

**WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE IRVING CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
January 7, 2009**

The Irving City Council met in work session January 7, 2009. The following members were present/absent:

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Herbert Gears	Irving City Council	Mayor	Late	
Beth Van Duyne	Irving City Council	Councilwoman	Present	
Allan Meagher	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Lewis Patrick	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Rick Stopfer	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Sam Smith	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Joe Philipp	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Rose Cannaday	Irving City Council	Councilwoman	Present	
Thomas Spink	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	

Councilman Rick Stopfer called the meeting to order at 11:35 AM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Secretary Janice Carroll read the Council into Executive Session at 11:37 AM.

1 City Attorney - Personnel

Mayor Gears announced that the Council will now reconvene into open session. The time was 1:00 PM.

DISCUSSION TOPIC

2 Review of Regular Agenda

The Council reviewed the agenda and the following directions were noted.

5 Resolution -- Approving a Chapter 380 Economic Incentive Agreement with Broder Brothers on Designated "Freeport" Eligible Personal Property

6 Resolution -- Approving a Chapter 380 Economic Incentive Agreement with Siemens Postal Automation, Inc. on Designated "Freeport" Eligible Property

Councilman Joe Philipp requested a presentation on items 5 & 6.

Chief Financial Officer Max Duplant described the incentive agreements and noted that the agreements must also be approved by the Dallas City Council and the Fort Worth City Council as well. She stated that this is a sports apparel distribution center.

Councilman Allan Meagher asked if incentive agreements are automatically given in the Freeport area adjacent to the airport.

Chief Financial Officer Max Duplant stated that these agreements are requested and approved on a case by case basis.

The Council discussed the incentive agreement process and the City's revenue sharing agreement with the DFW International Airport.

Mayor Gears asked that staff bring this revenue sharing agreement back to the next worksession for review.

- 8** Resolution -- Authorizing the City Attorney's Office to File a Lawsuit to Require Zoning and Code Compliance on Property Located at 2431 Cambridge Drive, Irving, Texas
Councilman Philipp requested a presentation on this item.
Code Enforcement Manager Darrell Hammond state that this property owner is a chronic violator.
- 20** Resolution -- Approving a Professional Services Contract with Saenz Public Affairs for Governmental Advocacy Services
Mayor Gears advised the Council of his trip to Washington D.C. and his proposal to the federal representatives to allow the federal government to purchase municipal bonds.
Internal Compliance & Special Services Director Ramiro Lopez described the City's proactive initiatives to promote City projects and to apply for federal funding.
Councilwoman Rose Cannaday noted her concern with federal funding only being allocated to states that have not handled their funds well and are now in a financial crisis.
Mayor Gears responded that President Obama has described several different programs that will not only aid struggling states but fund local projects that support citizens locally and regionally. He noted that the "Diamond Exchange" of highways and the City's Convention Center and Entertainment Venue are examples of projects that the City plans to submit.
- 34** Resolution -- Approving and Accepting the Bid of CineSys Inc., for a Multiple Platform Network/Video Editing System for ICTN Television Production
Councilwoman Beth Van Duyne requested clarification as she did not want the City to purchase outdated equipment.
Corporate Communications Director Laurie Kunke and Chief Television Engineer Kenn North clarified that CineSys Inc. will be updating old editing equipment with state-of-the-art equipment.
- 36** Ordinance -- Amending Section 21-88 of Chapter 21 of the Code of Civil and Criminal Ordinances of the City of Irving, Texas by Adding Speed Limit of 50 MPH on IH635 Frontage Road from SH161 to Olympus Boulevard
Transportation Director Jim Driscoll noted that the speed limit change is at the request of the state.
- 37** Ordinance -- Amending Chapter 7 of the Code of Civil and Criminal Ordinances of the City of Irving, Texas to Comprehensively Regulate Signs
Code Enforcement Director Teresa Adrian presented the proposed Chapter 7 amendments; which included reduction of visual clutter and implementing more restrictive sign standards. She also described the regulations for pole signs, monument signs, window signs, wall signs, and non-conforming signage.
Mayor Gears requested that staff add wording, exempting the American flag from the size limitations proposed.
Real Estate & Development Director Brenda McDonald confirmed that wording will be added to exempt the size of an American flag but the number limitation will remain.

The Council discussed the use of advertising banners/flags and that it is often a requirement of the company for a franchise to buy them.

Director McDonald advised that "site plan" zoning is still available and the use of banners/flags can be approved through this process.

- 38** Ordinance -- Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of City of Irving, Texas Combination Tax and Hotel Occupancy Tax Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2009, in the Aggregate Principal Amount Not to Exceed \$130,000,000, Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Bond Purchase Agreement Relating to Such Bonds, Awarding the Sale of Said Certificates; Levying a Tax in Payment Thereof; Prescribing the Forms of Said Certificates; Approving the Official Statement; and Enacting Other Provisions Relating Thereto

Mayor Gears noted the City's AAA bond rating and commended staff for their work.

