

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, October 26, 2006
Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: David Bragdon (Council President), Susan McLain, Robert Liberty, Rex Burkholder, Carl Hosticka, Rod Park, Brian Newman

Councilors Absent:

Council President Bragdon convened the Regular Council Meeting at 2:01 p.m.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

Charles Ormsby, Birdshill CPO PO Bx 1072 Portland, OR 97219 said he was here today to go over the press release, which had been sent to Council President Bragdon (a copy of which is included in the meeting record). He was concerned about the Lake Oswego Policy Advisory Committee (LOPAC) group. He felt that Birdshill CPO had no representation. He noted a packet he submitted for the record that he prepared for a framework meeting. He said Clackamas County had not responded to his report. He had yet to receive any answer from anyone. He talked about Tryon Creek. He was here to inform the Council and also would address these concerns to the Federal Transit Administration. He felt people in West Linn had been excluded from the process.

Jeb Barsh, Oregon Zoo employee, 210 SE 30th Portland Oregon said he was here today to express his concern as a member of the Zoo about the union contract stalemate. He said it was an honor to be part of Metro and to take care of Packy, the elephant. The people who cared for the Zoo were a dedicated group of individuals and not likely to disagree loudly about the negotiation of a contract. 75 of the members had voted no on the contract language. He requested Council understand that this struggle was heartfelt by the employees. The idea of using protectionism from the contracting and using volunteers in substitution for their work was demeaning to them. The Zoo had record-setting attendance this year. They were producing their side of the bargain. He asked that they come to negotiation and bargain in good faith. The union members deserved a response. Labor management committees were the future.

Carter Wright, Oregon Zoo employee, 7410 SW Oleson #400 Portland Oregon 97223 said he was hired in 1996. He had a temporary laborer classification. He did a lot of little things at the Zoo, which added up. They had done a lot of work at the Zoo since he had been hired. He worked with many of the Zoo employees. He wanted to let Council know about this classification as a temporary worker. He noted the issues around temporary workers. He talked about the number of hours he had worked at the Zoo and had not received any kind of health care. He was happy to work at the Zoo. He was still waiting to receive the health care packet. He wasn't sure what the negotiation included about health care. He suggested trying harder to look at alternative health care packages to cover temporary employees.

Mark Newberg, Oregon Zoo employee, 7715 N Fessenden St., Portland OR 97203 said he had worked for 15 years at the Zoo. He was the most senior custodian and was speaking on behalf of

the custodians. He urged Council to walk a mile in their shoes. He urged showing respect to the employees. If they were Council's customers, they were not satisfied.

Eliana Machura, Oregon Zoo employee, said she was a Zoo employee but also worked for Jobs for Justices. She explained what was Jobs for Justice's primary focus. Jobs for Justice represented 3000 supporters. She was here to let Council know that they were paying attention to the decisions that were being made in regards to what was happening at the Zoo. Increasing the amount of the temporary workers was not always in the best interest of the Zoo. They supported the Bond Measure but wondered why there were cuts at the Zoo.

Councilor McLain said they were listening closely. Council couldn't involve themselves in the negotiations right now but appreciated the employees' comments.

3. VOLUNTARY SEPARATION PROGRAM: SAVINGS AND COSTS

Alexis Dow, Metro Auditor, explained the responsibilities of the Auditor's Office. She introduced Steven Babcock who looked at the voluntary separation program. She spoke to his credentials. She said these types of programs were a common technique for reducing workforce. She said there were risks and potential pitfalls. Mr. Babcock reported on Metro's program. He spoke to the objectives of the review and provided a PowerPoint presentation on his report. He reviewed the goals of the audit and the recommendations (a copy of the report and PowerPoint presentation are included the record).

Council President Bragdon asked about the three categories of jobs: immediate, overlapping functions and program areas. Were there consolidations in the latter two categories? Had these been realized more or less? Mr. Babcock said there had been changes made and savings realized. Ms. Dow clarified that on page 9 there was a breakdown of costs and savings relative to those three categories. She spoke to Mr. Babcock's charge, which was to look at the program as a whole. She noted that the process of reorganizing should be looked at regularly to ensure that objectives were having the effect that was expected. Council President Bragdon asked about the communications. Mr. Babcock said they reviewed the Human Resources communications on the program. He felt they had done a thorough job of communicating. There was a short time frame in which to make a decision as to whether to participate. It was in accordance with the federal regulations on how this program was administrated. He said every employee at Metro had the opportunity to buy in to future changes or choose to leave. That to him was the positive part of the program. He felt that sent a strong message to employees.

