CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL OF COUNCILMEMBERS

RANDY CORMAN, Council President; TONI NELSON; DAN CLAWSON; DON PERSSON; KING PARKER; TIMOTHY SCHLITZER. MOVED BY SCHLITZER, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCILMEMBER KATHY KEOLKER-WHEELER. CARRIED.

CITY STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

JESSE TANNER, Mayor; JAY COVINGTON, Chief Administrative Officer; ZANETTA FONTES, Assistant City Attorney; MARILYN PETERSEN, City Clerk; GREGG ZIMMERMAN, Planning/Building/Public Works Administrator; JIM SHEPHERD, Community Services Administrator; DEREK TODD, Finance Analyst; LESLIE BETLACH, Parks Director; JANA HANSON; Development Services Director; REBECCA LIND, Principal Planner; GAIL REED, Airport Supervisor; JOHN E. THOMPSON, Maintenance Manager; PAUL KUSAKABE, Fiscal Services Director; RONALD STRAKA, Utility Engineering Supervisor; BETTY NOKES, Economic Development Director; DENNIS CULP, Facilities Director; FIRE MARSHAL CHUCK DUFFY, Fire Department; CHIEF A. LEE WHEELER, Fire Department; COMMANDER FLOYD ELDRIDGE, Police Department.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 6, 2000 AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

PROCLAMATION

March 16, 2000: “Absolutely Incredible Kid Day”

A proclamation by Mayor Tanner was read declaring March 16, 2000, to be “Absolutely Incredible Kid Day” in the City of Renton, and declaring the children of Renton as absolutely incredible kids. MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY PERSSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE PROCLAMATION AS READ. CARRIED.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Fire: 1999 Firefighter of the Year Award

Fire Chief A. Lee Wheeler invited Lieutenant Steve Baima to explain why Todd Stanley was selected as 1999 Firefighter of the Year. Lieutenant Baima explained that Mr. Stanley, a Firefighter EMT assigned to the Suppression Division, has worked for the Renton Fire Department for about seven years. Mr. Stanley is in charge of the Department’s respiratory air program to which he’s devoted many off-duty hours to further the goals of the program which include obtaining respiratory air and self-contained breathing equipment and developing a rapid intervention team kit. Lieutenant Baima pointed out that Mr. Stanley was chosen as firefighter of the year by his peers.

Chief Wheeler explained that the reason for the delay in presenting Mr. Stanley with his award was due to the fact that Mr. Stanley was on medical leave donating sixty percent of his liver to his stepfather, who suffered from liver cancer. Chief Wheeler reported that Mr. Stanley was finally back at work after a long recovery.

Todd Stanley, accompanied by his family, accepted plaques from Chief Wheeler and Lieutenant Baima. Chief Wheeler also presented him with a plaque from the Lake City Elks which honored Mr. Stanley as their choice as Firefighter of the Year. Thanking the Fire Department, Mr. Stanley said that it
meant a lot to him to be recognized by his co-workers.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

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 2000 and beyond. Items noted included:

- Through March 3rd of this year, Renton Housing Repair Assistance Program staff have completed 50 emergency repairs, 53 minor assistance repairs, and assisted a total of 27 households.

- The trench work for Tamaron Apartments located on Lake Washington Blvd. has been temporarily restored with asphalt. Form-work for new curbs and gutters along the east side of the street has begun and then the contractor will complete a full street width overlay with street lighting and a wider bike lane.

**Utilities: Tri-County Endangered Species Act 4(d) Rule Framework**

Jay Covington briefed the Council about the proposed Tri-County Endangered Species Act 4(d) rule framework which is proposed for inclusion to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). In 1999 the NMFS listed Puget Sound Chinook Salmon as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and since that time a number of local and regional efforts have emerged to respond to the listing. Mr. Covington explained that although the NMFS has the authority for identifying necessary protective measures, local stakeholders have been coordinating their efforts through a Tri-County Committee that consists of representatives from Pierce, King, Snohomish Counties and the larger cities within those counties.

Describing the involvement of various agencies, Mr. Covington explained it is difficult to determine which agency is responsible for what within the ESA. He affirmed that City staff, along with Mayor Tanner, are carefully monitoring the process. Mr. Covington said that according to the ESA, the City should stop doing anything through its regulations or allowance of development that might further endanger the salmon. The 4(d) rule is an attempt to allow the City to continue its operations with the understanding that the City is taking actions to try to improve the salmon habitat. He concluded by saying that comments regarding the Tri-County’s draft rule framework are due by March 20th and asked staff to apprise Council of the City’s concerns regarding the 4(d) rule.

