

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

October 3, 2007

Website - <http://www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com>

**CALL TO ORDER**

4:02 P.M., Council Chambers, 2200 Civic Center Drive, North Las Vegas

**ROLL CALL**

**COUNCIL PRESENT**

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

**STAFF PRESENT**

City Manager Gregory Rose  
Assistant City Manager Sam Chambers  
Assistant City Manager Maryann Ustick  
City Attorney Carie Torrence  
City Clerk Karen L. Storms  
Communications Director Brenda Fischer  
Fire Chief Al Gillespie  
General Services Director Eric Dabney  
Parks and Recreation Director Mike Henley  
Planning and Zoning Director Jory Stewart  
Assistant to the City Manager Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth  
Planning and Zoning Manager Marc Jordan  
Deputy City Clerk Marie Purcell

**VERIFICATION**

Karen L. Storms, CMC  
City Clerk

**BUSINESS**

**1. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING THE OPTIONS FOR A YOUTH COUNCIL PROGRAM. (TABLED SEPTEMBER 5, 2007)**

Assistant to the City Manager Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth explained the creation of a Youth Council was suggested by Councilwoman Smith to get people involved in government at an early age and help develop future leaders. It also provided a venue for youths required to perform community service. The proposed Youth Council was structured as an organized year-long educational program. Members could learn about local government, City issues, and youth-related issues. The members could shadow City employees, boards and commissions. Assistant Bailey-Hedgepeth estimated the projected staff commitment to the program was 25 hours per department plus monthly two-hour meetings. She would supply a curriculum by the end of the month, prepare a funding request for budgeting in December, and begin recruitment in March or April of next year. After a review of the applications, student orientation would occur in August and sessions would begin in September and continue through April 2009. Each Councilperson would make two appointments. Students would serve through their school year and could apply for reappointment if they so chose.

Councilwoman Smith stated other entities in the County and the Las Vegas valley had similar programs and there was a possibility it could become a regional effort. She suggested consideration of a senior advisory group and a diversity group as well.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson asked if there was an impact on the City's summer interns. Assistant to the City Manager Hedgepeth replied it could complement the program and provide the City with candidates for internship.

Mayor Montandon said he would like the program to commence as soon as possible. City Manager Rose suggested using \$7,000 from the contingency fund to accelerate the program.

**ACTION: STAFF DIRECTED TO MOVE FORWARD WITH STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS AND TRANSFER FUNDS FROM CONTINGENCY**

**MOTION: Mayor Montandon**

**SECOND: Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson**

**AYES: Mayor Montandon, Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson, Councilmembers Smith and Buck**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: Councilman Eliason**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**2. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING COUNCIL CHAMBER IMPROVEMENTS.**

City Manager Rose introduced General Services Director Eric Dabney to present options for improvements to Council Chambers. Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson asked when the new City Hall was expected to be completed. City Manager Rose stated the time line for completion was approximately four years. Director Dabney reported Councilwoman Smith had directed Staff to research whether it was possible to recess Council's monitors into the dais, and solve the ongoing issues with the microphones, such as feedback. Director Dabney said his staff had collaborated with the Information Technology (IT) Department, and since neither department had an audio-visual specialist, outside sources were utilized as well. There were eight monitors on the dais, and they obscured the Council's view to and from the audience. If it was possible to cut into the dais and recess the current monitors, the adjustment was simple. However, if the monitors did not fit they needed to be replaced at a cost of \$1,600 to \$2,400. Mayor Montandon said recessing of the monitors was attempted before, when the monitors were larger, but was not successful because it did not allow enough room for Councilmembers' legs under the dais. The current monitors were flat-screen, and the Mayor recommended they try the adjustments on a sample table instead of the dais, so the dais was not damaged if the attempt was not successful. He wanted to ensure the improvements were effective.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson asked whether Council Chambers would be used after City Council meetings were moved to the new City Hall, and City Manager Rose stated the current building would still be utilized by the City. Councilwoman Smith suggested board meetings could be held in the current Chambers. Councilwoman Smith commented although she did not want to spend money unnecessarily, she felt an upgrade of Council Chambers was beneficial for Council and citizens. In the past they had tried to correct the issues inexpensively and the results were unsatisfactory.

