RENTON CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting

July 12, 2004
Council Chambers
Renton City Hall

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Kathy Keolker-Wheeler called the meeting of the Renton City Council to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCILMEMBERS
DON PERSSON, Council President; RANDY CORMAN; TONI NELSON; DAN CLAWSON; DENIS LAW; TERRI BRIERE; MARCIE PALMER.

CITY STAFF IN ATTENDANCE
KATHY KEOLKER-WHEELER, Mayor; JAY COVINGTON, Chief Administrative Officer; LAWRENCE J. WARREN, City Attorney; BONNIE WALTON, City Clerk; GREGG ZIMMERMAN, Planning/Building/Public Works Administrator; ALEX PIETSCH, Economic Development Administrator; VICTORIA RUNKLE, Finance & Information Services Administrator; SYLVIA ALLEN, Recreation Director; VINCENT ORDUNA, Cultural Arts Coordinator; DEREK TODD, Assistant to the CAO; JULIE BREWER, Community Relations Manager; COMMANDER KATHLEEN MCCLINCY, Police Department.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
Community Services: "Into the Woods" Teen Musical Performance Excerpts
Sylvia Allen, Recreation Director, announced that Renton's 2004 summer teen musical "Into the Woods" will run from July 15th to August 8th at Carco Theatre. Cultural Arts Coordinator Vincent Orduna introduced performers Matt Ehle, Stephanie Johnson, Random Harrison, and Phuong Mai Pham who entertained the audience with three sample numbers from the show.

AJLS: City Budget Priorities Survey
Derek Todd, Assistant to the CAO, and Julie Brewer, Community Relations Manager, introduced Stuart Elway of Elway Research, Inc. who briefed Council on the findings of the City budget priorities survey. Mr. Elway explained that this public opinion survey was commissioned to determine the relative value residents place on various City of Renton services, and to engage resident input on the choices ahead for the City's budget writers. A telephone interview was conducted of 400 adult heads of registered voter households within the City limits of Renton, between June 12th and 21st.

The survey questions were organized around the following general categories: Quality of Life, City Services, City Budget Priorities, and Spending and Taxes. Mr. Elway reviewed the survey results, and discussed the implications of the survey. He summarized that overall, the survey indicated that Renton residents feel the City is doing a good job, like living in Renton, and feel safe in Renton. Additionally, residents recognize that there are many programs to fund, recognize that those programs cost money, and are willing to discuss the role and funding of city government.

Mr. Todd reported that data from the self-selected resident surveys conducted at the Fire Station #12 open house and on the City's website will be presented to Council at its workshop on July 15th.

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 2004 and beyond. Items noted included:

* The City recently received $2,300 for the Community Services Scholarship Program, donated by the City's Management Association, the Renton Community Foundation, the Rose Turner Guild, and Soroptimist International of Renton. This program offers scholarships for low-income
Renton residents to participate in the educational and recreational activities offered at the Community Center, neighborhood centers, and the Senior Activity Center.

* The annual road overlay project is scheduled to begin early next week. Selected streets throughout the City will receive asphalt overlay, including Edmonds Ave. NE between SR-900 and NE 27th St., Smitheres between S. 23rd and S. 21st, and many others.

Finance: Property Tax Rate Comparisons between Cities

Victoria Runkle, Finance & Information Services Administrator, gave a briefing on property tax rate comparisons between cities. She explained that Renton and Seattle are the only cities in the Puget Sound area that are termed full service, which means they provide all services such as fire, library, and general services.

When comparing property tax rates for services for the different cities, Ms. Runkle emphasized that it is important to add rates for all the basic services offered, including additional fire, library, and voted rates. For example, the City of Federal Way's city rate is $1.29, fire services rate is $1.50, and library services rate is $0.54. Renton's city rate is $3.16 (which includes fire and library services), and the voted rate is $0.08 for senior housing bonds which will be paid off in 2013. She noted that voter approved tax rates are above and beyond the base rates.

Additionally, Ms. Runkle noted that the property tax rate is also tied to the City's assessed valuation, in that the rate is spread over the size of the tax base.

Mayor Keolker-Wheeler also pointed out that when doing a comparison with cities located on the eastside of King County, the home valuations are higher on the eastside than in cities located in the south end.

Councilman Clawson added that the City taxes residences and businesses the same. Therefore, if the rates are lowered for Renton residents, there is also a cut made to the rates and the revenue coming from businesses that are owned by people and entities outside the City of Renton that help pay for City services.

Mayor Keolker-Wheeler noted also that the City only controls the rate per thousand, not how it is distributed - the King County tax assessor is responsible for that.

AUDIENCE COMMENT
Citizen Comment: DeMastus - Highlands Community Association, Harrington Ave NE Vehicle Speeding

Sandel DeMastus, Highlands Community Association (HCA) President, 1137 Harrington Ave. NE, Renton, 98056, invited everyone to the 2nd annual HCA swap meet on Saturday at the Housing Authority's parking lot. The proceeds will go towards the community picnic. She also noted that vehicles are speeding on Harrington Ave. NE., and expressed her concern for the safety of children.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are adopted by one motion which follows the listing. Item 6.g. was removed at the request of the Administration.


