

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Rapid City, South Dakota

November 8, 2010

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Rapid City was held at the City/School Administration Center in Rapid City, South Dakota on Monday, November 8, 2010 at 5:30 P.M.

The following members were present: Mayor Alan Hanks and the following Alderpersons: Bonny Petersen, Ron Weifenbach, Dave Davis, Deb Hadcock, Ron Kroeger, Aaron Costello, Sam Kooiker, Bill Waugh, Gary Brown and Jordan Mason; and the following Alderpersons arrived during the course of the meeting: None; and the following were absent: None.

Staff members present included Finance Officer Pauline Sumption, City Attorney Jason Green, Public Works Director Robert Ellis, Growth Management Director Marcia Elkins, Parks & Recreation Director Jerry Cole, Civic Center Director Brian Maliske and Administrative Coordinator Sharlene Mitchell

Motion was made by Costello, second by Waugh to approve the Energy Plant project in the amount of \$3,500,000.00.

Patti Martinson, Lynn VonWald, Marcia Mayer, Shirley Allen, Kim Heuer, Rocky Murphy and Joann Sutton spoke in support of the Adult Social/Resource Center addressing the services that will be provided by the consolidation of the Minneluzahan Senior Citizen Center, the Daisy House and the Meals Program. The speakers urged reinstatement of the project funding to the 2012 program due to the expanding community need for these services. Heuer and Murphy addressed the assistance provided to families with special needs children through the Daisy House.

Mason recommended that the Council utilize the opportunity the energy plant issue provides to discuss establishing an on-going maintenance fund. Peterson encouraged the City to do future maintenance planning to provide funding for such projects as the energy plant upgrade. Costello recommended establishing an all encompassing fund that would address maintenance issues for all City facilities. Kooiker spoke against the energy plant project noting that the project has displaced other worth projects. Kooiker recommended delaying approval of the energy plant project and to request that the Civic Center research alternative funding options. A substitute motion was made by Kooiker, second by Petersen to recommend funding the Adult Social/Resource Center project in the amount of \$3,500,000.00 and to remove the Energy Plant project. Mayor Hanks expressed concern with the focus on the energy plant project noting that all project presented for funding consideration have merit. Mayor Hanks briefly addressed the energy plant 37 year history and the impact the high school expansion will have on the support capacity of the plant. In response to a question from Mason, Mayor Hanks clarified that as of November 2006 the status of the high school expansion was unknown. Mayor Hanks addressed the annual funding established for capital improvements noting the inability to retain this level of funding in an enterprise fund. In response to a question from mason, Mayor Hanks stated that management of the energy plant was recently transferred from the Public Works Department to the Civic Center. Mason encouraged the City to become fiscally responsible by establishing a fund for the upgrade and maintenance of all City facilities.

In response to a question from Weifenbach, Maliske reviewed the fees remitted to the City for services provided to the Civic Center. Maliske clarified that the expense of the energy plan upgrade is shared equally between the City and the School District. Maliske addressed the Civic Center improvements and upgrades funded by the recent bond project. Weifenbach voiced support for the energy plant project and encouraged the Civic Center to consider instituting parking fees to increase revenues. Hadcock concurred with the need for fiscal foresight noting that the Vision 2012 program is that foresight. Hadcock stated that the energy plant is a necessary project as it supports both the Civic Center and High School facilities. Discussion continued regarding the establishment of a on-going fund for the upgrade and maintenance of City facilities.

Dan Michael encouraged the Council to support the energy plant project as the facility provides critical support to the Civic Center and High School facilities. Ron Sasso encouraged the Council to establish depreciation costs for all city facilities noting that the funding would be utilized to offset the costs of projects such as the energy plant allowing other projects to be funded. Mason stated that it was his intent to encourage the City to establish an on-going fund to insure that the upgrade and maintenance of the City's essential facilities are continually addressed. Kooiker addressed the importance of establishing an on-going maintenance fund for projects such as the energy plant. Kooiker indicated that more planning should have been done over the years to prepare for this upgrade. Kooiker recommended that the funding not be committed at this time and that the Civic Center be asked to provide a plan for funding the upgrades. Davis stated that all the projects presented for consideration have merit and should not be judged against each other. Davis addressed the enterprise fund status of the Civic Center and the resulting impact on the revenues. Davis addressed the on-going maintenance financed by the Civic Center noting that the energy plant upgrade exceeds financial capabilities. Kooiker withdrew the substitute motion, Petersen concurred. Waugh voiced support for the energy plant project. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Waugh, second by Costello to approve the Skyline Wilderness Park project in the amount of \$912,000.00.

Weifenbach encouraged community involvement in the project construction to reduce project costs. Kroeger indicated that the project supports have committed to working on the project to decrease costs and will assist with the area maintenance. In response to a question from Hadcock, Cole indicated that all land covered by the project is City owned and that the parking lots will be located on City property. Brown stated that organizations supporting this project have indicated that they will assist with the project construction. Costello commented on the sweat equity commitments he has received from organizations support the project. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Costello, second by Hadcock and carried to approve the Black Hills Vision project in the amount of \$500,000.00.

Motion was made by Davis, second by Mason and carried to approve the Mental Health Collaborative project in the amount of \$500,000.00.

Motion was made by Waugh, second by Brown to approve the Roosevelt Park Field House Project in the amount of \$3,000,000.00.

Petersen encouraged the use of the field house funding for the Adult Social/Resource Center project. In response to a question, Cole indicated that the funding request has been reduced from the original amount noting the facilities that would be provided under the revised plan.

Discussion followed regarding the facilities proposed under the original request, the facilities provided under the revised request and the access to programs and facilities that would be available to the patrons of the Adult Center. In response to a question from Petersen, Cole stated that through construction management the three facilities, gymnasium, field house and adult center, can be built individually or in conjunction with each other. In response to a question from Hadcock, Cole indicated that the existing energy plant can support the new gymnasium noting that the field house and adult center would require their own energy plants.

Costello suggested scheduling a separate meeting to address the Roosevelt Park Field House, the Horace Mann Pool and the Adult Social/Resource Center projects. In response to a question from Weifenbach, Green addressed the Council's ability to amend the Vision 2012 program after adoption. A substitute motion was made by Petersen, second by Hadcock to continue the Roosevelt Park Field House, the Horace Mann Pool and the Adult Social/Resource center projects to a special meeting. Weifenbach voiced support for the motion. Weifenbach requested clarification of the facilities to be incorporated into the adult center and if a business plan has been developed. In response to a question from Davis, Petersen indicated that the intent of the motion with regard to Horace Mann pool is to clarify the tank pool location. Hadcock requested that Cole provide project costs for the leisure pool project and supporting energy plants. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Petersen, second by Weifenbach to approve the ASA Softball project in the amount of \$1,200,000.00.

Weifenbach and Waugh voiced their support for the project. In response to a question from Brown, DenHerder clarified that funding to expand the existing parking has been included in the project. Davis stated that project supporters have indicated they will assist with the project construction. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Brown, second by Waugh and carried to request that the Mayor direct staff to prepare a resolution approving the following Vision 2012 projects: Energy Plant-\$3,500,000.00; Skyline Wilderness Park-\$912,000.00; Black Hills Vision-\$500,000.00; Mental Health Collaborative-\$500,000.00; and ASA Softball-\$1,200,000.00.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, motion was made by Costello, second by Waugh and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m.