



CITY OF ARVADA

SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ARVADA CITY COUNCIL HELD SEPTEMBER 22, 2008

I. **CITY COUNCIL MEETING: CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Frie called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. **MOMENT OF REFLECTION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

III. **ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

Those Present: Mayor Bob Frie, Mayor Pro Tem Lorraine Anderson, Councilmember Aaron Azari, Councilmember Don Allard, Councilmember Bob Dyer, Councilmember Mark McGoff, Councilmember Marc Williams

Also present were: Craig Kocian, City Manager; Bill Ray, Deputy City Manager; Chris Daly, City Attorney; Maria VanderKolk, City Manager's Office; and Christine Koch, City Clerk.

IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2008 CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The minutes stand approved as submitted.

V. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ISSUES NOT SCHEDULED ON AGENDA - None**

VI. **STUDY SESSIONS**

A. **Capital Improvement Programs (CIP) Citizens' Committee Presentation (with dinner)**

Mr. Kocian said this group that was appointed by the Council last year has done extraordinary work. He said they have taken a tremendous amount of time to learn about their city and their community, the city's finances and its obligations. He said Council is well aware of this effort and the work is something we rarely replicate except for the comprehensive plan or transportation plan. Mr. Kocian commended the committee's work to the Council.

Mayor Frie and the council commended the committee and gave them a round of applause for their hard work.

Rachel Zenzinger thanked Vik Runkle and their facilitator who she said were amazing and tireless in helping them with the project and giving them the information they needed. Ms. Zenzinger asked all committee members to introduce themselves.

Ms. Zenzinger said the committee's charge by City Council was to prioritize needed capital improvements and give suggestions for funding mechanisms. She said their mission was to prioritize the capital improvement projects, recommend appropriate funding mechanisms and remain independent and unbiased. She said the committee had diverse viewpoints, multiple perspectives, it was collegial and democratic and there was general agreement that the judgment arrived at by most of those concerned would be the consensus and that there was group solidarity in sentiment and belief. She said their objectives were to understand the scope and nature of their mission and the importance and cost. They established quantitative and qualitative frameworks for prioritizing and discussed and selected viable funding options. As a committee they looked at over \$150 million in capital improvement projects and reviewed and prioritized more than 20 categories of more than 200 capital projects and 40 specific projects.

Ms. Zenzinger said the overall evaluation process entailed studying Macro community trends, presentations from City departments, reviewing the 2007 Citizens' Survey results, site tours of City facilities and potential CIP sites and reviewing the findings from the Parks Advisory Committee and Transportation Implementation Committee. She said they first ranked the top 10 and the bottom 10 and all projects were subjected to rigorous analysis. Their categories for ranking were "Importance Ranking", "Urgency Ranking" and an "Urgency Scatter Gram". The members scored individual projects using scoring sheets, and then small groups discussed the benefits and raised questions and concerns. The Arvada City administration then reviewed and addressed the committee's questions and then the large group discussed the benefits and concerns. The members then amended the Project Evaluation Scoring sheets based on any new information and then the scoring sheets were submitted to City staff. City staff then quantified, aggregated and reported the results to the committee.

Ms. Zenzinger said Importance Measures were based on the quantity of citizens benefited or public support; the economic impact on the City; the health or safety aspects; environmental, quality of life, social, aesthetic impacts; completion, missing link or accumulated funding project; and whether the project was included in a City plan or policy. The Urgency Measures were based on whether it was urgent, very high-priority projects which must be done if at all possible; the necessary, high-priority projects that should be done if funding is available; desired/worthwhile projects if funding was available which may be deferred to the future; low priority – desirable but not essential; and very low priority and/or not desirable.

