RENTON CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting

September 20, 1999
Monday, 7:30 p.m.

M I N U T E S

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
KING PARKER, Council President; DAN CLAWSON; KATHY KEOLKERR-WHEELER; BOB EDWARDS; TONI NELSON; RANDY CORMAN; TIMOTHY SCHLITZER.

CITY STAFF IN ATTENDANCE
JESSE TANNER, Mayor; JAY COVINGTON, Chief Administrative Officer; LARRY WARREN, City Attorney; MARILYN PETERSEN, City Clerk; JIM SHEPHERD, Community Services Administrator; KAREN MARSHALL, Human Services Manager; DEREK TODD, Finance Analyst; DIANNE UTECHT, Community Development Block Grant Specialist; DENNIS CULP, Facilities Director; SÓNJA MEJLAENDER, Volunteer Coordinator; CAPTAIN TALLY HALL, Fire Department; CHIEF GARRY ANDERSON, Police Department; COMMANDER FLOYD ELDRIDGE, Police Department; OFFICER STEVE RITCHIE, Police Department; COMMUNITY PROGRAM COORDINATOR CYNDIE DRIGGERS, Police Department.

PRESS
Robert Teodosio, Renton Reporter

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES
MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 13, 1999 AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
“Return to Renton” Auto Show Proceeds Benefitting D.A.R.E.

Chief of Police Garry Anderson introduced Ben and Nancy Remak, organizers of the annual “Return to Renton” car show whose proceeds benefit D.A.R.E.

Mr. and Mrs. Remak, along with their daughter Elsa, presented Chief Anderson with a check for $8,500. Noting that since 1991, Return to Renton has raised over $30,000 for D.A.R.E., Chief Anderson in turn presented a plaque of appreciation to the Remaks for their tremendous efforts in organizing this event.

Mr. Remak thanked Councilmember Nelson for suggesting that the car show be held in the downtown area this year, which prompted it taking place at Renton High School for the first time. Mrs. Remak looked forward to next year’s event, which will be the show’s tenth anniversary.

Summer Lunch Program at Royal Hills

Karen Marshall, Human Services Manager, reported that the Summer Lunch Program at Royal Hills served nearly 200 children daily from June 21 through August 27 with a total of 8,100 meals. She presented certificates of appreciation to volunteers from five local churches whose assistance in this program was critical to its success: St. Andrew’s Presbyterian, United Christian, Fairwood Community, Renton First United Methodist, and Martin Luther King Baptist. Various other City departments and outside organizations also contributed greatly to this program.

Ms. Marshall explained that this program is held at Royal Hills every year since this is the only site within Renton which qualifies as an “open site,” meaning that no one who attends is required to prove that they are low income in order to participate.
PUBLIC HEARING
Human Services: 2000 CDBG Funding Allocations

The proper notices having been posted and published in accordance with local and State laws, Mayor Tanner opened the public hearing to consider Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for 2000.

Karen Marshall, Human Services Manager, said Renton estimates it will receive $65,778 in CDBG public services funds and $256,712 in CDBG capital funds next year. After meeting with all of the agencies who applied for a grant, the Human Services Advisory Committee issued its recommended funding allocations along with a contingency plan should the actual funds received be less or more than anticipated. Staff concurs with the recommendations of the committee.

Audience comment was invited.

Tamara Brown, PO Box 398, Kent, WA, 98035, a family support services manager for Catholic Community Services of South King County, explained the agency’s interest in providing transitional housing for single women. Ms. Brown noted that currently, most of the services for homeless single women are located in downtown Seattle which is generally considered an unsafe place for a single homeless woman.

Lizz Hlavaty, representing the King County Housing Authority, 15455 - 65th Ave. S., Seattle, 98188, expressed appreciation for the recommended funding of the Nike Manor plumbing project. This complex, which is located on Kent’s West Hill, has original plumbing dating back to the ‘50s which is in serious need of repair.

Chad Higman, 326 Meadow Ave. N., Renton, 98055, director of Puget Sound Residential Services, explained that the proposed Parkview Group Homes project will provide housing for four deaf, blind and developmentally disabled clients. He anticipated receiving $28,000 from Renton’s CDBG fund for this project, and expressed thanks for the grant.