Development Services Director Jana Hanson said that in order to protect and recover the Chinook Salmon, the NMFS is applying the ESA to all human activities within watersheds, streams, lakes, ponds, wetlands and marine water bodies. Section 4(d) of the ESA allows NMFS to establish standards by which cities and counties can conduct otherwise legal activity without violating the ESA. She noted that the NMFS 4(d) rule is due to become effective in June 2000.

Ms. Hanson stated that under the 4(d) rule, activities that “take” Chinook are prohibited. She explained that “take” is a term which means any degradation in fish quality which include fishing for Chinook Salmon, destroying its habitat through development activities or other means, pollutants, and blockage of existing salmon runs. NMFS will allow the exemption of certain land use activities from the prohibition of “take” if those activities conform with NMFS approved regulations. The Tri-County proposed 4(d) framework of regulations, if accepted by NMFS, will provide the regulations which cities and counties operate under.
Continuing, Ms. Hanson said the proposed framework is broken into two phases. The first phase, which must be completed within five years, begins immediately upon the effective date of the adoption of the 4(d) rule. Within the first two years, an Early Action Program (EAP) must be implemented which addresses improved land use regulations, a comprehensive storm water program, road maintenance procedures, acquisition and restoration of habitat, watershed assessment and participation in comprehensive watershed-based salmon conservation efforts. Phase one ends with the completion of the comprehensive watershed based conservation plan. Phase two starts after five years and continues until the species is recovered. During phase two, cities are required to implement the watershed-based conservation plan. Implementation, she explained, will require revisiting critical area ordinances and adopting a shoreline management program and development regulations that include management zones (buffers) from 50 to 300 feet from water bodies, a stormwater program, a road maintenance program and a habitat acquisition and restoration program.

In conclusion, Ms. Hanson described staff concerns regarding the proposed Tri-County framework. Explaining that there are several gaps within the framework, she pointed out that there is no mention of redevelopment activities and how those are to be treated through the framework process.

Utility Engineering Supervisor Ron Straka reported that the proposed Tri-County framework includes a comprehensive 14 element stormwater program. He said that although the City currently has programs that implement many of the elements, due to the lack of detail in the framework, the City cannot determine if its current level of efforts is sufficient for every element. The framework requires the adoption of technical standards which will require a strengthening of the City’s current stormwater standards regarding detention and water quality. Mr. Straka confirmed that the proposed framework will have a significant impact on the City’s ability to conduct business, will require a large commitment of staff resources, and will potentially redirect capital funds. He concluded by saying that staff recommends that Council authorize the Mayor to send a letter to the Tri-County Executive Committee summarizing the staff’s comments which will point out the overall vagueness of the framework, the undefined mandates, the one size fits all approach to stormwater and management zones as applied to urban areas, and the lack of opportunity to review and comment on all of the framework implementation guidelines.

Councilmember Clawson inquired as to how much more stringent the regulations in the State Department of Ecology’s Stormwater Manual are than what the City currently has in place. Mr. Straka answered that although it will vary on a site-to-site basis, generally it could mean as much as a doubling or tripling of detention volume required for on-site peak flow control.

Responding to Councilmember Schlitzer, Mayor Tanner said that it is not mandated that the City comply with proposed regulations, however, if they are not followed the City won’t be able to develop.

MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL AUTHORIZE ADMINISTRATION TO SEND A LETTER TO THE TRI-COUNTY GROUP SUMMARIZING THE CITY’S CONCERNS REGARDING THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT 4(d) RULE FRAMEWORK. CARRIED.
CONSENT AGENDA

Development Services: Removal of Restrictive Covenants for Trammell Crow (2100 Lk Wash Blvd)

Development Services Division recommended approval of the request from Trammell Crow Residential for the removal of restrictive covenants on property located at 2100 Lake Washington Blvd. as the site has been rezoned (Lake Terrace Park Associates Rezone, R-90-081), and many of the conditions have either been met or no longer apply to the property. Refer to Planning & Development Committee.

Finance: Valley Communications Center PDA

Finance and Information Services Department recommended approval of an interlocal agreement creating a Public Development Authority for the purpose of issuing debt to construct a new Valley Communications Center for five south King County jurisdictions. Refer to Finance Committee.

Plat: Elizabeth, 1221 Edmonds Ave NE (PP-99-150)

Hearing Examiner recommended approval, with conditions, of the Elizabeth Place preliminary plat; 17 single family lots on 1.67 acres located at 1221 Edmonds Ave. NE (PP-99-150). Council concur.

