Mayor Jesse Tanner led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and called the meeting of the Renton City Council to order.

TONI NELSON, Council President; RANDY CORMAN; DON PERSSON; KING PARKER; TERRI BRIERE; KATHY KEOLKER-WHEELER; DAN CLAWSON.

JESSE TANNER, Mayor; JAY COVINGTON, Chief Administrative Officer; LAWRENCE J. WARREN, City Attorney; BONNIE WALTON, City Clerk; GREGG ZIMMERMAN, Planning/Building/Public Works Administrator; JIM SHEPHERD, Community Services Administrator; SYLVIA ALLEN, Recreation Director; LESLIE BETLACH, Parks Director; MIKE WEBBY, Human Resources Administrator; DEREK TODD, Assistant to the CAO; COMMANDER KATHLEEN MCCLINCY, Police Department.

A proclamation by Mayor Tanner was read declaring the month of January, 2003, to be "National Mentoring Month" in the City of Renton; in tribute to the many mentors in Renton who contribute their time, compassion, and talents to help young people in the community succeed. MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE PROCLAMATION AS READ. CARRIED.

Amy Bresslour, Mentor Program Coordinator with Communities in Schools of Renton, accepted the proclamation and explained how the mentor program benefits students. Ms. Bresslour thanked the City for honoring National Mentoring Month, and she invited those who want to volunteer to be a mentor to contact her.

Chief Administrative Officer Jay Covington reviewed a written administrative report summarizing the City’s recent progress towards goals and work programs adopted as part of its business plan for 2002 and beyond. Items noted included:

- A free copy of the 2003 Renton Community Calendar will be distributed to Renton residents this week in the December 18th edition of the Renton Reporter newspaper.
- A special groundbreaking ceremony on December 19th, will signify the beginning of construction on the City of Renton's Fire Station #12 and Emergency Operations Center located in the Renton Highlands at the intersection of Kirkland Ave. NE and NE 12th St.
- The Transportation Systems Division is putting together a contract to perform signal modifications and channelization changes to allow left turns from westbound Park Ave. N. to Garden Ave. N. Work should be completed by March, 2003, weather permitting.

Arland "Buzz" Johnson, 334 Wells Ave. S., #221, Renton, 98055, commented on how much he enjoyed the Senior Activity Center's Thanksgiving dinner. Reviewing the noise problems at the Spencer Court Apartments on Wells Ave. S., Mr. Johnson indicated that the noise emanating from the City parking lot...
located to the north of the apartments, and from Service Linen Supply located
to the south of the apartments, has been reduced. In regards to the noise
produced by I-405, he asked for the City's help in encouraging the State to
construct a sound barrier if I-405 is expanded.

Councilman Corman stated that he would relay Mr. Johnson's noise concerns to
the I-405 Executive Committee, of which he is a member.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are adopted by one motion which follows the
listing. At the request of Councilwoman Keolker-Wheeler, item 6.a. was
removed for separate consideration.

AJLS: Matricula Consular as
Legal Identification for
Mexican Citizens living in US

Administrative, Judicial and Legal Services Department recommended adoption
of a resolution recognizing the Matricula Consular as legal identification for
Mexican citizens living in the United States. Refer to Community Services
Committee.

CAG: 02-166, Maplewood
Golf Course Cart Path Paving,
Northwest Asphalt

Community Services Department submitted CAG-02-166, Maplewood Golf
Course Cart Path Paving; and requested approval of the project, authorization
for final pay estimate in the amount of $44,297.86, commencement of 60-day
lien period, and release of retained amount of $1,960.87 to Northwest Asphalt,
Inc., contractor, if all required releases are obtained. Council concur.

Plat: Liberty Ridge Phase 4,
Harrington Ave SE (FP-02-
126)

Development Services Division recommended approval, with conditions, of the
Liberty Ridge Phase 4 Final Plat; 33 single-family lots on 9.1 acres located at
Harrington Ave. SE, south of NE 3rd and 4th Streets, and east of Edmonds Ave.
NE (FP-02-126). Council concur. (See page 482 for resolution.)

Development Services: Sam's
Club, Dedication of Roadway
Encroachment, Benson Rd S &
S Grady Way

Development Services Division recommended acceptance of the dedication of
roadway encroachment (Benson Rd. S.) onto private property located at 801 S.
Grady Way, prior to the transfer of the property from present owner Puget
Western, Inc. to the purchaser, Sam's Club. Council concur.

