

DATE: January 8 2004
TO: Michael G. Herring, CA
FROM: Brian McGownd, DDPW\ACE



SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes, PW\Parks 1/6/04

A meeting of the Public Works/Parks Committee began at 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2004. Councilmembers in attendance were Chairperson Connie Fults (Ward 4), Barry Flachsbart (Ward 1), and Mike Casey (Ward 3). Also in attendance were, Councilmember Durrell (Ward 1), Mike Herring - City Administrator, Mike Geisel - Director of Public Works/City Engineer, Brian McGownd - Deputy Director of Public Works\Assistant City Engineer, and Darren Dunkle - Superintendent of Parks, Recreation and Arts.

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m.

*** To be discussed at the 1/21/04 meeting of City Council.**

Agenda Item #1: Councilmember Casey motioned to accept the meeting minutes of the PW\Parks Committee from November 19, 2003, as submitted. Councilmember Flachsbart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 3 – 0.

Agenda Item #2a: Mr. Dunkle summarized Staff's recommendation regarding the acceptance of a piece of artwork from a local artist, which would be loaned to the City for display at City Hall. As required by City policy, Mr. Dunkle said that this recommendation had already been endorsed by the Arts Commission. Councilmember Casey asked if the City had any exposure if the painting were damaged or destroyed while in the care of the City. Mr. Herring stated that he had discussed this with the City's insurance carrier when the first piece of artwork was displayed at City Hall back in 2002, and that he recalled that the exposure was minor and that the additional cost to cover the painting under the City's insurance was very minimal. After a brief discussion, **Councilmember Flachsbart made a motion to accept the artwork, and to display it at City Hall, contingent upon the City Administrator's determination that the City would not have "significant exposure" re: possible claims, if the art were stolen or damaged. Councilmember Casey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 3 – 0.**

*** Agenda Item #2b: Mr. Geisel gave a brief summary of Staff's recommendation regarding accepting the proposal submitted by Coke to provide soft drinks at the CVAC and the Family Aquatic Park. He said the proposal is for an initial three year term, and may be extended for two additional years at the discretion of the City. He also stated that the proposal contained the standard cancellation clauses that would allow the City to get out of the contract if the vendor were not performing to the City's requirements. He explained that the biggest difference from Coke's proposal versus what has been done in the past was the method by which the soft drinks would be served. He noted that soft drinks have previously been served as fountain drinks, utilizing soda syrup mixed on-site with carbonated water and sold in various size paper cups. He said Coke proposed to sale all soft drinks in pre-packaged bottles. He explained that in order to do this, additional refrigerated coolers would have to be bought; however, since Coke's proposal included a guaranteed sponsorship payment of \$20,000 per year, Staff recommends utilizing this year's payment to purchase the additional refrigerated coolers, at a cost not to exceed \$15,000. Mr. Geisel noted that this change was supported by our concessionaire. Mr. Geisel also noted that this proposal would net the City approximately \$30,000 more than budgeted**

for FY 2004. Chairperson Fults asked if the bottles would be recycled. Mr. Dunkle stated that Coke would supply recycling containers at various locations at the CVAC and Central Park. Mr. Dunkle also stated that a cup of ice would be provided to a patron who purchased a bottled soft drink or a bottle of water, upon demand. After a brief discussion regarding the proposal submitted by Pepsi, **Councilmember Flachsbart made a motion to recommend acceptance of Staff's recommendation regarding the soda exclusivity proposal submitted by Coke, as outlined in Mr. Geisel's memorandum dated November 19, 2003, and to forward this issue to City Council for final approval. Councilmember Casey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 3 – 0.**

- * **Agenda Item #2c:** Mr. Geisel stated that only one soccer field, at the CVAC, remained to be sprigged and that the reason for doing so was to provide a more durable grass which would require less intense maintenance. He also discussed the American Legion's proposal to donate \$11,000 to facilitate certain improvements on one of the baseball fields. The Legion has committed to have all three of their sponsored teams play at the CVAC, when this work is completed. Mr. Geisel then explained the Wetland Mitigation Fund, how it was setup, and how the funds could only be used for improvements to the CVAC. After a brief discussion, **Councilmember Flachsbart made a motion to recommend acceptance of Staff's recommendation regarding utilizing Wetland Mitigation Funds for the purpose of completing the final phase of the CVAC soccer field sprigging as well as to leverage the American Legion donation for the purpose of making improvements to a baseball field at the CVAC, as outlined in Mr. Geisel's memorandum dated December 31, 2003, and to forward this issue to City Council for further consideration. (Total cost to City of \$27,000, with all funds coming from the Wetland Mitigation Fund) Councilmember Casey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 3 – 0. [Note: The total estimated cost of installing a flagpole and expanded dugouts, is \$20,000 (\$11,000 – American Legion; \$9000 – City)]**

Agenda Item #2d: Mr. Dunkle stated that a resident, Mr. Dan Schwartz, requested approval to set up a collection box at the CVAC for the collection of new and used baseball and softball uniforms/equipment, which would be donated to the International Softball Federation. The uniforms/equipment would then be distributed less fortunate children around the world. There was general support for the goals of Mr. Schwartz's project; however, the main concerns involved the aesthetics of the collection box, and the potential of opening the door for other organizations to place collection/donation boxes at City facilities, if Mr. Schwartz's request were approved. Mr. Geisel reminded the Committee that they were faced with this same issue in 2000 regarding the placement of a monkey grinder/wishing well at Central Park, and that the Committee had denied the request due to the same concerns. **Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to direct Staff to decline Mr. Schwartz's request, and to suggest alternative methods by which Mr. Schwartz could collect the items that he desires. Councilmember Casey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 3-0.**

