

**CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

August 17, 2005

CALL TO ORDER: 4:31 P.M.

ROLL CALL: **COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Mayor Pro Tempore William E. Robinson
Councilwoman Stephanie S. Smith
Councilman Shari Buck
Councilman Robert L. Eliason

EXCUSED:

Mayor Michael L. Montandon

STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Gregory Rose
City Clerk Karen L. Storms
Finance Director Phil Stoeckinger
Fire Chief Al Gillespie
Parks & Recreation Director Michael Henley
Planning and Development Director Jory Stewart
Strategic Planning Director Eric Dabney
Utilities Director David Bereskin
Deputy City Clerk Anita Sheldon

VERIFICATION: Karen L. Storms, CMC
City Clerk

BUSINESS:

City Manager Gregory Rose requested Item Nos. 2 and 3 be heard first and together as they were related.

2. DISCUSSION REGARDING RATIONALE FOR DEVELOPING THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY, CURRENT STATUS, AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION ON FUTURE ACTION.

Utilities Director David Bereskin advised the Clark County Commission set the public hearing for the 208 Plan which was one of the first steps toward moving forward with the construction of the wastewater reclamation facility. Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson commented some County Commissioners had concerns about the issue but noted none of them were present at the meeting and asked if the concerns had been resolved. In response, City Manager Rose stated letters had been sent to three of the County

Commissioners who could not make the meeting but sent some of their staff. The presentation was a forum for Staff to respond to questions. City Manager Rose advised representatives from Black & Veatch and Greeley and Hansen were present to assist in the presentation and respond to questions.

Director Bereskin added the site selection process would not continue until after the 208 Plan process was addressed and acted upon by the Clark County Commission at which time site selection would be publicly resumed. City Manager Rose explained one of the reasons the site selection was postponed was if the 208 Plan were not approved by the County Commission, resources allocated to the project would have been wasted.

Director Bereskin advised the City Manager requested confirmation of Council's intent to move forward on the project. As a result, representatives of Black & Veatch were asked to return and give an overview of the presentation given in October 2004. In addition, representatives of Greeley and Hansen were also invited to make a presentation of their approach to the project.

Brad Hempkin, Black & Veatch, 4040 South Eastern Avenue, Las Vegas, advised his firm made a full presentation in October 2004 summarizing the findings of their report which described four alternatives for wastewater management. At that time it was decided membrane bioreactor technology would be utilized based on the following factors: the superior quality provided by the technology, a very small footprint and a compact facility that could be integrated into any area.

Various sizes of treatment plants were investigated from a scalping reclamation facility that would treat as little as four million gallons a day to an end-of-the-line treatment plant that would treat from 20 million up to 46 million gallons per day.

Mr. Hempkin stated the report recommended the City pursue the 20 million gallon-per-day facility, which was the most cost-effective alternative, with the ability to expand the capacity to 46 million gallons per day. Mr. Hempkin recommended the City move forward to pursue its own water reclamation facility and cited the following criteria for program implementation:

1. Identify re-use customers and firm up negotiations with them.
2. Pursue a site selection.
3. Join the Clean Water Coalition and participate in joint facilities.
4. Pursue necessary environmental studies and permitting process.
5. Implement a public information campaign and a facility plan.

Andy Richardson, Greeley and Hansen, 4625 Polaris Avenue, Las Vegas, made a presentation that showed the annual cost comparison of the City utilizing its own water treatment plant versus using the City of Las Vegas facility until the year 2030. Based

on an estimated population of 520,000 in 2030, at 46 million gallons of water per day, the cost would be approximately \$920 million over a 25-year period using the City of Las Vegas. The 25-year cost for treating wastewater in its own facility would cost the City approximately \$778 million for the same amount of water. The approximate savings realized by the City, without sales tax and Title XVI, would be \$143 million. Mr. Richardson recommended the City move forward with the acquisition of a water reclamation facility.

In response to a question by Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson, Director Bereskin stated \$670 million was the entire cost of the facility at 46 million gallons per day projected in 2030. City Manager Rose added the cost to the City of Las Vegas for sewage treatment would be an additional cost. Mr. Bereskin explained during design and construction phase of the facility, sewage would continue to be treated by the City of Las Vegas.