Planning: Downtown Core
Off-Street Parking
Requirements

Economic Development, Neighborhoods and Strategic Planning Department
recommended approval to modify the Downtown Core off-street parking
requirements for new residential uses, and for both new and expanded
commercial uses. Refer to Planning & Development Committee.

Human Services: 2003 General
Fund Contingency Plan
Revision

Human Services Division recommended approval to adopt a revised 2003
General Fund Contingency Plan for Human Services, as recommended by the
Human Services Advisory Committee, due to an additional $30,700 in funding.
Refer to Community Services Committee.

CAG: 02-159, Maplewood
Creek Sedimentation Basin
2002 Maintenance, Scarsella
Brothers

Surface Water Utility Division submitted CAG-02-159, Maplewood Creek
Sedimentation Basin 2002 Maintenance; and requested approval of the project,
authorization for final pay estimate in the amount of $1,952.96, commencement of
60-day lien period, and release of retained amount of $1,308.50 to Scarsella
Brothers, Inc., contractor, if all required releases are obtained. Council concur.

Transportation: Eastside
Transportation Partnership
Interlocal Agreement

Transportation Systems Division recommended approval of the Eastside
Transportation Partnership agreement to continue planning and project
coordination efforts of Renton with other Eastside jurisdictions and related
regional agencies. Annual dues are $500. Council concur. (See page 482 for
resolution.)

MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL APPROVE
THE CONSENT AGENDA AS AMENDED TO REMOVE ITEM 6.a. FOR
SEPARATE CONSIDERATION. CARRIED.
Separate Consideration
Item 6.a.
Council Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2002

Councilwoman Keolker-Wheeler requested that the Council meeting minutes of December 9, 2002, be changed as follows:

Page 473, under New Business, first paragraph, second sentence, remove the word "established" from between the words "near" and "neighborhood."

MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL APPROVE ITEM 6.a. AS AMENDED. CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

Council: Meeting Cancellations (12/23/02, COW & Regular Meeting)

MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL CANCEL THE REGULARLY-SCHEDULED COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND COUNCIL MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 23, 2002. CARRIED.

Community Services Committee

EDNSP: 2002 Neighborhood Grant Program

Community Services Committee Chair Corman presented a report regarding the second round of 2002 neighborhood grant projects. The Committee met on December 16, 2002, to review staff recommendations for the 2002 neighborhood grant projects. After review of the applications, the Committee recommended approval of the following grant applications:

1. Glencoe Neighborhood Association – Refurbish existing neighborhood entrance sign, landscaping, and rehabilitation of two public walkways between Whitman Ave. and NE 17th and NE 22nd Streets. ($2,356.07)
2. Renton Hill Community Association – Beautification and installation of an irrigation system of an existing traffic circle located at SE 7th Ct. ($2,187.33)
3. Ginger Creek Community Association – Develop a pocket park on a Seattle Public Utilities-owned right-of-way in Renton. The area is approximately a quarter of an acre and is bordered by Puget Dr., Beacon Way SE and 16th St. ($11,222.60)

As part of the application review, staff identified a concern about the use of surplus City personal property for projects funded through the Neighborhood Grant Program. The City presently has no policy directing how surplus personal property should be used in situations such as these. It is recommended that criteria be developed by staff for neighborhood grant projects, and that this topic be retained in the Community Services Committee for further review.*

In response to Mayor Tanner's inquiry about the use of Seattle Public Utilities-owned property for a park, Councilman Corman confirmed that all necessary permissions have been acquired.

*MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY PARKER, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Finance Committee

Finance: Vouchers

Finance Committee Chair Parker presented a report recommending approval of Claim Vouchers 210342 - 210866 and two wire transfers totaling $3,846,043.61; and approval of Payroll Vouchers 41564 - 41792, one wire transfer and 564 direct deposits totaling $1,735,779.87. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were presented for reading and adoption:
Resolution #3607
Plat: Liberty Ridge Phase 4, Harrington Ave SE (FP-02-126)
A resolution was read approving the Liberty Ridge Phase 4 Final Plat consisting of approximately 9.1 acres located on Harrington Ave. SE, south of NE 3rd and 4th Streets, and east of Edmonds Ave. NE (FP-02-126). MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS READ. CARRIED.