- * **Agenda Item #3:** Mr. Geisel summarized his memo regarding master planning those areas within the Valley that are currently unplanned, in cooperation with the Chesterfield Monarch Levee District. He stated that the levee district had requested the City to fund Phase One of an infrastructure "master plan", and that he had roughly estimated the cost to be in the vicinity of \$100,000. He said the funds would come from the Valley TIF. He explained that once the "master plan" was completed, the levee

district would be responsible for designing and constructing the improvements and would fund the improvements by assessing benefits to property owners, which they have the statutory authority to do. Councilmember Casey stated that the Spirit of St. Louis Airport, operated by St. Louis County, would benefit from this project and that they should possibly share in the cost of the study. Mr. Herring stated that the TIF district was capturing tax revenue that would have gone to the County, which would more than offset the County's potential share of the study cost. He also pointed out that as a benefited property owner of the improvements, the airport would be assessed their appropriate share just like the other property owners within the levee protected area. Mr. Casey asked if Mr. Beach had reviewed this information, and if he concurred that the levee district had the ability to do what they say they can do. Mr. Geisel stated that Mr. Beach had not reviewed this information, but that Staff would provide the information to Mr. Beach for his review, and would obtain an opinion from Mr. Beach before the next City Council meeting. **Councilmember Flachsbart made a motion to recommend acceptance of Staff's recommendation regarding utilizing TIF funds to fund Phase One of an infrastructure "master plan" for those areas within the Valley that are currently unplanned, in cooperation with the Monarch-Chesterfield Levee District, as outlined in Mr. Geisel's memorandum dated November 24, 2003, and to forward this issue to City Council for further consideration. Councilmember Casey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 3 – 0.**

Agenda Item #4: Mr. Geisel summarized his memo regarding capital street reconstruction and maintenance strategies. The Committee discussed, extensively, Mr. Geisel's recommendation to include asphalt overlays as an option to be considered as a mode of street maintenance. Councilmember Flachsbart said that he could not support this recommendation, and that this was a very hot topic with the residents that he represents. Chairperson Fults said that she agreed with Councilmember Flachsbart, but that the Public Works Department needed a solution in order to address the problems they are facing as outlined in the memo prepared by Mr. Geisel. Councilmember Casey stated that although asphalt overlays may not be the most desirable solution, he feels there may be situations where asphalt overlays may be appropriate and therefore, the use of asphalt overlays should not be completely dismissed. Discussion ensued regarding asphalt and concrete, the benefits of one material over the other, and the cost of the two materials. Councilmember Flachsbart suggested that this item be reviewed by the entire City Council, and that a copy of the memo be forwarded to the Mayor/Council. Any comments should be shared with the Committee and discussed at the next meeting.

Agenda Item #5: Mr. McGownd stated that Councilmember Geiger is the one who requested that Staff prepare this policy regarding acceptance of private streets and that the Committee may want to table this item until Councilmember Geiger was in attendance. Councilmember Flachsbart agreed that this was a good idea, however, he asked that Staff add a new paragraph to Section I of the proposed policy which would state that if the subdivision plat which created the private development included language that all private streets shall remain private forever, then the City would not consider accepting their streets. Mr. McGownd said that this change would be made and a revised policy would be brought back to the Committee at the next meeting. **Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to table this item until the next meeting. Chairperson Fults seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 3-0.**

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Agenda Item #6: Councilmember Flachsbart stated that he has received several complaints about the quality of the trash collection service provided by Midwest Waste. He said the complaints ranged from missed pickups, to yardwaste strewn all over the street after the truck came and went, which he personally witnessed. He said the next contract should have performance and penalty clauses in it regarding these issues, and that Staff should begin drafting up some of these clauses for the Committee's consideration. Mr. Herring said that the current contract with Midwest Waste was a five year contract and that we were currently in year number three. He also reminded the Committee that per the contract, once the five year period was up, the City had the ability to renew the contract on an annual basis so long as the contract price did not increase more than three percent. Mr. Herring stated that the contract required Midwest Waste to pay, to the City, a penalty equal to the contract price, for each miss. He said that the City never has collected a penalty, but insists that Midwest Waste credit the homeowner's account for any such misses, which they do. Discussion ensued regarding the quality of service provided by Midwest Waste. Mr. Herring told the Committee that anytime they, or any member of City Council, receive a complaint regarding trash collection, to provide the information to him, and he would personally see to it that the complaint is addressed and taken care of. Councilmember Casey suggested that Staff place an article in the next City newsletter that explains to the residents what they should do to report a problem associated with trash collection services provided by Midwest Waste. Mr. Herring said that he will have such an article prepared, and that Staff will develop some performance/penalty clauses, as suggested by Councilmember Flachsbart, for the Committees review at a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

The next meeting of the PW/Parks Committee will be scheduled at a later date.

cc: Mayor John Nations
Department Heads/Executive Staff