There being no further audience comment, it was MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. CARRIED. (See page 318 for Community Services Committee report on this subject.)

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 1999 and beyond. Items noted included:

- A fire at a Kent chemical warehouse resulted in contaminated residue entering Springbrook Creek. In response, King County ceased operations of the Blackriver Pump Station to prevent contaminated water from entering the Green River where it could harm salmon. Because shutting down the pumps backs up water into Springbrook Creek, at Renton’s request King County began pumping water from the creek into the Renton Treatment Plant’s influent line to preserve the creek’s storage capacity in the event of heavy rain. (See page 320 for additional discussion of this matter.)

- The Human Services Division and Communities in Schools of Renton will host a “Getting to Know Renton” workshop on September 24th. The
workshop will be attended by staff from various King County agencies who afterward will be better able to serve their Renton-area clients.

* The Fire Department hosted and helped teach a two-day workshop for fire personnel throughout King County who work with the youth firesetting intervention program called Firestoppers.

**AUDIENCE COMMENT**

*Citizen Comment: Eastlake – Tenant Space in Former Municipal Building*

Jon Eastlake, 289 Perimeter Road E., Renton, 98055, representing the Delta Society, reported that although this non-profit organization wants to lease the first floor of the former municipal building at 200 Mill Ave. S., it was informed that first priority is to be given to “high-tech” companies. Mr. Eastlake asked that the City reconsider this preferential treatment so the Delta Society can pursue its interest in this matter.

In response to Councilmember Nelson, Mr. Eastlake said the Delta Society is a national charity whose mission is to promote using animals to help people to improve their health, independence and quality of life.

Responding to Council President Parker, Mayor Tanner said this building is especially suitable for high-tech companies because it is wired with fiber optics and boasts an uninterruptable power supply. He added that the City is keenly interested in attracting these types of businesses to Renton.

Councilmember Keolker-Wheeler noted that the Delta Society has operated in Renton for a long period of time. She suggested that staff find out whether the organization would be interested in purchasing the recently surplussed police annex building. Councilman Clawson added that the City’s Economic Development Division might be able to help the Delta Society find a satisfactory new location.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

* Items on the consent agenda are adopted by one motion which follows the listing.

**CAG: 99-117, 1999 Sidewalk Rehabilitation, Gary Merlino Const Co**

City Clerk reported bid opening on 9/15/99 for CAG-99-117, 1999 Sidewalk Rehabilitation; six bids; project estimate $92,770; and submitted staff recommendation to award the contract to the low bidder, Gary Merlino Construction Co., in the amount of $84,183.00. Council concur.

**CAG: 99-084, Former Municipal Bldg 2nd Floor Deck Repair, Diamaco**

Community Services Department submitted CAG-99-084, Former Municipal Building Second Floor Deck Repair project; and requested approval of the project, authorization for final pay estimate in the amount of $37,946.61, commencement of 60-day lien period, and release of retained amount of $1,831.40 to Diamaco, Inc., contractor, if all required releases are obtained. Council concur.

**CRT: 99-008, Stein v Renton**

Court Case filed by James A. Trujillo on behalf of John Stein, a former City of Renton employee, alleging breach of contract, constructive discharge and negligent infliction of emotional distress. Refer to City Attorney and Insurance Services.

**Plat: Root Short Plat, 504 S Tobin, ROW Dedication (SHP-99-022)**

Development Services Division recommended accepting a dedication of right-of-way in an alley adjacent to 504 S. Tobin St. to fulfill a requirement of the Root Short Plat (SHP-99-022). Council concur.

**Public Works: Oversizing Request, from Kennydale Vista for Williamsberg Condo**

Planning/Building/Public Works Department recommended approval of the request from Kennydale Vista LLC for reimbursement in the amount of $5,602.62 for oversizing the water main for the Williamsberg Condominium (Lincoln Ave. N. and N. 40th St.) at the City’s request. Council concur.
CAG: 99-051, SW 27th St Culvert Procurement, Oldcastle Precast

Surface Water Utility Division submitted CAG-99-051, SW 27th St. Culvert Procurement project; and requested approval of the project, authorization for final pay estimate in the amount of $16,567.71, commencement of 60-day lien period, and release of retained amount of $3,998.00 to Oldcastle Precast, Inc., contractor, if all required releases are obtained. Council concur.

