

**MILWAUKIE CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
JULY 15, 2002**

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

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

Staff present: City Manager Mike Swanson, Sr. Librarian Cynthia Sturgis, Police Chief Larry Kanzler, Community Development/Public Works Director Alice Rouyer, and Planning Director John Gessner.

Information Sharing

Councilor Marshall attended the recent Concurrency meeting but there was not a quorum. He discussed several comments made by Happy Valley Mayor Green regarding road improvement funding.

Open Public Forum

None.

Title 3 Update

Gessner requested preliminary direction on Title 3 vegetated buffers. The Planning Commission has been working on this project and identified several key issues.

1. Regulation in the floodplain and buffer based on potential impacts and specific criteria. In the application process, exclude work that has no impact and develop criteria to guide that type of determination. Consider incentives to restore degraded buffers. ide, improved paths in buffer zone are not a good idea.
2. Regulation methods: permitted uses, limited activity under prescribed conditions, conditional uses, and prohibited uses. Each applicant must meet approval criteria to ensure what gets built is in accordance with regulations.
3. Review methods for properties significantly affected by resource constraints: conditional use and variance. Consider options for managing floodplain and buffer when different.
4. Process for variance reviews: consider resource quality as a guide for designing administrative, rather than Commission, reviews.
5. Variance standards: demonstrate hardship, avoid, minimize, mitigate; develop high standards.
6. Density transfer provisions: protect resources and integrity of underlying zone. Clustering, achieved through reduced setbacks, smaller lots, and multiple buildings on a single lot, has little support.

7. Regulating existing lawns and gardens: no new gardens in existing lawns; restore disturbed buffer areas; consider mandatory “no disturbance” setback even where there are existing disturbances.
8. Allow off-site mitigation: Do not allow. Is it feasible to collect money for a mitigation fund when on-site mitigation not viable alternative.

Councilor Marshall does not support the concept of density transfers and suggested its future elimination.

Councilor Newman wants some validation of the concept that gardens are a greater disturbance than lawns.

Councilor King is mainly interested in protection and restoration with mitigation as a third priority.

City Council generally agreed with the Planning Commission’s comments.

Joint Session with Library Board

Library Board Chair, Pat Healy, member Ed Zumwalt, Long-Range Planning Committee member Molly Hanthorn, and Senior Librarian Cynthia Sturgis joined the City Council.

Healy reviewed the proposed 2002 – 2003 Library Board work plan. The main elements are to complete the facilities study, develop a funding plan for a new or expanded library facility, and complete a study of library fees and fines by the next budget cycle. The Board understands there is sufficient area to expand the existing library facility to the north and south and seeks City Council approval to pursue cost estimates for this strategy.

Councilor King commented on possible Title 3 regulations and guidelines related to expanding on the current site.

Healy feels there is a lot of community support for an expanded library. He discussed the funding plan that will begin by identifying options and perhaps hiring a fundraising consultant to develop a list of potential donors. He feels there is a lot of community support for an expanded library.

Zumwalt commented on the necessity for seed money to move expansion efforts forward, potential roles of groups such as the neighborhood associations and Masonic Lodge, and the need for guidance on a project of this scope.

Regarding the fees and fines element of the work plan, **Sturgis** said library directors have decided to pursue this issue network-wide.

The City Council agreed expanding on the current location would be the ideal situation with emphasis on following Title 3 regulations. The Library continues to be an important downtown anchor. Ongoing operating costs must be considered as well as capital costs.

Public Safety Advisory Committee Concept

Kanzler talk about the feasibility, responsibilities, and possible composition of this type of committee. He discussed the philosophy of community policing, its role in guiding departmental operations, and the importance of unfiltered information through community involvement. He has watched the City's cumulative efforts with its advisory boards and sees a greater scope of work for the Traffic Safety Board (TSB). The Committee would be charged with addressing livability concerns related to crime prevention and traffic as well as special, community-wide issues such as continuing the block home program.

Kanzler recommends dissolving the current TSB and creating a new Public Safety Advisory Committee comprised of 1 representative from each neighborhood district and 3 or 4 at-large members. He briefly discussed forming Committee subgroups to address certain issues and his goal of organizing a business association. He provided a draft ordinance amending the code for Council comment.

Rouyer added staff has not identified any concerns and recommended a work session with current TSB members to discuss the concept.

Gene Covey, current TSB members, commented favorably on the proposal and felt it was movement in a positive direction.

Councilor King recommended the at-large positions go to social service and youth representatives. She asked the role of City Council in the process and an explanation of the term providing "unfiltered information" to the chief and parent associations.

Kanzler said, as he perceives the plan at this time, the Committee formulates recommendations on solving City issues and problems and conveys these to City Council in work sessions. Unfiltered information is that which has not gone through interpretation. As chief, he intends to be available to any member of the committee who perceives a problem.

Councilor Marshall supports this process and feels it meets the community's changing needs. He only urged making it as easy as possible to achieve a quorum at meetings.

