

URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION SUMMARY

September 30, 2008

Mayor Newberry chaired the meeting, calling it to order at 3:02

pm. All Council Members were in attendance.

I. Public Comment – Issues on Agenda - None

II. Requested Rezoning/Docket Approval

Motion by Stinnett to place a Resolution on the Docket for Thursday, Oct. 2, 2008, authorizing the execution of an Agreement with the Drug Enforcement Administration, seconded by McChord, motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Stinnett to place a Resolution on the Docket for Thursday, Oct. 2, 2008 authorizing deed acquisition of 685 Dartmore Court for storm water management to existing water head, purchase price and appraisal obtained have been approved by the Div. of Water Quality, seconded by McChord, motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Blues to approve item 8 revised ordinance on the Docket for Thursday, Oct. 2, 2008 without a public hearing, seconded by DeCamp, motion passed without dissent.

Jimmy Emmons explained the text amendment saying it was not of a substantive nature and the application, staff have agreed on language that does not change the original action. Therefore the action can go forward as there is a resolution prepared to adopt a revision.

Motion by McChord to approve docket as amended, seconded by Stinnett, motion passed without dissent.

III. Approval of Summary

Motion by Gorton to approve the September 23, 2008 work session summary, seconded by Blevins motion passed without dissent.

IV. Budget Amendments

Motion by Beard to amend item 27440-41 to read intersection improvement project at Lansdowne Drive and East Reynolds Road, seconded by Ellinger, motion passes without dissent.

Motion by Myers to delete item #27435 and remove for consideration does not have to be approved by council, seconded by Gorton, motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Blevins to approve budget amendments as amended, seconded by Ellinger, motion passed without dissent.

V. New Business

Arte Green – pointed out a revision to item A of new business changing job title to Program Manager Senior.

James questioned item H of new business regarding a classification issue asking Comm., Koch to explain the difference between the re classification in item H and those requested by other divisions. Koch replied that sometime vacant positions are re-classed in order to more specifically outline duties and requirements of a job.

Motion by DeCamp to approve new business as amended, seconded by Stinnett, motion passed without dissent.

VI. Continuing Business/Presentation

Planning Committee Update by Gorton with two motions coming forward.

Motion by Gorton to request the state legislative delegation to work with other counties/cities to seek changes in contractor's fees and fines at the state level, seconded by James, motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Gorton to ask the Internal Audit Division to expedite the Div. of Engineering audit, seconded by Crosbie, motion passed without dissent.

Corridors Committee update by Stevens with no motions coming forward.

NAMI (National Alliance on Metal Illness) Proclamation presented by Linda Gorton

Carolyn Colliver and Faye Morton with NAMI were present to accept the 16th annual proclamation by LFUCG announcing October 8, 2008 as Mental Illness Week

The purpose of this organization is to raise awareness of mental illness. The Mayor commended NAMI's efforts in making enormous strides to dissuade many misconceptions about mental illness and its treatment. He recognized their efforts with the Eastern State Hospital project.

Leaf Vacuuming Program presented by Tim Clark

Mr. Clark gave a Power Point presentation outlining history, purpose and service areas involved. The program starts the first week of November and last 10-12 weeks serving approx. 90,000 citizens in the Urban Service Area, covering 3100 streets which are

divided into five collection zones. He thanked LexCall and the Lexington Herald Leader for their help with communication regarding this program.

Stevens asked Mr. Clark to clarify exactly how many households are serviced by the program as he was under the impression even households outside the Urban Service Area and not only those that receive waste collection were entitled to this program as well.

Crosbie asked Mr. Clark about re-looking at the schedule for holiday weeks.

Henson asked Mr. Clark how a citizen might apply for part time work with the leaf vacuum system.

Equine Task Force presented by Bob Quick

Mr. Quick covered findings and introduced some members of the task force. He told the council there is a wealth of resources associated with the equine industry. It is actually a significant regional issue not just specific to Fayette County, telling the council that 90% of thoroughbred farms are located in Woodford, Scott and Bourbon counties. The task force looked at land use and planning, branding & marketing and legislative policies. He talked about the decrease of standing stallions in recent years saying how difficult this industry is to be in and findings show business is beginning to go out of the state. Equine health is also an important part of the industry located in this region. There is a need to enhance animal research in order to boost Kentucky's signature industry and showcase our agricultural importance.

Stevens remembered Mr. John Gaines who was instrumental in communicating the need to look at the equine & thoroughbred industry and take steps to protect it.

Motion by Stevens to refer the equine report to Budget & Finance Committee, seconded by Lane, motion passed without dissent.

McChord asked the task force members to look at leveraging our number one brand. He expressed concern about taxes and was told this was a state responsibility to recognize livestock tax issue. He asked for best way to set up an economic development office.

Lane agreed that branding was important for marketing Lexington's image and the 2010 Equestrian Games will be an opportunity to encourage pursuing branding.

Mayor Newberry asked about ways to promote agricultural tourism, such as driving tours, etc. He also questioned about the declining number of stallions and wondered how many the top stallions were.

Ellinger asked about competing with other tracks in states that have casino wagering and how can we compete in the drive for purses.

Gray asked about branding issue and requested a presentation for the Economic Development Task Force by the Convention and Visitors Bureau. Mayor Newberry directed Arte Green to arrange it.

Findings of the Technology Study Work Force were presented by Dr. Jennifer Swanberg. The study was funded by Bluegrass Partnership and the UK institute for work place innovation to get a better understanding of recruiting and growing hi tech companies. The goal was to assess the existence in the Bluegrass Region of an entrepreneurial environment. What promotes innovation, primarily in hi- tech areas. The work force presented a conceptual model which consisted of human capital, and networks groups that promoted innovation like universities, assets and community culture. Hi tech regional innovation: study has three components. Venture capital, economic development professionals, etc. They did a series of case studies, report of 11 hi tech companies in the region. To understand what creates success and to show we have valuable resources here. Mack Werner presented key finding of the quantitative study.

Several council members had comments and questions about the presentation and expressed thanks for a very informative report.

Mayor Newberry asked Dr. Swanberg to speak about the When Work Works program and tell the council about some local employers who were recognized.

Council Report

Gorton extended congratulations to District's 1 & 2 for conducting a successful neighborhood summit meeting.

Stevens said it was a privilege to serve on the emergency medical board working to resolve recent health service problems at the jail. He also mentioned Hisle Farm Park.

Stinnett commented on the continuing pressure being put on Man O War Blvd. and increasing number of intersections and traffic lights. He asked for a presentation about the current and future status of Man O War from Traffic Engineering.

McChord agree with Stinnett's concerns facing status of Man O War Blvd. He also announced the upcoming Second Sunday event on 10-12-08.

Blues said the leadership conference was a great success and announced neighborhood association meetings for First Baptist Church Bracktown, Georgetown St. Area and Green Acres.

DeCamp commended the parking authority for their efforts and announced that parking tickets can be paid on line, booting will start soon with a \$60.00 fine attached.

Motion by Beard to approve the NDF List dated 9-30-08, seconded by McChord, motion passed without dissent.

Mayor's Report

Paula King, Community Development Director spoke

James thanked Ms. King and staff for their work.

Motion by blues to approve community development recs, seconded by DeCamp, motion passed without dissent.

Public Comment – Issues Not on Agenda

One person addressed the council

Motion by Gorton to adjourn work session, seconded by DeCamp, motion passed without dissent.