Public Works: Cedar River Flood Control Project, Grant from State Dept of CTED

Surface Water Utility Division recommended accepting up to $1,473,750 from the State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development to be used for dredging activities associated with the lower Cedar River flood control project. Council concur. (See page 319 for resolution.)

Transportation: Benson Rd S Pedestrian Improvement Project, Budget Increase

Transportation Systems Division requested that the budget of the Benson Road South pedestrian improvement project be increased by $130,000 for a total of $285,000 ($100,000 TIB grant) to include a traffic signal at the intersection of Benson Rd. S. and S. 26th St. with a pedestrian connection to Nelsen Middle School. Refer to Transportation Committee.

MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE
Citizen Comment: Wagner – Allowable Hours for Construction Activities

Correspondence was read from Richard L. Wagner, 2411 Garden Ct. N., Renton, 98056, asking that the allowable hours for construction activity be changed for projects larger than ten homes to no later than 6:00 p.m. during the week and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays. MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY EDWARDS, COUNCIL REFER THIS LETTER TO THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND THE ADMINISTRATION. CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS
Finance Committee
EDNSP: Hiring of Economic Development Specialist at Step E

Finance Committee Chair Edwards presented a report recommending that the Economic Development, Neighborhoods & Strategic Planning Department be authorized to hire Mark Santos-Johnson as an Economic Development Specialist at Step E of the salary range. MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Community Services Committee
Human Services: 2000 CDBG Funding Allocations

Community Services Committee Chair Nelson presented a report recommending concurrence with the staff recommendation that the 2000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds be distributed according to the Human Services Advisory Committee recommendations, as follows:

CDBG Public Services:

$11,400 to Communities in Schools of Renton
$12,000 to Community Health Centers of King County
$16,178 to the Domestic Abuse Women’s Network (DAWN)
$8,500 to ElderHealth NW/Connection
$10,500 to the Emergency Feeding Program; and
$6,500 to Visiting Nurse Services of the Northwest.

Total CDBG Public Services: $65,078.

CDBG Capital Requests:

$5,000 to Catholic Community Services
$6,000 to the Domestic Abuse Women’s Network
$166,500 to the City of Renton’s Minor Housing Repair program
$10,000 to the King County Housing Authority
$28,000 to Parkview Group Homes; and
$41,212 to King County Major Housing Repair program.

Total CDBG Capital Funding: $256,712.

The Committee further recommended concurrency with the CDBG funding contingency plan, as follows:

CDBG Public Services Funding: If there is an increase in public service funds, any additional funds will be allocated to Community Health Centers of King County for dental care. If there is a decrease in public service funds, the funding for the DAWN shelter will be reduced.

CDBG Capital Funding: If there is an increase in capital funding, any increased amount up to $10,000 will be allocated to Catholic Community Services to be used for transitional housing for homeless women. Any additional increase to a maximum of $10,000 will be allocated to the King County Housing Repair Deferred Home Loans program. Any remaining increase will be allocated to the City of Renton’s Minor Home Repair program.

If there is a five percent or less decrease in capital funding, the funding to the King County housing repair program will be reduced by a maximum of $7,000. Should further reductions be needed, the allocation to the Nike Manor plumbing repair (King County Housing Authority) will be reduced by a maximum of $3,000. If further reductions are needed, the allocation to Parkview Group Homes will be reduced by a maximum of $3,000.

If there is a 10% decrease in capital funding, reductions will be made to the following agencies in the order shown: 1) DAWN’s allocation be reduced to zero; 2) King County Housing Authority (Nike Manor) by $3,000; 3) Parkview Group Homes by $3,000; and 4) King County Housing Repair for any additional reductions.

MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Parks: Senior Activity Center
20th Anniversary

Council President Parker reported that last Sunday’s 20th Anniversary celebration of Renton’s Senior Activity Center was very well-attended. He congratulated the staff of this facility, saying they do an outstanding job and are greatly appreciated by their clientele.

