

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA, HELD NOVEMBER 9, 2010, AT 6:00 P.M., AT THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS BUILDING, 826 NORTH MAIN STREET, COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Joens called the work session to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken as follows:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Diane Joens, Mayor
Karen Pfeifer, Vice Mayor
Tim Elinski, Council Member
Duane Kirby, Council Member
Linda Norman, Council Member
Terence Pratt, Council Member
Darold Smith, Council Member

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Doug Bartosh, City Manager
Marianne Jiménez, City Clerk
Steve Horton, City Attorney
Charlie Scully, Long Range Planner
Dan Lueder, General Services General Manager

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF

COTTONWOOD AREA TRANSIT (CAT) TRANSITION TO THE NORTHERN ARIZONA PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (NAIPTA)

Mr. Bartosh informed the Council about the pending transition from CAT to NAIPTA, including reaching a final agreement with NAIPTA. Mr. Bartosh then invited Jeff Meilbeck, NAIPTA General Manager to speak.

Mr. Meilbeck stated the transition was beneficial for all parties at this time, despite a weak economy. There had been several meetings held with the CAT employees about the transition where questions from the employees had been addressed. He felt the transition would save the City some money, but more importantly it would benefit the entire region.

Mr. Bartosh stated that as a result of the transition, CAT may lose one position. He and Mr. Meilbeck were looking at what do with that employee, and whether or not the employee could be moved to another position within NAIPTA.

Council Member Kirby asked Mr. Meilbeck if the new transition would include a new service from Cottonwood to Flagstaff.

Mr. Meilbeck stated there would be no new service, but with the transition NAIPTA could start looking at improving and adding service between Cottonwood and Flagstaff, or Cottonwood and Camp Verde. The service between Cottonwood and Camp Verde was included in the five-year plan that the Council adopted approximately a year ago, and was currently in the planning process.

Council Member Elinski asked Mr. Bartosh about the loss of the position and how it would impact the City's budget, and specifically if the City retained the employee would the City gain any benefit.

Mr. Bartosh stated if the City were to retain the employee, the City would try and fill one of the City's open positions first provided the employee had the qualification for the position.

Council Member Pratt asked Mr. Meilbeck if the City would be saving \$19,000 instead of \$10,000, and Mr. Meilbeck stated that was correct.

Council Member Kirby asked about the possibility of placing the cut employee within the bus barn, or something similar, and Mr. Meilbeck stated they would look at the possibility of retaining the employee in a different position, but could not make any promises in regards to placement.

Mr. Meilbeck continued and stated that he went to the NAIPTA board to request to start the recruitment process for the new transition, since the transition between CAT to NAIPTA would not keep the CAT positions. The CAT positions would be eliminated, but NAIPTA was opening up the positions internally, which allowed the current CAT employees to compete for those positions without external competition. The recruitment process would start internally on Wednesday, November 17, if the IGA was approved by the Council.

Council Member Elinski asked Mr. Meilbeck if NAIPTA would be in charge of setting the fares of the buses, and Mr. Meilbeck stated the City would have input in the setting of the fare structure.

Mr. Horton stated the City and NAIPTA would be collaborating on the budgeting process, which will include fare structure and revenue.

Mr. Bartosh stated that Council Member Norman would remain on the NAIPTA board, and he would meet with the City Manager of Sedona and Mr. Meilbeck on a quarterly basis to ensure that everything was operating appropriately.

Council Member Pratt asked about the current CAT employees and their input on the transition to NAIPTA, and Mr. Meilbeck stated they had been meeting with CAT employees and explaining to them the different salary and benefit structure and the employees had been very receptive to the transition.

Mr. Horton stated that the City had been working with NAIPTA on the agreement to allow the City to stop working with NAIPTA if the Council deems it not beneficial to the City.

Mayor Joens asked if the agreement could be terminated according to Section 5 of the agreement, and Mr. Horton stated that he and NAIPTA counsel were still negotiating those terms.

Mr. Bartosh stated there was a 180 days cancellation notice in the contract.

Mayor Joens asked for clarification about the City's contribution to CAT for 20 plus years in capital expenditures and if the City was just handing over those items; and Mr. Bartosh stated that was correct.