Lee Humrich and Bob Loveridge then presented the projects chosen by the committee and the rationale. Mr. Humrich said the scatter gram uses four quadrants with Quadrant A being high importance/high urgency; Quadrant B being high importance/low urgency; Quadrant C being low importance/high urgency and Quadrant D is low importance/low urgency. Once the scoring was done, the projects were depicted by dots on the scatter gram and those in Quadrant A ended up on the recommended list. There are twenty on the list and all of them were in Quadrant A except for the Olde Town station – 56th Avenue - which was partially in Quadrant B.

The recommended 20 are:

Street capital maintenance

Ralston Road sidewalks-Wadsworth Bypass to Garrison

Major capital transportation maintenance

Olde Town station – station improvements

Parks capital maintenance

RTD Gold Line FasTracks

Trails to be completed in 2 years

W. 72nd Ave – McIntyre to Kipling

Olde Town station – structured parking
W. 72nd Ave – Apex Center to Indiana
Stenger/Lutz Sports Complex
South Central Park
80th Ave – Alkire to Kipling
Kipling Station – Ridge Miller signal
Olde Town station – 56th Ave
Police building
Croke Canal Bridge at 74th Ave
East Arvada Park
Sheridan Station – pedestrian improvements

Mr. Humrich and Mr. Loveridge gave the rationale for each and explained how they ended up on the top twenty list.

Tracy Kraft-Tharp and T.O. Owens reviewed the funding for the recommended projects. Tracy said the Finance subcommittee spent over 150 hours on the funding issues. She said they focused on a five year timeline; created, discussed and revised multiple projections and scenarios and the recommendations are the result of compromise. T.O. said their dollars were broken down into three tiers of funding. Tier I is a City Charter requirement and is funded with 60% of the first sales tax penny; Tier II is one-time money for CIP needs and depends on the City's financial ability; and Tier III is some alternate revenue source such as taxes, bond issues, etc. He said they reviewed more than 50 funding mechanisms. He said the characteristics were that they needed to be spread across broad base, be equitable, and should not earmark all revenues. In addition, he said they looked at more than 50 Tier III alternative funding mechanisms.

Tracy explained that the list of projects is grouped into three types of funding. The first group is projects to be funded with a combination of funds from all three tiers. The second group is the five transit oriented projects and the committee is recommending that the voters be asked to approve a bond issue for those. The third group is made up of two significantly large projects and no recommended funding is being made at this time. The fourth group of projects is to be funded with cash.

Tracy said the first group which would be funded out of all three tiers is comprised of street capital maintenance and street capital improvements. Tracy described a transportation maintenance fee and said this type of funding benefits everyone. She said it is not a tax. It is a fee and is based on land-use categories. Commercial businesses with larger traffic volumes pay more than single-family homes. She said it is charged monthly on the citizen's utility bill so the average home pays a monthly fee of \$4.00 - \$6.50.

The second funding group is comprised of all five of the transit oriented projects and the committee is recommending that the city go to the voters for a bond issue on those.

The third funding group is comprised of two very large projects, the 72nd – McIntyre to Kipling and 80th – Alkire to Kipling, and because of the significant amount of money needed for these two projects, no funding is being recommended.

The fourth funding group is the rest of the projects in their recommendation list and would all be funded with cash over the next five years. These include Ralston Road sidewalks, Parks capital maintenance, trail projects, 72nd – Apex to Indiana, South Central Park, 80th median rework from Wadsworth to Sheridan, and the Croke and Farmer's canal/74th bridges.

T.O. discussed a building for the police department and said the committee is recommending that the City go back to the voters and request approval to use the revenues generated by the sales and use tax funds more broadly. He said the objective would be to request approval to help offset space needs, as well as staff and operating needs as identified in the original tax request.

T.O. then discussed their miscellaneous recommendations, which includes sidewalks along Ralston Road, improvements at Stenger/Lutz sports complex, and widening of sidewalks in parts of Olde Town.

Councilmember Dyer said he thinks City Council should get together and spend hours going through the committee's recommendations. Mr. Kocian said Council also needs a staff recommendation for a five year plan which could end up looking similar to the committee's plan.