Director Dabney displayed designs of two options for recessing of the monitors, one was semi-recessed and the other fully recessed. Council asked for installation of pencil drawers if there was enough leg room.

Director Dabney stated replacement of the microphones entailed replacement of the related wiring and cables as well, as the desired microphones were not compatible with the existing system. The current microphones would be discarded unless another department could use them. The cost for retrofit of the monitors and installation of pencil drawers was \$8,946, plus the cost of monitors if new monitors were needed. Council could choose to replace only the eight microphones on the dais, the microphones on the dais and the lower section, or all 19 microphones in Chambers. The microphones were \$398 each, and the replacement cost of all 19 microphones and related equipment was \$25,200.

City Manager Rose asked if the new equipment could be moved to the new City Hall, and

Director Dabney replied the equipment would be outdated after a few years. Mayor Montandon felt the equipment should be included as part of the budget since it needed replacement on a regular basis. Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson did not approve of spending the money on additional improvements, as they had upgraded in the past. Mayor Montandon pointed out they repeatedly updated and repaired the equipment with an emphasis on low cost, which was why it continued to operate on a substandard level. For example, the technology installed the last time was already outdated, and so did not perform at the desired level.

Councilwoman Buck felt they should use the current equipment for as long as possible, since it sounded like they would have to replace the equipment again by the time they moved to the new City Hall. Mayor Montandon thought the best course was to incorporate the system into the upcoming budget and make it part of the standard cycle. Councilwoman Buck agreed and said the current microphones should be used while a system was designed for inclusion in next year's budget. She mentioned she did not like working with recessed monitors.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson received confirmation from Director Dabney the grand total for all the changes was estimated at \$34,146, and it was necessary for the work to be done by a general contractor.

ACTION: STAFF DIRECTED TO BRING BACK AS BUDGETED LINE ITEM

MOTION: Councilwoman Buck

SECOND: Mayor Montandon

AYES: Mayor Montandon, Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson, Councilmembers Smith and Buck

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Councilman Eliason

ABSTAIN: None

**3. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING THE RESIDENTIAL DESIGN INCENTIVE SYSTEM AMENDMENT TO TITLE 17.**

Councilman Eliason entered Chambers at 4:33 P.M.

Planning and Zoning Director Stewart introduced Principal Planner Robert Eastman to recap the presentation given on August 15, 2007. Planner Eastman displayed examples of existing satisfactory building and site designs in North Las Vegas. They included architectural and landscaping variety, with various balconies, porches, elevations and roof lines. He showed examples of parks and trails, mixed use housing that would attract a

wide range of citizens, and mixed use commercial and residential zones which allowed for greater density along transit corridors. Property owners had to meet requirements using a point system with different categories to qualify for residential design incentives. Mayor Montandon was concerned about the guidelines that would be used to determine the qualifications for the award of points. He did not want to obscure the goal of the creation of variety of design features. Councilwoman Smith commented as long as the design features were good, she was not as concerned about variety. Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson was concerned about the potential for an increase in higher density areas. Mayor Montandon and Councilwoman Buck expressed their opinions that design elements were more important to residents than density. Councilwoman Buck said higher density areas were especially attractive for people with lower budgets who could own homes in higher density areas but not in lower density areas.

Director Stewart explained the residential design incentive system was an elective option for developers that chose to build higher density products. The incentives ensured developers met certain standards of design variety and quality that made higher density areas more attractive.

Mayor Montandon requested thorough training for Council and all levels of Staff in the process and requirements of the point system for the incentives.

**ACTION:** STAFF DIRECTED TO MOVE FORWARD AND BRING BACK IN FINAL FORM TO PLANNING COMMISSION AND CITY COUNCIL

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Buck

**SECOND:** Councilwoman Smith

**AYES:** Mayor Montandon, Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson, Councilmembers Smith, Buck and Eliason

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public participation.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**ACTION:** THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:57 P.M.

MOTION: Mayor Montandon  
SECOND: Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson  
AYES: Mayor Montandon, Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson, Councilmembers Smith,  
Buck and Eliason  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**APPROVED: November 7, 2007**

/s/Michael L. Montandon  
Mayor Michael L. Montandon

**ATTEST:**

/s/Karen L. Storms  
Karen L. Storms, CMC  
City Clerk