City Clerk requested approval to update City Code to reflect the deferred compensation benefit Councilmembers receive as part of their salaries. Council concur. (See page 230 for ordinance.)

Economic Development, Neighborhoods and Strategic Planning Department
8th St & Duvall Ave NE submitted 10% Notice of Intent to annex petition for the proposed Park Terrace Annexation, 7.65 acres located south of NE 8th St. (SE 120th St.), if extended, and east of Duvall Ave. NE., and recommended a public meeting be set on 7/19/2004 to consider the petition. Council concur.

Fire: 2004 Emergency Medical Services Funding, King County (Basic Life Support) Fire Department recommended acceptance of $461,303 from King County for basic life support services in 2004. Council concur. (See page 230 for resolution.)

Plat: Emmas, Lyons Ave NE, PP-04-025 Hearing Examiner recommended approval, with conditions, of the Emma's Preliminary Plat; ten single-family lots on 4.32 acres located at the 100 block of Lyons Ave. NE (PP-04-025). Council concur.

Airport: AT&T Lease, Addendum #3, Fiber Optic Line, PAG-87-001 Transportation Systems Division recommended approval of Addendum #3 to PAG-87-001, AT&T's lease for its fiber optic line that runs through the Airport, to extend the time period of the lease to 10/31/2012 and to increase the rental rate from $0.30 to $0.3473 per square foot per year. Revenue generated is $10,533.14 annually. Council concur.

Transportation: TIP (2005-2010) Transportation Systems Division submitted the annual update of the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Refer the TIP to the Transportation (Aviation) Committee; set a public hearing on 7/26/2004 to consider the TIP.

Solid Waste: 2004 Local Hazardous Waste Management Program, CAG-03-160 Utility Systems Division recommended approval of Addendum #1 to CAG-03-160 King County-Suburban City contract, accepting $24,813.89 for Renton's 2004 Local Hazardous Waste Management Program. Council concur. (See page 230 for resolution.)


Solid Waste: 2004-2005 Waste Reduction & Recycling Grant Agreement, King County Utility Systems Division recommended approval of the 2004-2005 Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant interlocal agreement with King County, which provides funding to implement Special Recycling Events, a Business Recycling Program, and Natural Yard Care Programs. Council concur. (See page 230 for resolution.)

MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY LAW, COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH THE REMOVAL OF ITEM 6.g. PER THE ADMINISTRATION. CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS Finance Committee Finance: Vouchers Finance Committee Chair Corman presented a report recommending approval of Claim Vouchers 228163 - 228616 and one wire transfer totaling $1,629,061.69; and approval of Payroll Vouchers 51520 - 51920, one wire transfer and 614 direct deposits totaling $1,971,180.88. MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

CAG: 04-087, Main Library Carpet Replacement, Decor Carpets Finance Committee Chair Corman presented a report concurring in the staff recommendation to award the bid for the Main Library Carpet Replacement project to Decor Carpets, Inc. in the amount of $69,692.67. MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.
RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Resolution #3698
Fire: 2004 Emergency Medical Services Funding, King County (Basic Life Support)
A resolution was read authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the 2004 King County Agency Services contract for emergency medical services/basic life support. MOVED BY LAW, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS READ. CARRIED.

Resolution #3699
Solid Waste: 2004 Local Hazardous Waste Management Program, CAG-03-160
A resolution was read authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute Amendment #1 to the Suburban City contract between King County and the City of Renton for the 2004 Local Hazardous Waste Management Program. MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY PALMER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS READ. CARRIED.

Resolution #3700
Solid Waste: 2004-2005 Coordinated Prevention Agreement, WA St DOE
A resolution was read authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an agreement entitled "State of Washington Department of Ecology and Renton Solid Waste Utility" for the 2004-2005 Coordinated Prevention Grant. MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY PALMER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS READ. CARRIED.

Resolution #3701
Solid Waste: 2004-2005 Waste Reduction & Recycling Grant Agreement, King County
A resolution was read authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the King County Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant Interlocal Agreement, which provides funding to implement special recycling events, a business recycling program, and natural yard care programs. MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY PALMER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS READ. CARRIED.

The following ordinance was presented for first reading and referred to the Council meeting of 7/19/2004 for second and final reading:

Council: Deferred Compensation Benefit
An ordinance was read amending Section 1-5-1.C of Chapter 5, Council, of Title 1 (Administrative) of City Code by including the deferred compensation benefit in the City Councilmembers' salary description. MOVED BY BRIERE, SECONDED BY LAW, COUNCIL REFER THE ORDINANCE FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING ON 7/19/2004. CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS
School District: Activities
Reporting on Renton School District activities, events, and honors, Councilwoman Nelson noted the following items: various student scholarship awards, the selection of Talbot Hill Elementary School as a Twenty-First Century School of Distinction Award winner, the recognition of IKEA owner Bjorn Bayley for his contributions to the district and community, and the student-led renovation of Lindbergh High School's courtyard areas.

ADJOURNMENT
MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL ADJOURN. CARRIED. Time: 8:39 p.m.

Bonnie I. Walton, City Clerk
Recorder: Michele Neumann
July 12, 2004