Resolution #3608
Transportation: Eastside Transportation Partnership Interlocal Agreement
A resolution was read authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into the revised agreement for the Eastside Transportation Partnership for Renton's continued participation in the program through 2005. MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS READ. CARRIED.

The following ordinance was presented for first reading and advanced for second and final reading:

Ordinance #4993
Utility: Public Works Fees
An ordinance was read amending Section 4-1-180 of Chapter 1, Administration and Enforcement, of Title IV (Development Regulations) of City Code increasing certain public works fees. MOVED BY BRIERE, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL ADVANCE THE ORDINANCE FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING. CARRIED.

Ordinance #4994
Budget: 2003 Annual City of Renton
An ordinance was read adopting the City of Renton Annual Budget for the year 2003 in the total amount of $142,401,100. MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS READ. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. CARRIED.

Ordinance #4995
Community Services: 2003 Recreation Fees for Non-Residents
An ordinance was read increasing the non-resident recreation fees for 2003. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS READ. ROLL CALL: SIX AYES: NELSON, CORMAN, PARKER, BRIERE, KEOLKER-WHEELER AND CLAWSON; ONE NAY: PERSSON. CARRIED.

Ordinance #4996
Finance: 2003 Sewer Rates Increase
An ordinance was read amending Section 8-5-15, Sewer Charges, of Chapter 5, Sewers, of Title VIII (Health and Sanitation) of City Code by a 3% rate increase. MOVED BY BRIERE, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS READ. ROLL CALL: SIX AYES: NELSON, CORMAN, PARKER, BRIERE, KEOLKER-WHEELER AND CLAWSON; ONE NAY: PERSSON. CARRIED.

Ordinance #4997
Comprehensive Plan: 2002 Amendment, Springbrook Associates
An ordinance was read adopting the 2002 amendments to the City's 1995 Comprehensive Plan, maps and data in conjunction therewith. MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY BRIERE, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS READ. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. CARRIED.

Ordinance #4998
Rezone: Springbrook Associates, S 37th St, CO to R-10
An ordinance was read changing the zoning classification of approximately 5.61 acres located south of S. 37th St., and west of the dead-end at S. 38th St. west of Talbot Rd. S. from Commercial Office (CO) to Residential Options (RO) Residential - 10 (R-10; ten dwelling units per acre) zoning; Springbrook
NEW BUSINESS
Policy: Residency Requirement for Future Department Heads

MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL REFER THE ISSUE OF REQUIRING RESIDENCY FOR ALL FUTURE DEPARTMENT HEADS TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.*

City Attorney Larry Warren stated that certain legal requirements will not permit all department heads to be residents. Mayor Tanner clarified that existing department heads cannot be required to move to Renton if they are not already residents; however, new department heads can be required to be residents. He added that the Administration has not taken a position on the matter.

In response to Councilman Parker's question regarding why department heads should be residents, Councilman Persson stated his opinion that department heads should live in the community that they are serving.

Mayor Tanner noted for the record that throughout Councilman Persson's career (at the City of Renton) up through Deputy Police Chief, he was not a Renton resident. Councilman Persson noted for the record that he was not a department head.

Council President Nelson expressed her concern that the City may miss out on hiring a highly qualified candidate if the residency requirement is instituted.

*MOTION CARRIED.

Council: 2002 Council President Appreciation (Nelson)
Councilman Corman expressed his appreciation for the excellent job Councilwoman Nelson has done as 2002 Council President.

AUDIENCE COMMENT
Citizen Comment: Johnson – Sam's Club, S Grady Way
Arland "Buzz" Johnson, 334 Wells Ave. S., #221, Renton, 98055, expressed his excitement that a Sam's Club store will be located next to Renton City Hall, on S. Grady Way.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR 47 MINUTES TO DISCUSS LABOR NEGOTIATIONS, LITIGATION AND PROPERTY ACQUISITION. CARRIED. Time: 8:15 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:02 p.m.; roll was called; all Councilmembers present except Clawson who, due to a potential conflict of interest, was excused at 8:55 p.m. prior to the discussion related to property acquisition.

ADJOURNMENT
MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY PERSSON, COUNCIL ADJOURN. CARRIED. Time: 9:03 p.m.