Councilor McLain said they had asked to make sure that central services were covered. She would like an answer. Council President Bragdon suggested following-up with management on this issue. Councilor McLain said she didn't feel like they had gotten that report. Ms. Dow suggested asking Bill Stringer, Chief Financial Officer, that question. Councilor McLain said they were also waiting for the business design team final report. Ms. Dow said she understood that many of these changes were incorporated into the budget. She urged looking to Mr. Stringer for a response. Councilor Park asked about the individuals who had left from the transportation area. Mr. Babcock said if one of the three individuals had left, he thought they would see efficiencies. If any more left there would be a greater impact than efficiencies. Ms. Dow said a lot of those positions were grant funded so it delayed some of the work. Councilor Liberty said, given the situation of the budget, they had to do a fair reduction. Council President Bragdon thanked them for their presentation.

4. NATURE IN NEIGHBORHOODS (NIN) GRANT SPOTLIGHT

Janelle Geddes, NIN Program, thanked Councilor Park for his vision in supporting this program. She provided a recap of the first round of grants (a copy of the PowerPoint presentation is included in the record). She spoke to the kind of projects that were funded including citizens, non-profits, schools, local governments and one private sector industry. She highlighted three grants that were funded and the success of these three grants. They had announced their next round of funding starting in January. She also noted that they were conducting grant-writing workshops so applicants could get some hands-on experience in writing grants. They would have grant awardees present their projects in February and May 2007. They would also be doing a showcase of the grant recipients.

Councilor McLain asked if there was a good cross-section of grants from the region. Ms. Geddes responded to her question. She said the workshop was focused on new grant writers. Councilor Liberty commented on the value of the grants. Ms. Geddes responded to his comment about match and the value of the projects. Councilor Liberty asked Ms. Geddes about the 2 to 1 match laid out in the bond measure. Ms. Geddes talked about some of the programs that were funded and matching funds. Councilor Burkholder congratulated the NIN staff. They had found some wonderful programs. He also acknowledged Councilor Park's leadership on this initiative. Councilor Newman said he was excited about the grant-writing workshops. He felt this would help many of the neighborhood associations and schools get over the intimidation of grant writing. He felt it was a real success story. Councilor Park asked Dean Kampfer, Waste Management, about his quote. Mr. Kampfer said he was approached by one of the applicants. Waste Management helped with Three Creeks project and committed to providing waste boxes. They were also working with schools to encourage environmental protection and disposal of waste. Mr. Kampfer talked about how the volunteers worked to pull the waste out of some of the camps. Councilor Park said what this pointed out was the involvement of staff, the solid waste industry and volunteers and how rewarding this effort had become. He suspected that there would be even more innovations. Ms. Geddes said the grant-writing workshops had been very successful. They were confidence building. She felt the workshops would generate a ton of interest. The need was there. Councilor McLain said she was very pleased that they were doing the grant-writing workshops. The other element that they had learned as a Council was that they had to be clear on the criteria and due dates. She suggested making sure the letter that went out to the next set of applicants was clear. Council President Bragdon said they ran a very rigorous process, setting the rules but also helping the individuals get through the process.

Stacey Triplett, NIN Program Director, talked about the three applications and the other two components of NIN. There was a NIN kiosk and the projects would be categorized in the Regional Environmental Inventory Network (REIN).

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- 5.1 Consideration of minutes of the October 19, 2006 Regular Council Meeting.
- 5.2 **Resolution No. 06-3732**, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Enter into a Telecommunications Lease with LCW Wireless, LLC for Non-park Use within the Glendoveer Golf Course.
- 5.3 **Resolution No. 06-3733**, For the Purpose of Amending the 2006-09 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) to Add The NW Cornell Road:

Evergreen Parkway to 158th Avenue Widening Project.

Motion: Councilor Hosticka moved to adopt the meeting minutes of the October 19, 2006 Regular Metro Council and Resolution Nos. 06-3732, 06-3733.

Vote: Councilors Burkholder, McLain, Liberty, Park, Newman, Hosticka and Council President Bragdon voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 aye, the motion passed.

6. RESOLUTIONS

6.1 Resolution No. 06-3734, For the Purpose of Concurring that TriMet, C-TRAN, and SMART Be the Designated Recipients of Federal Jobs Access and Reverse Commute and New Freedom Transportation Funds Allocated to the Portland-Vancouver Urbanized Area.

Motion:	Councilor Burkholder moved to adopt Resolution No. 06-3734.
Seconded:	Councilor Park seconded the motion

Councilor Burkholder explained the resolution and the federal requirements for these funds. The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) needed to designate the recipients. He urged support.