Chief Financial Officer Max Duplant described the ordinance, noting that this structure gives the City the best interest rate to go to market January 13, 2009. she said that an amended ordinance was before them.

Councilman Philipp asked that the financial advisor review the City's pledge on this debt.

First Southwest, Senior Vice President, Chris Janning described the forecast received from the PKF firm. He noted that this ordinance establishes the parameters to fund up to \$130 million and is based on conservative predictions. He also confirmed the addition of a reserve fund and additional underwriters involved for interim financing.

Councilman Smith asked Maura Gast, Irving Convention & Visitors Bureau Executive Director, to speak to the industry's position during the economic downturn.

ICVB Executive Director Gast stated that currently 90% of the City's travel is based on business travel and that the convention center will add other markets to stay in Irving, such as sporting events and social organization conventions.

- 39** Ordinance -- Public Hearing - Proposed Designation of a Commercial Tax Abatement Reinvestment Zone No. Fifty-Eight (58) Being a 8.348 Acre Tract of Land Situated in the J.A. Burdett Survey Abstract No. 49, Dallas County, Texas, Said 8.348 Acres of Land Being a Portion of that Certain Tract of Land Known as the Dallas Ft. Worth International Airport

40 Resolution -- Approving a Personal Property Tax Abatement Agreement Between the City of Irving, Dallas-Ft. Worth International Airport and Flightsafety, International

41 Resolution -- Approving a Chapter 380 Economic Development Incentive Agreement with Flightsafety, International on Eligible Personal Property

Ms. Duplant noted that 39, 40, and 41 are companion items. She described the proposed agreements with Flightsafety International, noting that it is contingent on participation by the cities of Dallas and Fort Worth.

Mayor Gears noted the need to meet with DFW Airport representatives to discuss and reaffirm or change the revenue sharing agreement. He asked the City Manager to meet with DFW agreement.

42 Ordinance -- Zoning Case #ZC08-0060 - Granting S-P-1 (Detailed Site Plan) for Auto Repair, Office and Warehouse Uses - Approximately 0.96 Acres Located at 1938 East Irving Boulevard - Transmission Depot, Applicant - William H. Miller, Owner (Postponed from the December 11, 2008, City Council Meeting)

Senior Planner Kenneth Bloom described the zoning case.

Councilman Stopfer questioned the opposition to the case.

Mr. Bloom noted that the opposition only represents six percent of neighboring property but will get more details on the opposing property owners before the regular meeting.

43 Ordinance -- Zoning Case #ZC08-0068 - Granting S-P-2 (Generalized Site Plan) for ML-20 (Light Industrial) Uses - Approximately 8.4 Acres Located at 850 and 908 East Pioneer Drive - Signal Metal Industries, Inc., Applicant - Ryan Robinson, Owner

Senior Planner Kenneth Bloom stated that the applicant has requested postponement to February 19, 2009 and is still pending a recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission.

44 Ordinance -- Zoning Case #ZC08-0072 - Granting S-P-2 (Generalized Site Plan) for R-6 (Single Family) Uses - Approximately 1.12 Acres Located at 1508 West Sixth Street - JDJR Engineers, Applicant - ZKB Properties, LLP, Owner

Senior Planner Bloom presented the case.

Councilman Allan Meagher requested the current square footage of the two homes staying on the property before the Council meeting Thursday night.

Councilwoman Rose Cannaday requested the square footage of the homes in the surrounding neighborhood.

3 Legislative Update

Internal Compliance & Special Services Manager Jonathon Bazan presented the legislative update. He described the City's priority items to go before the state legislature, which included: code enforcement, underground utilities, civil service, transportation, and water.

Councilwoman Cannaday asked if film incentives would be included in this session.

Mr. Bazan confirmed that it is on the legislative agenda to increase incentives to be

more competitive with neighboring states. He also noted that the Council will be getting weekly updates during the legislative session.

Councilman Stopfer discussed the DART initiatives.

Mayor Gears asked if TMRS legislation would be considered.

Mr. Bazan confirmed that TMRS was included on the legislative agenda.

It was agreed that Mr. Bazan will assist Councilman Stopfer on transportation issues.

4 Environmental Policy

This item was presented during the review of the regular agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Attorney Charles Anderson read the Mayor and Council into Executive Session at 4:15 PM.

5 Real Property Deliberations
(Texas Open Meetings Act § 551.072)

Mayor Gears announced that the Council will now reconvene in Open Session. The time was 5:55 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 PM

Herbert A. Gears, Mayor

ATTEST:

Janice Carroll, TRMC
City Secretary