King County: Transit Center Agreement

Transportation Systems Division recommended approval of a Memorandum of Agreement with King County for the construction, operation and maintenance of the Renton Transit Center. Refer to Transportation Committee.

MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY PERSSON, COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE

Citizen Comment: Jorgensen – Naming of Downtown Pedestrian Park

Correspondence was read from Andee Jorgensen, 2411 Garden Ct. N., 98056, commending the Mayor and Council for building a park for pedestrian activity in downtown Renton. She supports naming the park Piazza Renton. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL REFER CORRESPONDENCE TO THE PARK BOARD. CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

Community Services Committee

Parks: Sunset Court Park Criminal Activity (Lighting Request)

Community Services Committee Chair Nelson presented a report regarding criminal activity at Sunset Court Park. Sunset Court Park was inspected by the Parks Department regarding criminal activity, cleanliness and lighting. With the exception of one lighter, the park was free from litter, broken glass, drug paraphernalia, and prophylactics. Further, there is an area light in the park set with an electronic eye that operates from dusk to dawn seven days per week. Police Department records verify that no calls have been received for the past year regarding illegal activities in Sunset Court Park.

It was noted that the gravel area between the asphalt alley and the park fence was fairly clean except for one used prophylactic and broken glass, which park department personnel removed. The alley to the east of the park contained considerable litter including bottles, cans, chairs, bingo cards, leaves and illegal brush dumping.

The private property adjacent to and north of the park was extensively overgrown and contained a homeless camp.

The Community Services Committee concurred with the staff recommendation that additional lighting is not required for this park as no calls have been received regarding illegal activities and it may negatively impact area residents. The Committee further recommended that the City’s Code Compliance Office with the Planning/Building/Public Works Department contact the private property owner adjacent to and north of the park for cleanup and removal of the overgrown vegetation on the site. Further, it was recommended that the Code
Compliance Officer coordinate the removal of the homeless camp. MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY PERSSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Appointment: Municipal Arts Commission

Community Services Committee Chair Nelson recommended concurrence in the Mayor’s appointment of Nancy Clendaniel to the Municipal Arts Commission to fill Ned Mueller’s term which expires on 12/31/00. Mr. Mueller resigned on 02/03/00. MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Transportation: Boy Scout Flag Raising Project Along Wells Avenue South

Community Services Committee Chair Nelson presented a report regarding the expansion of Boy Scout Troop 464’s flag raising project. The Transportation Operations Section evaluated the request from Harold Hawkens to expand their flag raising project to include 21 lamp posts on Wells Ave S. from the Cedar River to S. 4th St. The only request Transportation Systems made was to coordinate with Transportation Maintenance to ensure that site distance is not obstructed.

The Community Services Committee recommended Council authorize the Administration to approve Boy Scout Troop 464 to coordinate with Transportation Maintenance to expand their flag raising project. MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY PERSSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Parks: Golf Cart Lease Purchase Program

Community Services Committee Chair Nelson presented a report recommending concurrence in the staff recommendation to execute a formal thirty-six (36) month lease/purchase agreement for forty (40) gasoline powered golf cars. Thirty (30) cars from the current fleet of forty (40) cars will be utilized as a trade-in. The City has the option at the end of the term to purchase the forty (40) cars for a total of $1.00. Additionally, the City’s current fleet of forty (40) cars will be expanded to fifty (50).

The Committee further recommended that the Mayor and the City Clerk be authorized to execute this Lease/Purchase Agreement. MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Transportation (Aviation) Committee

Transportation Committee Chair Persson presented a report regarding the Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) Act Implementation Agreement. The Committee recommended that Council approve the Resolution authorizing the execution of the CTR services agreement with King County. This agreement arranges for King County to continue providing CTR program development, implementation, and support services to employers in Renton who fall under the definition of “Affected Employer,” as defined in the City’s CTR Ordinance. MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED. (See page 88 for resolution.)

Transportation: Traffic control on South Puget Drive

Transportation Committee Chair Persson presented a report regarding a request for a traffic control device on S. Puget Dr. The Transportation Operations Section performed a traffic engineering study on S. Puget Dr. and found there is no need for additional traffic control devices. However, the study showed an average speed of 42 miles per hour in the eastbound direction and 37 miles per hour westbound on S. Puget Dr. A memo has been sent to the Traffic Division of the Police Department with the results of the study.

