

**MILWAUKIE CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
OCTOBER 15, 2001**

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

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

Staff present: City Manager Swanson, Neighborhood Services Manager Gregory, and Interim Community Development Director Rouyer.

Information Sharing

Councilor King urged developing a public communication strategy to keep residents informed of significant projects taking place in the City such as the McFarland cleanup and Wister Street development.

Swanson explained the municipal code does not require notification for right-of-way permits. The Wister Street partitioning application did go through the Planning Commission several years ago, however. He noted an enforcement action was currently underway. The City Attorney and Planning Director are responding to the issue of developer's violating land use laws and then benefiting monetarily.

The group discussed McLoughlin Boulevard project funding. **Councilor Newman** noted the project is ranked second in the region for funding.

Swanson discussed the County's Harmony Road widening project. The County is just beginning the environmental impact statement (EIS) process which includes numerous public meetings and comment periods. Actual construction is at least 3 years away. Rist's comments about the City Council's approving the project were based on its being part of the adopted 1997 Transportation System Plan (TSP). Technically, Rist's statement was correct. Staff is looking at the options of amending that section of the TSP or perhaps annexing the right-of-way east to Fuller Road.

Councilor Marshall commented on the May 2002 Transforming Local Government Conference. He felt Milwaukie local government had been transformed from 4 years ago and hoped Milwaukie would be part of the conference. This would be a sign to the community that it is moving forward and bring closure to the recall.

Councilor Lancaster felt the phase 2 mission and goals he proposed would bring the transformation to even greater fruition.

Councilor Marshall said, after reading the Budget Review Board minutes, he believes a board and commission review is needed in the near future which includes setting one long term and short term task for each advisory group.

Swanson said the recently established Budget Review Board is still exploring its goals but are interested in helping identifying long term financial stability options. Speakers are scheduled for the November 19 joint City Council/Budget committee work session to discuss assessment and taxation and annexation. He discussed the MIS project and ability to compile reliable data in the future.

Councilor Marshall hopes to reinstate the quarterly meetings with the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners to discuss urban services and annexation and to develop a working relationship.

The group discussed the Jr. High site, and **Swanson** indicated talks had never resulted in a valid offer and acceptance.

Councilor Marshall hoped the Council could reach consensus on the Transforming Local Government proposal soon so work could begin.

Open Public Forum

Ed Zumwalt, 10888 SE 29th Avenue, discussed the Neighborhood District Associations' (NDA) involvement with transforming the community. He announced the fundraising concert on November 11 at Southgate Theatre for victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Stan Wax, 6505 SE Madrona Drive, attended a Linwood NDA meeting at which Clackamas County staff discussed the Harmony Road widening project. There was universal opposition from the neighborhood attendees, and they were very surprised to learn the Milwaukie City Council had come out in support of the widening.

Swanson said, although County staff was technically correct, the Milwaukie City Council approved it as part of the Transportation System Plan (TSP) in 1997. The current City Council is indicating its concerns with widening Harmony Road, even if only done to Fuller Road, because of negative impacts to the Linwood neighborhood. Staff is looking at the options of amending the TSP or annexing the right-of-way to Fuller Road. In taking this kind of action, the County cannot claim the City supports the project. The project is in its preliminary stages, and the County must go through extensive public outreach during the EIS. Although the project is funded, there will be no construction for at least 3 years.

Councilor Lancaster felt the City should prioritize its issue and try to make some progress with Clackamas County.

Councilor Marshall urged developing a working relationship between the Board of Commissioners and City Council.

Swanson said Council will have an opportunity to meet with Oak Lodge Sanitary District and County Commissioners in the next few months to review future sewage treatment options. One of these options is closing the Kellogg Treatment Plant. Annexation has been a problem for the past 30 years, and the City must develop a strategy to let the County know it is serious. Although the 2 entities have gone through some difficult periods, he believes trust is improving. The NDA 14-Points showed community solidarity and sent a positive message to the Commissioners.

Staff was directed to reinstate the Milwaukie City Council and Clackamas County Board of Commissioners quarterly meetings.

Councilor Newman supports the tone of conversation to improve relationships but wants to remain assertive when it comes to community needs.

Swanson added even though the City and County differed in their opinions on the South Corridor, both parties understand it is a Clackamas County issue that needs ongoing visibility and regional support.

Councilor Lancaster recommended keeping up to date on Clackamas River Water District issues and regionalization since Milwaukie has a big stake in purchasing water from the District.

Councilor Lancaster announced the Riverfront Cleanup project on October 20 sponsored by the Milwaukie Downtown Development Association (MDDA) and Rotary.

Parking Study and Traffic Analysis

Gregory requested clarification from the City Council on use of funds budgeted for a parking study and traffic analysis associated with downtown development and the impact to the Historic Milwaukie Neighborhood. Two significant downtown projects impact the use of the \$45,000. One is the Safeway site development which will impact both parking and traffic flow in general. Second, is the South Corridor Study, a regional process, which will look at mode and alignment options in Milwaukie's downtown. Gregory sought input on the best strategy to leverage available funds while capitalizing on the regional study. Funds could be re-budgeted for the 2002 - 2003 fiscal year if so desired.

Councilor Newman's first reaction was to tie the parking study to the Safeway development and related impacts to the Historic Milwaukie Neighborhood. Whichever project moves forward through the South Corridor Study for review is many years away. The community has waited a long time for the traffic study,

and he perceives it as separate from the South Corridor Project. He is concerned about tying the traffic study to a project managed by another agency.

The Councilors agreed they want to move beyond a study and be prepared for the next steps by having an actual plan for capital improvements.

Councilor Marshall mentioned a related issue of enforcing on trucks using local residential street such as Washington and Monroe. Several years ago, City Manager Bartlett indicated officers needed special training before issuing citations.

Oregon Maritime Museum Programs

Bob Layfield, Trustee and Development Director Oregon Maritime Museum. He had read *The Oregonian* article about Councilor Marshall's idea of reconstructing the *Lot Whitcomb* for Milwaukie's Centennial in 2003. He suggested docking the Sternwheeler Portland in Milwaukie Bay for the event. The cost of moving it is usually about \$5,000, but Layfield believed the costs could be recouped in other ways. He also noted the Maritime Museum would be looking for a new facility in April.

Councilor Lancaster suggested Layfield contact the Riverfront Board about constructing a suitable dock.

Zumwalt added a final comment. Things in Milwaukie have changed since 1997, and people now feel they are being represented.

Council President King adjourned the work session at 7:00 p.m.

Pat DuVal, Recorder