member Linda Montgomery supporting the full 32nd Avenue project.

Councilor King suggested Ardenwald consider an entry treatment such as an attractive traffic divider.

Stone thought that would tie in beautifully with a speed bump at Hillside.

Bennett added the contract has been issued for the project.

Consultant Selection

Council interviewed Waldron and Company, Executive Search in the Public Sector, and Bob Murray and Associates for the city manager search consultant contract and discussed the merits of each firm.

Councilor Marshall thought Gwen Harvey, Executive Search in the Public Sector, was fresh, new, and up for the challenge. Murray has a lot of experience with an extensive background in city manager searches. He favored Harvey but would not argue against Murray.

Mayor Tomei supported Murray and noted Harvey did not have City Manager recruitment experience.

Councilor Newman was most impressed by Murray. He was concerned Harvey did not have an understanding of common practices such as guarantees.

Councilor Lancaster thought Harvey had an East Coast flavor that might be an impediment in the Northwest. He was also concerned about her inexperience in recruiting city managers. Murray has placed over 200 city managers many of whom were in the northwest.

Councilor King had reservations about hiring a California firm.

Councilor Newman thought hiring Murray was defensible based on his extensive experience.

The group reviewed the cost proposals and determined they were relatively close. Councilors agreed there should be a guarantee in the agreement, and **Swanson** assured them a contract would be negotiated in the City's best interest.

Other

The group agreed to direct staff to pursue a contract with Bob Murray & Associates with a guarantee clause advantageous to the City.

Mayor Tomei commented briefly on Metro meetings she attended and urged people to attend the upcoming South Corridor Transportation Study Open House on October 24 at the Milwaukie Public Safety Building.

Councilor Marshall spoke on two issues:

- He thought the Council members should come to concurrence about what they want from a city manager before working with the consultant.
- He wanted a discussion in the near future on infrastructure and what direction the Council may want to take.

Swanson saw several structural issues he needed to address. One was code enforcement and the other was parking.

Councilor Marshall suggested discussing the deficiency in the current city government structure. Council needs to be involved in setting the course.

The group agreed not to reschedule the November 6 work session.

Richards said it is important to consider how information goes out to the organization and community.

Councilor Lancaster discussed changing the organizational culture and moving away from being afraid of identifying a problem and suggesting possible solutions.

Traffic Safety Board Recommendation

Mayor Tomei recommended proceeding with the 32nd Avenue project as deliberated and voted upon at the Council meeting.

Councilor Newman voted to support six speed bumps, and it is staff's role to work with the citizens. He supports traffic calming where appropriate and recommended letting the experts determine the location. He encouraged further research with the hospital and emergency providers.

Bennett reiterated her concerns about redirecting traffic to 36th Avenue if there were speed bumps at the 32nd Avenue hospital entrance.

Councilor Marshall urged going ahead with the project as was agreed upon. He suggested the commercial development at the south end of 32nd Avenue could help pay for traffic calming. He did not wish to create more problems for 36th Avenue residents.

Councilor Lancaster suggested further research into stop signs.

Swanson announced the City Council would meet in executive session immediately following adjournment of the work session to discuss potential litigation pursuant to ORS 192.660.

The work session ended at 9:00 p.m.

Pat DuVal, Recorder