

**MILWAUKIE CITY COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION  
FEBRUARY 5, 2001**

The work session came to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room.

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

City staff present: City Manager Pro Tem Swanson; Assistant City Manager M. Bennett; Planning Director Rouyer; Neighborhood Services Manager Gregory; Program Specialist Wachs; and Information Specialist Wheeler.

### **Information Sharing**

The group discussed the proposed Metro Greenspaces levy and project funding. **Councilor Newman** felt funds should be dedicated to capital projects determined by the local jurisdictions and not used for operations. **Councilor Marshall** supported a Greenspaces levy.

**Art Ball** asked Council to consider funding the Stanley/Willow Park master plan in the Lewelling neighborhood in order to move the property from its current land bank mode. The Plan, which will cost between \$8,000 and \$10,000, is the first step in starting some of the improvements. The estimate total completion cost of the park project is \$130,000. Bringing water to site for plantings will cost about \$5,000.

**Swanson** said there are certain property acquisition issues which may affect this request.

### **Johnson Creek Watershed Presentation**

**Council President King** introduced **Maggie Skenderian**, City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services and **Jeff Eubel**, US Forest Service and Johnson Creek Watershed Council President.

**Eubel** gave an overview of the *Johnson Creek Restoration Plan*. The section of this 26-mile creek within Milwaukie are important to fish spawning and provides a refuge area during times of poor water quality in the Willamette. The major emphasis of the Plan is to restore the floodplain as well as provide over-wintering areas for the fish. In addition, there are numerous opportunities to replant the riparian areas. He showed a video tracing Johnson Creek's history.

**Skederian** noted the work started in 1991, and, in 1995, the *Johnson Creek Resource Management Plan*, describing resources in a comprehensive manner, was adopted. Restoration activities are voluntary, and the Watershed Council works to coordinate the various jurisdictions and seeks grants.

**Councilor Lancaster** was concerned jurisdictions upstream from Milwaukie were similarly committed to the restoration project.

**Councilor King** said, as an executive board member, she has seen this multi-jurisdictional project grow and gather support from Rep. Blumenauer and FEMA. There is a greater possibility of funding if all of the jurisdictions work together. Both she and R. Bennett are active with coordinating activities.

**Eubel** added Johnson Creek in Milwaukie is an important site because it is near the Willamette and is fed by cool spring water.

### **Citizen and Youth Involvement Projects**

**Wachs** discussed three programs, Citizen Involvement Board, government education series, and youth development, and outlined possible implementation strategies.

**Councilor Newman** suggested contacting Southeast Uplift and Portland State University regarding classes on citizen involvement.

**Councilor Lancaster** asked if any curriculum credits were offered to students involved with youth councils.

**Wachs** understood there could be a link with next year's senior project requirement. He spoke with the Milwaukie High School student leadership, and members were receptive.

**Councilor Newman** felt there could also be a collaborative effort with the Parks District.

The group discussed other youth involvement programs implemented by cities in the region and the amount of staff time required to get projects started.

**Councilor Lancaster** asked to what extent parents would be involved. If parents acted in a supporting role, two segments of the community could be reached through one effort.

**Wachs** believed youth should be given ownership and responsibility for success and not directed too much.

**Councilor Marshall** was supportive of education series followed by the Citizen Involvement Board then youth development.

**Councilor Newman** suggested continuing citizen involvement efforts through the Neighborhood District Associations (NDA) and leadership meeting rather than creating a new advisory board.

**Councilor Marshall** suggested a Citizen Involvement Committee could alleviate some staff workloads.

**Councilor Lancaster** was interested in forming project groups with defined goals to be completed within a specified amount of time but not increasing the number of appointed advisory boards.

**Councilor King** felt educating citizens should be a priority.

**Councilor Marshall** agreed training is essential. He wanted citizens to be more involved and make more decisions so Council could work more on the state and county levels.

**Councilor Newman** saw youth involvement and training going hand-in-hand. The NDAs are already a good apparatus for citizen involvement.

The group discussed the aspects of Martin County, Florida's Citizens Academy and Resource Education Series (CARES) and the applicability to Milwaukie. All agreed educating the public was critical, and the process of laying out the functions of each department could help in the class/comp study, transforming, and budgeting projects.

**Swanson** saw this as building trust, educating, developing citizen capacity, and increasing youth involvement in the training program. Local chambers of commerce frequently sponsor training programs.

**Direction: Prepare an education series proposal for Council review in one month that includes a youth track.**

### **Tree Committee Charge**

**Rouyer** recommended a clear statement of the Committee's charge and work program. She suggested the group meet four times to prepare findings and conclusions within a four-week time period. She further suggested the Committee review the draft Urban Forestry ordinance sections relating to regulation of tree cutting on public property, protection of tree resources on private property including the possibility of incentive programs, and protecting significant, historical trees. The desired outcome might be findings and conclusions from which to prepare an ordinance for Council adoption.

The group felt there should be some flexibility in the number of times the Committee would meet within the given time period. Some work could be done by subgroups without a staff person attending.

**Councilor Marshall** suggested the Committee charge include consideration of tree maintenance/pruning codes.

The group discussed the member selection process and the general consensus was a 5 to 7 person committee.

### **Other**

The group discussed a recent action by the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners that placed the Sunrise Corridor Project in front of the Harmony/Linwood intersection improvements for funding.

**Councilor Marshall** urged the community to speak up on this issue. The Sunrise Corridor project puts further stress on an already inadequate intersection.

**Bennett** suggested joining with the other Clackamas Cities to develop a strategy for working with the County. There are negative consequences for communities like Milwaukie when construction takes place on the outskirts. Rhode is the current Clackamas Cities representative to Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT), and Councilor Newman is the alternate. Linwood/Harmony is a county intersection, so the Commissioners consider it a trade.

**Swanson** recommended taking two actions: Council makes direct contact with the County to say this is not a supportable substitution, and Clackamas Cities JPACT representatives gathering support for the cities' positions.

**Councilor Lancaster** saw the trade as irresponsible and was concerned the County had no dialogue with the City.

The group discussed the importance of preliminary engineering in further project funding.

**Direction: Bennett will prepare a letter to the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners for the Council President's signature.**

**Swanson** further suggested Clackamas Cities discuss the issue and develop an urban position on something that affects a lot of jurisdictions.

**Swanson** announced the Council would meet in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 to discuss potential litigation.

### **Adjournment**

The work session ended at 7:55 p.m.

---

Pat DuVal, Recorder