Mayor Joens than asked if we terminated the agreement, would the City receive those items back.

Mr. Horton stated if the City terminated the agreement, the City would be made whole again by NAIPTA, and be able to continue to operate a transit system just as the City currently ran it.

Mr. Meilbeck stated NAIPTA was providing a service that allowed Cottonwood to refocus on other projects besides transportation.

Council Member Kirby moved to have the agreement brought back to the regular Council meeting on November 16, 2010, for approval. The motion was seconded by Council Member Pratt, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Joens asked if any of the CAT employees were present and wished to speak on this matter.

Shirley Scott, CAT manager, stated the CAT employees had been generally comfortable with what has been occurring with the transfer. NAIPTA had been holding meetings with CAT employees on Tuesday nights, and Wednesday mornings for "Donuts and Dialogue," in which CAT employees could ask questions and stay informed about the transition.

POSSIBLE DIRECTION FOR STAFF TO PREPARE A PROPOSED REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS AND FIRMS INTERESTED IN PROVIDING DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROPOSED RIVERFRONT PARK WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY

Mr. Lueder stated the Council had been presented a feasibility study for the proposed Riverfront Park water reclamation facility on September 14, 2010, during a work session, and they had heard presentations from 8 firms regarding the design-build process at a special work session held October 20, 2010. Staff was now seeking direction for Requesting Statements for Qualifications for design-build services for the proposed Riverfront Park Reclamation Facility. Once they had a draft of the request ready for approval they would bring it back to the Council for final approval. Once a firm was selected he expected to have at a minimum two public meetings during the pre-construction phases to take comments

from the public.

Council Member Pratt asked Mr. Lueder how the City would solicit proposals for the project and if the solicitation would be national, regional, or citywide.

Mr. Lueder stated the contractor had to be licensed in Arizona and he would solicit the request within the statute standard.

Council Member Kirby asked Mr. Lueder about the role the Construction Manager at Risk did in this process, and Mr. Lueder stated the City did not plan to use a Construction Manager at Risk, since this project would be a design-build project.

Council Member Smith asked Mr. Lueder and Mr. Horton how many people would be needed on the selection committee.

Mr. Horton stated the selection committee needed to have at least one design professional, either an engineer or architect, and the selection committee could be comprised of five to nine positions.

Mr. Lueder described an ideal selection committee, which would not include himself, the City Utility Engineer, the City Project Manager, a local licensed contractor, and the City Utility Administrative Manager.

Mr. Horton informed the Council that they would decide the final Committee positions.

Mayor Joens asked Mr. Lueder how the City would notify the public about the process and ensure that the City receives input from the public.

Mr. Lueder suggested that a public hearing might occur at a different facility to accommodate an audience, and placing ads in local newspapers.

Council Member Pratt reminded the Council that the Planning Department was planning on conducting at least two public meetings.

Mayor Joens asked the public if they had any comments.

Mr. Bob Rothrock asked the Council if they had considered any other sites besides the one at Riverfront.

Mayor Joens stated the current site was purchased for a wastewater treatment, but it had been changed to include the parks and gardens, and had looked at other areas but could not find a usable location.

Mr. Lueder stated that the planning department had looked at three different locations, but Riverfront Park had three different lines coming into the location which made it ideal for the facility.

Mr. Rothrock voiced concern regarding the facility being built in the flood plain.

Mr. Lueder informed the Council they were looking at building at least two feet above the flood plain and were aware of it.

The Council directed staff to prepare a Request for Statements of Qualifications.

PRESENTATION OF THE VERDE VALLEY REGIONAL TRAILS CONCEPT PLAN

Mr. Scully gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Verde Valley Regional Trails Plan that was started in 2004. He stated the Trails Plan would have a positive economic impact on the local economy and the proposal was for non-motorized trails. The proposed plan was simply a guide that would take years to work with all the agencies before it could be implanted.

Council Member Smith stated he approved of the plan and suggested the plan should ensure that Cottonwood is the central hub.

Council Member Pratt informed the Council that one group was concerned about the plan, and Mr. Scully pointed out on the map the possible area for concern.

Mayor Joens opened the discussion to the public.