Vote: Councilors Park, Hosticka, Burkholder, Newman, McLain, Liberty, and Council President Bragdon voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 aye, the motion passed.

6.2 Resolution No. 06-3735, For the Purpose of Formalizing Budget Assumption Guidelines for Departmental Use in Preparing the Fiscal Year 2007-08 Budget and Directing the Chief Operating Officer to Advise Council of Any Substantive Changes in the Assumptions Prior to the Submission of the Proposed Budget to Council for Public Review.

Motion:	Councilor Hosticka moved to adopt Resolution No. 06-3735.
Seconded:	Councilor Newman seconded the motion

Councilor Hosticka said this resolution was the first step in preparing the budget for next year. He reviewed assumptions included as Exhibit A of the resolution. These were not predictions or commitments to make something happen. He explained further that these guided the departments in preparing their budgets. Council President Bragdon explained they had talked about these at work session. It was a useful tool as they look at financial conditions.

Vote: Councilors Park, Hosticka, Burkholder, Newman, McLain, Liberty, and Council President Bragdon voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 aye, the motion passed.

6.3 Resolution No. 06-3737, Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Issue a Non-System License to Willamette Resources, Inc, for Delivery of Solid Waste to the Riverbend Landfill.

Motion:	Councilor Park moved to adopt Resolution No. 06-3737.
Seconded:	Councilor Hosticka seconded the motion

Councilor Park explained this resolution would authorize a standard Non-System License (NSL) renewal to allow Willamette Resources Inc. (WRI) to send wet waste to Riverbend Landfill in McMinnville. There were only two items of note to consider: The volume granted was larger by 1,750 tons than the previous NSL (23,250 tons to 25,000 tons) to give WRI flexibility in managing its waste. WRI was still limited to 65,000 tons by its franchise. The NSL was granted for 26 months (instead of the typical 24 months) so Metro could get this on the annual year-end cycle like all the other wet waste NSLs. Willamette Resources' license would expire soon. He said this was routine. Councilor McLain said they had tried to make sure to let the county know about the increase in waste that would be coming to their facility.

Vote:

Councilors Park, Hosticka, Burkholder, Newman, McLain, Liberty, and Council President Bragdon voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 aye, the motion passed.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD PURSUANT TO ORS 192.660(1)(d), FOR THE PURPOSE OF DELIBERATING WITH PERSONS DESIGNATED TO CONDUCT LABOR NEGOTIATIONS.

Time Began: 3:10pm
Time Ended: 3:40pm

Members Present: Kevin Dull, Ruth Scott, Teri Dresler, Lisa Collings, Alison Kean Campbell (new attorney), Karen Feher

8. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Michael Jordan, COO, was not present.

9. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION

Councilor Burkholder said he passed out a reminder about stakeholder workshops on the Regional Transportation Plan. He urged councilors to attend.

Councilor Newman said a rare Brazilian ocelot kitten was born at the Oregon Zoo. The new baby would go on display in January 2007.

Councilor Hosticka said yesterday was the contract signing for the Wilsonville to Beaverton commuter rail. Council President Bragdon represented Metro.

10. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Prepared by


Chris Billington
Clerk of the Council

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
 OCTOBER 26, 2006**

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
3	Auditor's Report	October 2006	To: Metro Council From: Alexis Dow, Metro Auditor Re: Voluntary Separation Program Savings and Costs	102606c-01
3	Power Point Presentation	10/26/06	To: Metro Council From: Alexis Dow, Metro Auditor Re: Power Point on Voluntary Separation Program Savings and Costs	102606c-02
2	Press Release	10/26/06	To: Metro Council From: Charles Ormsby Re: Press Release from Birdshill Community Planning Organization	102606c-03
2	Framework Meeting Packet	6/12/06	To: Metro Council From: Charles Ormsby Re: Birdshill Community Planning Organization Riverdale Neighborhood Association Framework Meeting Packet	102606c-04
5.2	Resolution	10/26/06	Resolution No. 06-3732 , For the Purpose of Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Enter into a Telecommunications Lease with LCW Wireless, LLC for Non-park Use within the Glendoveer Golf Course.	102606c-05
9	Stakeholder Workshops	10/16/06	To: Metro Council From: Councilor Burkholder Re: Fall 2006 Stakeholder Workshops on New Look Regional Transportation Plan	102606c-06
4	NIN Packet	10/26/06	To: Metro Council From: Janelle Geddes, NIN Program Re: Map and Nature in Neighborhoods 1 st Round grant awards and project synopsis	102606c-07
4	Power Point Presentation	10/26/06	To: Metro Council From: Janelle Geddes, NIN program Re: Power Point Presentation on NIN grant program	102606c-08