The Transportation Committee recommended Council request the
Administration to periodically monitor S. Puget Dr. and determine when and if additional traffic control devices may become appropriate. MOVED BY PERSson, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Transportation Committee Chair Persson presented a report regarding overnight parking in parking lots by semi-trucks, recreational vehicles, etc. Bob Arthur, Land Use Compliance Officer and Traffic Sergeant Mike Luther informed the Committee that per state law, vehicles parked on private property are the responsibility of the property owner. RCW 46.61.080 states that if a vehicle is in violation of the time restrictions of RCW 46.55.010 (12), it may be impounded by a registered tow truck operator at the direction of a law enforcement officer or other public official with jurisdiction if the vehicle is on public property, or at the direction of the property owner or an agent if the vehicle is on private property. If a vehicle is declared a hulk or junk, the Land Use Compliance Officer can proceed with the abatement process, a search warrant is written and the City can remove the vehicle from private property. The trucks in question do not meet the definition of junk or hulk.

The Committee discussed the City ordinance regarding criminal trespass. Trespass applies to a person, not to property. The driver can be considered a trespasser on the property. The property owner, however, is responsible for having the vehicles removed.

Therefore, the Transportation Committee recommended that nothing further be done in regards to this issue. MOVED BY PERSson, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Finance Committee
Finance: Vouchers

Finance Committee Chair Parker presented a report recommending approval of Claim Vouchers 179767-180215 and two wire transfers totaling $4,463,179.39. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Lease: iCopyright, Inc., 1st Flr of 200 Mill Building

Finance Committee Chair Parker presented a report authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign a lease amendment with iCopyright, Inc. to expand into the first floor of the 200 Mill Ave. building in addition to occupying floors four through six. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Lease: Iron Mountain (Arcus Data Security), Renton City Hall 4th Floor

Finance Committee Chair Parker presented a report authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign a lease with Iron Mountain, Inc. (Arcus Data Security) for the fourth floor of Renton City Hall for five years. The agreement includes authorized tenant improvements in the amount of $333,200. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY PERSson, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #3444
Transportation: 2000 Commute Trip Reduction Program, King County Services

A resolution was read authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an interlocal cooperative agreement with King County entitled “Commute Trip Reduction Act Implementation Agreement”. MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS READ. CARRIED.

The following ordinances were presented for second and final reading:
Ordinance #4833

Boards/Commissions: Human Services Advisory Committee Ordinance

An ordinance was read amending Title II (Commissions and Boards) of City Code by adding Chapter 12, creating the Human Services Advisory Committee, establishing the requirements and terms of its members, and providing for rules and procedures for its operation. MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY PERSSON, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS READ. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. CARRIED.

Ordinance #4834

Vacation: Lake View Blvd (104th Ave SE), Legacy Partners/Martindale et al., VAC-98-004

An ordinance was read vacating a portion of Lake View Boulevard (104th Avenue SE) for Legacy Partners/Martindale, et al. (VAC-98-004). MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS READ. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive: Centennial Community Calendar

MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY PERSSON, COUNCIL REFER CONTINUING THE RENTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR AND MAKING IT A 2001 CENTENNIAL CALENDAR TO THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE. CARRIED.

Police: Public Awareness of Rules re: Emergency Vehicles

Councilmember Nelson observed that citizens are not aware of what to do in the presence of emergency vehicles. She recommended that a Police or Fire Department representative explain the rules at an upcoming Council meeting or incorporate it as a segment on CityView, the City-produced program which airs on the Renton’s government access channel 21.

Finance: Delinquent Water Bills

Mayor Tanner pointed out that the matter regarding delinquent water bills recently referred to the Utilities Committee is also on the Finance Committee referral list.

Councilmember Clawson said he was reluctant to withdraw the item from the Utilities Committee. He felt that some items require more discussion than one committee allows and related that he had some ideas to contribute regarding the matter.

Responding to Council President Corman’s suggestion, Councilmember Nelson agreed to give up her chair on the Finance Committee to Mr. Clawson when the item is up for discussion.

MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL REMOVE THE ITEM CONCERNING DELINQUENT WATER BILLS FROM THE UTILITIES COMMITTEE. CARRIED.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY PERSSON, COUNCIL RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR 25 MINUTES TO DISCUSS PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS. CARRIED. Time: 8:47 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:12 p.m.; roll was called; all Councilmembers present.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL ADJOURN. CARRIED. Time: 9:13 p.m.

MARILYN J. PETERSEN, CMC, City Clerk