It was City Council consensus to take action on this proposal and directed Kanzler to move forward with finalizing the draft ordinance.

Councilor Marshall hopes the City Council will create a policy to review other boards and perhaps restructure them as well.

Mayor Bernard agrees youth, social services, and business should be represented on the Committee. The at-large positions will allow flexibility in responding to changing needs.

Emergency Dispatch Transition

Kanzler introduced Kathy Alford from the City of Lake Oswego's dispatch center, LOCOM. He requested authorization to move forward in developing an IGA between the City of Milwaukie and City of Lake Oswego. The proposal was initially discussed about 2 years ago, and, in response to comments during this year's budget hearings, staff re-opened talks. Lake Oswego's internal and external customer service, in staff's opinion, is more closely aligned to Milwaukie's standards than Clackamas County's C-COM.

He discussed in-car technology that would streamline service provision by the Milwaukie Police Department and related costs. With mobile data terminals (MDT), officers can prepare reports in their patrol districts rather than driving back to the station. Management could access more data for improved resource allocation. If Milwaukie were to enter into a 5-year agreement with Lake Oswego, the net savings in years 2 through 5 would be about \$200,000 annually. The first year would be a transition period in which Milwaukie would purchase needed technology.

Mayor Bernard understands the legislature is requiring consolidation of dispatch services at one location in each county, so this proposal is not simply about saving money. He added that Milwaukie did respond to a 1995 request for proposals to provide dispatch services for Clackamas Fire District #1 but was not successful.

Kanzler responded LOCOM currently provides dispatch services to agencies in both Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington Counties, and Clackamas County provides services within the County. Milwaukie's taking over dispatch for Clackamas County is not an option, and Lake Oswego is the closest match to Milwaukie's service standards.

Swanson recommended expediting the process to protect the Milwaukie employees being transferred as much as possible. Although Clackamas County has expressed interest in providing dispatch services, Milwaukie has a responsibility to its employees. The City is not legally required to seek proposals.

Councilor Newman understands there are objective advantages, but, for him, the most compelling reason is the legislation. It is likely a matter of time before Milwaukie loses its dispatch center.

Swanson said legislation requires agencies to develop consolidation plans by September 1. The Office of Emergency Management will write and dictate a plan for any agency that does not meet this deadline.

Alford said Lake Oswego would propose a model supporting 2 centers, LOCOM and C-COM, for the purpose of redundancy. Additionally, there is no facility in the county large enough to bring all answering points under 1 roof. The Office of Emergency Management can do whatever it wishes, but she believes the number of agencies Lake Oswego serves puts it in a strong position.

Kanzler added, if Milwaukie does not take action, the Office of Emergency Management could require the City to be dispatched by Clackamas County. He estimated the City could be responsible for a \$575,000 development fee under that scenario.

Swanson explained the legislation puts Milwaukie in position that it can neither compete with Clackamas County nor Lake Oswego dispatch centers. He believes Lake Oswego's service level most closely matches Milwaukie's.

Councilor Newman noted this is an emotional issue for many residents who perceive it as a loss of identity. He wants to ensure there is an outreach effort.

Ed Zumwalt understands Kanzler's position and current legislation, but he remains concerned with the ongoing loss of City services. His main concern is to protect employees. The Public Safety Building was to be a state of the art facility, and now dispatch is moving out.

Swanson responded to Zumwalt's comments. Many are concerned with the decision several years ago to contract with Clackamas County for fire services, and to them this represents the same type of action. He believes Milwaukie must continue to provide certain non-negotiable services that define the City's core, identify: police, library, planning, and neighborhood services. The agreement will provide officers with the tools they need to do their jobs as well as afford an opportunity to protect dispatcher jobs. He argued in favor of moving ahead with the agreement. Although the dispatch center will move out, the Public Safety Building will still be 80% occupied by police and fire personnel.

Councilor Marshall does not believe the community will be degraded if dispatch services are outsourced. He discussed community standards and core values. He believes it is time to make a decision and move forward.

Zumwalt argued that discarding services results in loss of community pride.

Councilor King was opposed to this action last year, but she no longer believes Milwaukie can afford dispatch service. She appreciates Kanzler's spending time with residents on this issue.

Mayor Bernard asked if there was any citizen oversight. **Alford** responded there are operational boards for police and fire. The departments that Lake Oswego represents are active in operations and help make decisions.

Mayor Bernard believes the real considerations are Milwaukie's current call volumes, minimum 24-hour staffing requirements, and legislation that would not allow Milwaukie to provide dispatch services in the future.

Swanson said Milwaukie would probably lose its call taking ability and 9-1-1 funding.

Alford clarified some comments related to personnel transfers. Three Milwaukie dispatchers can be transferred, 1 additional position is being held open, and another is undecided.

Kanzler added it would take about 18 months for the transfer to take place.

City Council directed Kanzler and Swanson to move forward with developing the intergovernmental agreement with Lake Oswego for dispatch services.

Mayor Bernard adjourned the work session at 8:05 p.m.

Pat DuVal, Recorder