

URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE SUMMARY

May 12, 2009

The Planning Committee was convened at 1:00 PM. All committee members were present.

I. Family Care Center Audit - Stinnett

Marlene Helm gave the committee historical background on events leading to this audit. She said the Management Audit report revealed the need for a more in-depth look, thus a financial audit was conducted. A representative with the audit firm of Blue & Co. LLC presented detailed findings from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. He told the committee an unqualified clean audit was not possible and covered background, objectives, scope of work and operational area ratings. In conclusion the revenue cycle process was in sub standard order and was not producing optimal results.

CM Feigel asked if the lack of electronic billing procedures was due to availability of equipment and was it something that needed to be budgeted to obtain.

Helm said those services are now hired out to a billing company.

CM Beard asked about adequate staffing and out sourcing.

Helm said she was not on board in 2003 and did not know staffing history of the center. She said from 2007 there has been substantial turnover in staff, adding that one assessment actually found the center was overstaffed.

CM Stinnett confirmed the University of Kentucky is set to assume operation of the health care center in the future. He asked if there was a financial package and if this might save money. He stated approx. 90% of patients were on Medicaid.

Helm said they are in negotiations working out details and UK has a strong commitment to achieve the take over. Helm replied there is not a financial package and was not sure of either cost or savings. She said she was not sure that could be measured.

CM Gorton covered what services would remain in reference to the change to UK adding it was important the public know medical care would still be provided.

David Stevens, former Council Member addressed the committee asking Blue & Co. LLC for an estimate of cost associated with the sub standard findings and lost revenue.

Helm responded explaining recovery attempts with the outside billing agency; they have one year to go back and re submit bills for collection adding \$170K in lost billings have been recovered. She explained how the purpose of the clinic started out and has grown averaging 12,000 cases last year.

CM Blues asked if UK would also be taking over billing procedures and was told yes, they would also handle that aspect.

CM Gorton summarized asking Helm if the committee needed to take action today or if there were items regarding this issue required by council.

Helm said they are working with UK to identify a plan outline. She suggested council accept the audit report presented today.

Motion by CM Blues to adopt the audit report and move to the full council for review, seconded by CM Beard, passed without dissent.

2. Newtown Pike Design Ordinance - Gorton

Chris King, Planning re framed intent of the design ordinance which is redevelopment; need to build south end neighborhood and commercial development. He realized they needed a study for commercial design. He said current property owners were identified, letters and invitations to public meetings were sent. Discussions of the ordinance took place and feedback was solicited.

CM Gorton asked if there were any significant concerns by property owners. King replied there were no areas of concern and added the ordinance was modeled after the Richmond Road ordinance.

There were no questions from the committee. King said the next step is to refer this as a matter for review by the full council.

Motion by CM Blues to refer the Newtown Pike Design Ordinance to the full council for review, seconded by CM Feigel, passed without dissent.

3. Newtown Pike Status - Blues

Andrew Grunwald, Engineering spoke to the committee about updates such as right of way, utilities, construction phase 1 and about parcel acquisition and relocations.

CM Blues asked how property purchases work and about timelines for completion asking if would be sooner than 2013.

Grunwald explained appraisals, filing paperwork and negotiations surrounding property acquisitions. He anticipated having housing under construction in approx. 4 weeks and he could not commit to a sooner completion date he could not guarantee.

VM Gray asked about a resolution on the intersection of Manchester and Newtown, he mentioned a property owner and streetscape presence. He also referred to entrances and a pedestrian friendly intersection.

Grunwald talked about a re-negotiation with property owners for a few feet more for an embankment.

VM Gray asked if was fair to say there was consensus to which Grunwald replied yes, the current design of that structure was accepted by everyone. He added it would be a good idea for the public and the council to see outcomes of negotiation and consensus.

CM Blues followed up on Gray's comments, saying it would be interesting to see how various groups come together.

4. Liberty Rd. Widening Status – Stinnett

There was a written report distributed and Bob Bayert, Engineering was on hand to address questions.

CM Stinnett expressed concern about getting the intersection fixed and was told there are monthly meetings held with KY Transportation Cabinet, the last one being May 1, 2009.

5. Items Referred to Committee

Motion by CM McChord to remove electrical inspector fees from the list of items referred, seconded by CM Beard passed without dissent.

CM Gorton called for a motion to remove Destination 2040; however, CM James asked to keep this item in committee.

Motion by CM Stinnett to remove Hisle Property master plan, seconded by CM Blues, passed without dissent.

CM Feigel, James and McChord volunteered to serve on a committee to review potential funding options for the parks master plan.

CM Lawless gave information on the downtown master plan and several recommendations.

CM Gorton asked for specifics on 16 recommendations from the downtown master plan.

VM Gray commented on timing and expectations of council recommending council take up the downtown master plan issue.

CM James said she thought this was awaiting results from the infill and redevelopment steering committee.

CM Blues asked about bringing this issue forward to full council. CM Beard said they should look at the recommendations separately.

CM Lawless asked about a correction to her motion on "Blue Horse" branding. CM Gorton asks Paul Schoninger and Vicki Steele to check the last Planning Committee tape and confirm wording of the motion.

Motion to adjourn at 2:20 pm