Parks: Skateboard Park in Renton

Councilman Clawson inquired about progress being made on the proposed skateboard park, which Council approved on May 10, 1999. Mayor Tanner replied that although this subject is under discussion, his proposed 2000/2001 Budget will not include funding for this type of facility. Of course, Council can always modify the budget to change this if it so desires.

Councilman Clawson hoped that Council will continue to pursue this matter, since skateboarding is a healthy recreational activity for youth who choose not to participate in organized sports.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

The following resolution was presented for reading and adoption:

Resolution #3410
Public Works: Cedar River Flood Control Project, Grant from State Dept of CTED

A resolution was read authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the State of Washington to administer state funds to the City of Renton for the dredging of the Cedar River. MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE
The following ordinance was presented for first reading and advanced to second and final reading:

An ordinance was read amending subsection 4-8-100.A.2.b of Chapter 8, Permits and Decisions, subsections 4-9-020.D, E, G and H, and subsection 4-9-180.F of Chapter 9, Procedures and Review Criteria, of Title 4 (Development Regulations) of City Code by amending the Comprehensive Plan review process. MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY PARKER, COUNCIL ADVANCE THE ORDINANCE FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING. CARRIED.

Ordinance #4794
Comprehensive Plan: Changes to Amendment Review Process

Following second and final reading of the above-referenced ordinance, it was MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS READ. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS
Regional Issues: Coal Creek Utility District, Possible Assumption of Service

Referring to a letter sent by Lloyd Warren, Bellevue’s Director of Utilities to the Coal Creek Utility District’s Board of Commissioners regarding the possible assumption of all or a major portion of the district by Bellevue, Newcastle and/or Renton, it was MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL REFER THIS MATTER TO THE UTILITIES COMMITTEE. CARRIED.

Mayor Tanner noted that the service area which may be assumed by Renton is very small and located in the City’s potential annexation area.

Transportation: Sound Transit Financial Situation

Councilman Corman reported on the current financial situation of Sound Transit, the regional transit association. Reminding Council that when voters approved the plan, they did so largely because the project was divided into subareas with the promise that the taxes collected in each subarea would be spent in that subarea, he said the current funding shortage for the light rail element of the project could seriously compromise this promise. Specifically, the Seattle subarea is looking at whether money from the different subareas could be “blended” and potentially borrowed from.

Mr. Corman said King County Councilman Rob McKenna, who chairs the Eastside Transportation Partnership, is working to prevent any money from being exchanged between subareas to ensure that the funds due each subarea are available for use and not tied up in another subarea’s project. MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL REFER THIS MATTER TO THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE FOR A BRIEFING ONLY. CARRIED.

Public Works: Springbrook Creek Contamination

Councilman Schlitzer commented on the contamination of Springbrook Creek (reported earlier in the meeting as part of the Administrative Report). Saying that the water in this area is already murky, Mr. Schlitzer was concerned that the highly sensitive Black River Riparian Forest area be adequately protected. He felt that the City should do what it can to see that the pollutants are removed from the pond rather than held there indefinitely, suggesting that perhaps Metro could help dilute the contamination by purposely increasing the discharge of treated effluent.

Mayor Tanner explained that Metro is pumping the contaminated water into the outfall, from where it will be discharged into Puget Sound after being treated.

Mr. Schlitzer also wanted to know what steps the Olympic Pipeline Company is
taking to prevent future spills of hazardous material in Renton. Mayor Tanner replied that the Administration is currently developing stringent and far-reaching measures relating to the company’s operations in Renton. The recommended changes will be brought to Council for review and approval.

AUDIENCE COMMENT
Citizen Comment: Evans –
Councilmember Conduct During Committee Meetings

Ralph Evans, 3306 NE 11th Pl., Renton, 98056, inquired when the Committee of the Whole will resume its discussions relating to Councilmember conduct during committee meetings.

Council President Parker replied that this subject will be continued at a future meeting, date and time to be announced.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL ADJOURN, CARRIED. Time: 8:40 p.m.

MARILYN J. PETERSEN, CMC, City Clerk

Recorder: Brenda Fritsvold
September 20, 1999