City Council thanked the committee for all of their hard work and their recommendations.

B. Arvada Center Sponsorship and Naming Rights

Craig Kocian gave a history of the sponsorship and naming rights project. He said a consultant was hired at one time to look at this issue and City Council has been given several proposals in the past. He said this proposal is a result of conversations occurring between the Council and Center staff and then reviewed by the Arvada Center Arts Council. He said it has been revised as a result of those discussions and staff is now bringing back a proposal which addresses all of the concerns discussed in the past.

Gene Sobczak, Director of the Arvada Center, discussed the distinction between sponsorship and naming rights. He said sponsorship agreements would not go to City Council for review. Commercial naming rights agreements would be reviewed and approved by City Council prior to completion. He said City Council must also approve the request for Honorary naming rights upon completion of the initial evaluation and fair market assessment prior to the agreement being drawn. He said City Council must then give final approval after the agreement is drawn.

Councilmember Williams asked if City Council would have veto power over commercial naming rights and Mr. Sobczak said yes. He said no one at the Center should ever have the power to make the final ruling on an asset, whether approved or denied. That should always go to City Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Anderson said an Honorary Naming Right should not be forever, but for a time certain. That way, she said when the designated time is up, it hasn't been sold to anybody. She said she thinks City Council should have a limitation time so that newer Councils would have the ability to honor another citizen.

City Council said they would like to have the Arts Council take a look at the issue on setting a time limit on Honorary Naming Rights.

Councilmember Allard said his concern is once a name is being discussed, how does it stay quiet until it comes before City Council. Mr. Sobczak said it has to be managed correctly.

Chris Daly said it will come to City Council as a resolution.

C. Continuation of 2009 Budget Discussion

Following discussion, City Council agreed that the \$2 million from the insurance fund should be put aside and not spent.

On the question of putting \$1 million into the budget for each year, City Council decided to budget \$1.3 million for 2009 for street overlay, but not to set aside \$1 million on a yearly basis.

Mr. Kocian said staff now owes City Council a recommendation on the \$2.1 million that still needs to be allocated for 2009.

For the Arvada Center, Mr. Kocian recommended paying them \$750,000 in 2009. City Council agreed to waive the repayment.

Mr. Kocian said for the spring clean up, he is recommending that it happen no more than every other year. City Council concurred to every other year.

Mr. Kocian said for the golf fund, he is recommending that we transfer \$310,624 per year for the new nine at West Woods to the general fund. City Council concurred with the recommendation.

Mr. Kocian said for the vehicle maintenance fund, staff is recommending the two FTE's. City Council concurred with the recommendation.

VII. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember McGoff said the Arvada Historical Society is putting in for a grant to the state for refurbishing the flour mill. He said they have asked the City for a letter of support for the application. He said he has asked Maria VanderKolk to draft a letter of support. City Council concurred to sign and send the letter.

Mayor Frie said he has been contacted by the Abundant Life Church about doing a service project for the City, but they have no money for supplies. He asked if the City could put some money into a pot so that when service clubs volunteer for projects, the City could help them out with supplies.

Mayor Pro Tem Anderson reported on the Beyond the Fences meeting today.

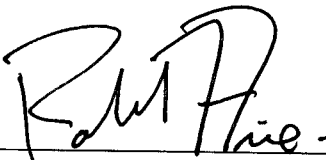
Mayor Pro Tem Anderson discussed problems with DRCOG staff regarding the Jefferson Parkway and the fact that their staff is taking legislation from a couple of years ago which applied to Super Slabs, or private tolling, and trying to apply it to public toll roads.

VIII. CITY MANAGER REPORTS - None

IX. CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS - None

X. PUBLIC COMMENT LONGER THAN THREE MINUTES - None

XI. ADJOURNMENT at 9:10 p.m.



Robert G. Frie, Mayor

SEAL:


Christine A. Koch, City Clerk

