

**MILWAUKIE CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
AUGUST 19, 2002**

The work session came to order at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

City Council present: Mayor Bernard and Councilors King, Lancaster, Marshall, and Newman.

Staff present: Director of Community Development and Public Works Alice Rouyer, Planning Director John Gessner, and Program Administrator JoAnn Herrigel.

Information Sharing

1. **Mayor Bernard** discussed several issues related to improving the quality of future Festival Daze events: restricting vendor sales along parade route to community groups; the feasibility of the City's owning the names Festival Daze and Bing Cherry Festival; establishing a review committee to set event standards; and possible City operation of the event to provide continuity.
2. **Mayor Bernard** said there is concrete pipe dumped on the Milwaukie riverfront by an unknown source. He suggested the pipe be broken up to provide fish habitat and to improve pedestrian access to the waterfront.
3. **Mayor Bernard** reported the Sunday Farmer's Market is interested in obtaining surplus computers from the City IST department.
4. The group discussed sign ordinance enforcement. **Mayor Bernard** thought at a minimum phone numbers should be taken from the signs and people called to remove them. **Councilor King** suggested putting "illegal sign" stickers over the phone numbers.
5. **Councilor King** reported she is working with Carlotta Collette, Ardenwald Neighborhood Chair, on the Johnson Creek Boulevard Improvement Project design and related traffic calming issues. Considering the current condition of the street, speeding is probably not an issue at this time but is more likely after the project is completed.
6. **Councilor Marshall** noted Tri-Met buses are obscuring stop signs from drivers at 21st Avenue and Jackson Street. He recommends the City contact Tri-Met about this hazard.

Open Public Forum

Ed Zumwalt addressed rezoning options for downtown civic and school uses. He is concerned Waldorf will eventually sell to the highest bidder without thought to community needs or open spaces. He asked about the status of the North Main Street Project, and **Mayor Bernard** responded the City received 4 responses to its request for qualifications.

Councilor Marshall feels it is important to focus on getting the money to eventually purchase the middle school property for the community. Rezoning will not matter if there is no money to acquire the property.

Mayor Bernard said the nonprofit corporation formed to accept funds to purchase the middle school is in the process of changing its name to Celebrate Milwaukie, Inc. It will accept donations for various community projects.

Councilor Lancaster agrees the City needs a sustained fund raising campaign for its important projects.

Rezoning Options for Downtown Civic and School

Gessner said the advantages of rezoning the middle school property would be establishing a designation that would preserve it and deflecting market interest in the event Waldorf decides to sell.

Councilor Newman noted recent surplus property sales by the Portland Public School Board. He is in favor of moving proactively and establishing an overlay on all school grounds in Milwaukie.

Gessner reviewed the options for civic use zoning: create a downtown civic/institutional zone for selected sites; revise community service overlay regulations by eliminating the underlying zone; or create a new zoning classification for public and private schools.

Councilor King wants a solution that is long-term and air tight as possible.

Mayor Bernard pointed out certain municipalities have had problems securing loans when rezoning decreased property values.

The group discussed the merits of rezoning public and private properties with a community service overlay. **Gessner** talked about the feasibility of exempting places of worship.

Councilor Lancaster suggested establishing a general comprehensive, protective overlay zone and dealing with properties on a case-by-case basis. It might be feasible to replace open space at another location in the City.

Councilor Newman wants to ensure certain recreational areas are not lost to the community because the property is sold for another use.

Councilor Marshall cautioned against going down a path similar to that of the tree ordinance.

Joint Session with Park and Recreation Board

Park and Recreation Board (PARB) members Kathy Buss, Sherri Dow, Mart Hughes, Edie Kerbaugh, and Joe Loomis and Joan Young, Milwaukie Center Director, joined the Council. **Herrigel** gave a brief overview of the past year's activities.

PARB Chair Hughes commented on the opportunities for valuable input to the Parks District on processes impacting the community welfare including future City park property acquisition, trail system connections, and the District Master Plan.

Buss said, as a Centennial Committee member, she would coordinate activities with PARB when appropriate.

Mayor Bernard commented that the District designated funds for Milwaukie parks development to balance the City's limited system development charge collections.

Kerbaugh congratulated the District on its campaign to promote Aquatic Park usage.

Councilor King appreciated the Board's help with the Ardenwald Mothers' Day Walk.

The group discussed property acquisition funding.

Young said the District will put a \$.23/\$1,000 operating levy for facility maintenance on the 2002 General Election ballot.

Hughes said a District survey indicates 60% support for the proposed operating levy. The numbers, however, are soft, so passage will take a lot of work.

Councilor Newman feels it is important for PARB to provide input on the school property rezone question.

Councilor King asked if any PARB member was interested in taking her position on the Johnson Creek Watershed Council.

Other

The group discussed the appropriateness of fundraising by the boards.

The work session adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Pat DuVal, Recorder