Councilwoman Smith supported the construction of a water treatment facility in North Las Vegas.

Councilman Eliason expressed concern about unforeseen Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements in the future. He asked Director Bereskin if funds would be available to address those requirements. Director Bereskin responded the best technology was being considered for the facility. He explained the EPA would develop certain guidelines for the facility which would be addressed by proper planning and technology. Director Bereskin stated the City would be working in partnership with the Clean Water Coalition and the Clark County Water Reclamation District, along with City Staff. He stated the funds would be made available through water rates charged to customers.

City Manager Rose recommended Staff move forward with the 208 Plan and site selection for the water reclamation facility. Mayor Pro Tempore concurred with City Manager Rose's recommendation but requested Staff to personally visit an entity that utilized the membrane technology. City Manager Rose advised there was a facility in Arizona that Staff could visit and see first hand how the membrane technology worked.

ACTION: DISCUSSION HELD

3. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON THE IMPACT OF THE 40% INCREASE IN COST OF SEWER TREATMENT.

Utilities Director David Bereskin advised negotiations with the City of Las Vegas had been concluded on the rate which increased the City's wastewater rates by 20% in 2004 and 16.7% in 2005. In addition, the City of North Las Vegas was put on notice that, at a minimum, a CPI adjustment of 3% would be placed on rates every January 1st.

Chuck Lloyd, GDS & Associates, 3107 North Deer Run Road, Carson City, made a slide presentation on the rate increases which showed in 2007 there would be a \$270,000 increase which would increase in 2008 and 2009. The increases were based on the latest numbers from Greeley and Hansen which were inserted into the Black & Veatch rate study. The impact on the residents of North Las Vegas would be an increase of 10% in 2007 up to 49% in 2009. Mr. Lloyd stressed these figures represented only the costs of the sewage treatment and did not consider other revenues or cost savings.

City Manager Rose requested he be permitted to activate the advisory committee to begin the process of further investigation of this issue.

ACTION: STAFF DIRECTED TO ACTIVATE THE UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD AND BEGIN FULL DETAILED RATE ANALYSIS

MOTION: Councilwoman Smith

SECOND: Councilman Buck

AYES: Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson, Council Members Smith, Buck and Eliason

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

1. DISCUSSION AND/OR DIRECTION TO THE CITY MANAGER REGARDING THE PROPOSED NORTH LAS VEGAS BALLOON FESTIVAL AT CRAIG RANCH PARK, 628 W. CRAIG ROAD, SEPTEMBER 22-24, 2006.

Parks & Recreation Director Mike Henley advised Staff had been directed last year to prepare a proposal on the balloon festival to be held in 2006. He introduced employees Kim Leavitt and Anessa Snowden who provided information about the event. Ms. Snowden advised the event, called Balloonapalooza, would cover three days beginning Friday afternoon, September 22nd, and ending Sunday afternoon, September 24th. Ms. Leavitt and Ms. Snowden requested Council direction.

Councilman Buck expressed concern that two other events were scheduled for the same weekend as the proposed balloon festival. There was also some discussion about the best time of the year to have the festival. In response to a question by Councilman Buck, Ms. Leavitt explained her research disclosed the best time for hot air balloons was the first week in October. However, the balloon festival in Albuquerque, New Mexico, was scheduled during that weekend.

When asked by Councilman Buck if Craig Ranch Park would be ready to accommodate such an event by September 2006, City Manager Rose responded the construction for park conversion would not be completed but interim improvements would be made to handle the festival. The cost of the improvements was included in the event budget.

City Manager Rose stated the goal was to keep the event small by having only 30 balloons, rather than the usual 50 or 60, to gain experience for future events.

Mayor Pro Tempore was concerned that the proposed budget of \$236,000 was excessive. City Manager Rose responded that was the total cost of the event without sponsor fees and grants.

ACTION: STAFF DIRECTED TO MOVE FORWARD

MOTION: Councilman Buck

SECOND: Councilwoman Smith

AYES: Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson, Council Members Smith, Buck and Eliason

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public participation.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:30 P.M.

MOTION: Councilman Buck

SECOND: Councilwoman Smith

AYES: Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson, Council Members Smith, Buck and Eliason

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED: October 19, 2005

William E. Robinson
Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

Karen L. Storms, CMC
City Clerk