Samuel Morey spoke against the plan stating he lived just outside the city limits on Quail Run and a portion of the proposed trail would be very close to his home. He had not been notified in regard to the proposed plans and was concerned about a possible rezoning of the lands and not having the land not properly preserved as it was now. He requested that the process to notify the public and hold public hearings be followed more closely than it had been.

Bob Rothrock informed the Council he had been involved with the plan from its inception and the plan was for non-motorized use, and many public hearings had been held.

Council Member Pratt asked Mr. Rothrock if MAPS was included in this process and stated that MAPS has claimed that they have felt ignored.

Mr. Rothrock stated they had not been ignored and their input had been included and nothing was finalized and the process was still many years away from completion.

Aaron Ruda from Cottonwood spoke in favor of the trails plan, citing his new business for a bicycle shop and the new trails plan would not only help his business, but other businesses as well.

Randy Victory, a Dead Horse Park Ranger, spoke in favor of the trails plan stating that there were not many trails for mountain bicycles in the area, and often send mountain bikers to Sedona. It would be preferable to keep the mountain bikers in Cottonwood. He also cited

that a trails plan would help preserve and conserving the land better.

Diane Lovett from Cottonwood spoke in favor of the trails plan citing that the trails will help attract business and new consumers.

Bill Stafford from Lake Montezuma spoke in favor of the trails plan citing that the process had had many public meetings and was very open to the public. He also stated that this was not a final plan and was still in process.

Council Member Pratt reminded the public that nothing would be finalized during this meeting, and this meeting was simply for discussion only.

Lars Romig from Cottonwood spoke in favor of the trails plan citing that Cottonwood could become the hub for all the trails.

Doug Hulse from Cottonwood spoke in favor of the trails plan citing that the Cottonwood Recreation Center could serve as the hub and information center for all the trails.

Dr. Bob Richards from Cottonwood spoke in favor of the trails plan, but pointed out to the Council that funds should be put aside to help with building the trails.

Mayor Joens pointed out that some of the planning department funds have been put aside and included in the five year plan.

Mr. Scully stated the current map was only a concept and was not final. The plan was very flexible and could be changed.

POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF SCULPTURE/ART WORK FOR THE ROUNDABOUTS LOCATED ON SR 89A THAT ARE WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS

Kyla Allen presented to the Council a proposal to purchase artwork for the roundabouts and possible direction for the art recommendations. ADOT had allotted \$60,000 for improvements on the roundabouts located within the City limits. She then presented examples of artwork that might be considered for purchase.

Council Member Pratt stated he was in favor of purchasing and improving the roundabouts.

Mr. Bartosh informed the Council the funds that were would be used for this proposal were included in the \$1.3 million improvements and the funds need to be used soon or would be lost.

Council Member Elinski stated that \$50,000 appeared to be frivolous and could be spent on a more deserving project, but also that the City needed to be aware of the artwork that was placed on the roundabouts. He suggested a panel should be formed to pick pieces of artwork for consideration.

Council Member Pratt stated that he approved of some of the examples including the western piece and approved of the quality of the work. He also stated that since the money is there, and it has to be used, it should be used to buy some artwork.

Council Member Kirby asked if the City was purchasing artwork for both roundabouts. Doug Bartosh stated yes, that is correct.

Council Member Smith stated he also approved of the miner artwork piece.

Mr. Bartosh suggested they use the Historic Preservation Society and more local artists to make recommendations.

Council Member Kirby suggested the panel make approximately five or six pieces for consideration and allow the public to choose the final piece.

Council Member Smith stated that the Council should decide on a type of theme for the roundabouts.

Council Member Pratt stated that the art theme should stay within the western and mining themes.

Mrs. Allen stated that if the Council decided not place artwork in the roundabouts, ADOT will still place boulders into the roundabouts.

The Council directed the staff to move forward with forming a panel to suggest some pieces for consideration within a western, miner, and/or historic themes and try and seek public input within the time limit.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Joens moved to adjourn. Council Member Kirby seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The work session adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Diane Joens, Mayor

ATTEST:

Marianne Jiménez, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

I hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of the minutes of a work session of the City Council of the City of Cottonwood held on November 9, 2010. I further certify that the meeting was duly called, and that a quorum was present.

Marianne Jiménez, City Clerk

Date