

**CITY COUNCIL
BUSINESS/STUDY SESSION MINUTES
July 26, 2011**

The Business/Study Session of the Monroe City Council was held on July 26, 2011, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Robert Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Councilpersons present: Balk, Tuttle, Stima, Williams, Kamp, Cudaback, and Goering.

It was noted that Councilperson Stima would be late.

Staff present: Brazel, Feilberg, Quenzer, Harris, Nelson, Smith, Bremner, Farrell, and Martinson.

City Attorney Zach Lell was not present.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Cole Caplan, 17272 Sawyer Street, Monroe, address Council regarding a letter received from the Monroe Police Department regarding maintenance that was needed in Currie View Park. The homeowners had gathered and cleaned up the park. He feels that the park is not in a good location and should not belong to the homeowners association, since it isn't located directly in the neighborhood. He would like the park to be taken over by the City. If the City won't take responsibility, he suggested that they could at least mow it. They have a Homeowners Association (HOA) meeting Wednesday at the Library to discuss this matter. It will be their first HOA meeting.

BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Zimmerman introduced Paul Popelka, the new Planning & Permitting Manager. Mr. Popelka stated that he is excited about his new position. He gave his background and stated that he is impressed with Monroe and has spent time with staff and citizens.

Confirm Mayor's Appointment/Park Board Member/Jeff Rasmussen

Director Farrell explained that he and the Mayor interviewed Mr. Rasmussen and feels that he will bring a unique perspective to the Park Board and stated that he is in favor of confirmation. Mayor Zimmerman feels that Mr. Rasmussen has a great outlook and good ideas for the City's parks. He asked Council to support his appointment.

The motion was made by Councilperson Williams, and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback, to confirm Mayor's appointment of Jeff Rasmussen to the Park Board. On vote,

Motion carried 7/0.

Mayor Zimmerman stated that there would be two presentations tonight that would be very good for the community.

Wakeboard Park Presentation

Brad Smith introduced the team and explained how Pro Wakeboard tour in Monroe helped build excitement. They gave a PowerPoint presentation showing how a Wakeboard park would look at Lake Tye and detailing how the system works. The layout would include a lane for beginners and a lane for more experienced wakeboarders that would include jumps. He gave examples of changes that could be made to the design, to fit Monroe's needs. He explained the economic impact to businesses and the possible revenue for the City. Since there are few wakeboard parks in the United States, a park in Monroe could attract people from all over the US.

After Council discussion and comments, Mayor Zimmerman reported that he had spoken to a professional wakeboarder, who felt that Lake Tye would be perfect for a cable system. This would be an excellent opportunity to create a draw and put Monroe on the map utilizing our natural resources.

They will meet again and discuss more of the details and see if they can bring something back for Council to consider.

Mayor Zimmerman commented that CA Brazel has been talking to other businesses to enhance the north end of the lake. There will be further discussions at a later date.

First Air Field Expansion Presentation

Dan Reina, from DR Consulting, and Daryl Habich, First Air Field manager would like to partner with Monroe and do what's economically feasible to improve the airport. In order to be a sustainable airport, it needs to change. They want to bring in other types of aircraft and enhance the airport for use by NASCAR. They showed the concept of the expansion, which included a restaurant and bays for NASCAR to use. In order to expand they would need to extend the runway another 600 feet; they would use an impervious surface to not impact wetlands.

Britt Hyatt, from Harmsen and Associates, explained that they would need to look at the process and changes and how to make it happen. Comp Plan amendments are due Friday. She explained more about the project and process to make it all happen.

After discussion, Director Feilberg explained that the next step would be for them to apply for a comp plan amendment and go for docketing.

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion was made by Councilperson Kamp and seconded by Councilperson Goering, to approve the Consent Agenda. On vote,

Motion carried 6/0.

Item approved: 1) May 17, 2011 Council Business Meeting Minutes; 2) Authorize Mayor to Accept Public Works Project/179th & Main Street Intersection Improvements and begin the 45-day Lien Period; 3) Award Bid & Authorize Mayor to Sign Contract with Civic Plus for Website Design and Development.

FINAL ACTION

Resolution Declaring the City Council's Intent to Call for a Nonbinding Advisory Vote Prior to Installing any Additional Cameras Under the City's Automated Traffic Safety Camera Program

City Administrator Brazel gave a brief summary, explaining that a question had come up about the installation of the Chain Lake Road traffic camera. Any questions or discussions should be brought back when the city attorney will be in attendance.

Council consensus was to bring this item back for an executive session.

STUDY SESSION ITEMS

West Monroe Land Use

Public Works Director Feilberg gave a brief introduction, explaining that Council had asked about land use in the West Monroe area. He detailed five issues and stated that hotels aren't allowed anywhere in Monroe, except Downtown. He explained about airport compatibility and gave a list of prohibited uses and limitations on height restrictions. A hotel would be a major obstacle.

Councilperson Stima entered chambers at 9:43 p.m.

Director Feilberg stated that they are looking for Council direction on whether to put this on the Planning Commission Program of Work, or to wait for property owners to come forward. It was determined that it would be beneficial to have Planning Commission look at this as a whole, instead of separate parcels and have them look at the airport compatibility, too.

After discussion, it was determined that this would be brought back to move forward to have Planning Commission look at it. Doing it in tandem would get the most value and keep options in mind. They are looking at reinventing West Monroe. This item will come back to Council in early October/November.

SEPA Regulations Introduction

Public Works Director Feilberg gave a brief summary, explaining that this has been going on for a while. In November of last year, Council put this on the docket to look at SEPA regulations. Council wanted to change category limits, etc. The Planning Commission went through that process and held a public hearing, with no comments from citizens. His plan was to bring it back for action on August 9th.

After discussion, it was determined that this item would return on August 9th, for adoption.

Councilperson Cudaback stated that she was hoping that they could direct the Planning and Transportation Committee to come up with a recommendation for a letter Council could send to Community Transit regarding route changes. It was determined that the Committee would meet on August 9th and report back to Council.

Draft Agenda/August 9, 2011 Council Meeting

City Administrator Brazel presented the draft agenda for the August 9, 2011 Council meeting.

Councilperson Stima clarified that he wanted to add the Herald for advertising the agenda; he didn't want to cancel advertising in the Monitor.

Councilperson Goering would like addresses to be more Monroe-centric when annexations occur. He would like to discuss this topic at a future meeting.

Mayor Zimmerman stated that Monroe has grown up and needs a system distinct from Everett.

Councilperson Stima would like neighborhood pocket parks to be more consistently maintained.

After several comments from elected officials, Director Feilberg stated that there are no public parks being maintained by HOAs.

Councilperson Balk commented that during PRD, CC&Rs are approved at that time.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:19 p.m.


Eadye Martinson, Deputy City Clerk


Robert G. Zimmerman, Mayor