

**Aberdeen City Council
Work Session
November 17, 2008**

Roll Call: The Aberdeen City Council Roll was called with the following results:

Present: Mayor Bennett, Council President Hiob, Councilman Kupferman,
Councilwomen Elliott and Young

Absent: None

Also Present: Douglas Miller, City Manager
Phyllis Grover, Director of Planning and Community Development
Matthew Lapinsky, Director of Public Works
Randy Rudy, Chief of Police
Monica Correll, City Clerk
Doris Manner, Recording Secretary

1. Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order in the Council Chambers at 4:30 p.m.
2. Matters of Urgent Business – None
3. Work Session

A. Annexation Plans

Mr. Miller noted that several meetings ago, the Council was ready to take action on three annexation requests. At that time, the requests were tabled by the Council. These annexations were for Paradise Meadows, Vernon K. Johnson, and Nellie Scotten. An Extension of Facilities Report must be created by the Mayor. House Bill 1141 requires the Annexation Plan to have public hearings; these requirements have been satisfied at this time. Mr. Miller stated that when the Council votes on an annexation plan they should indicate how public facilities would be available at the site.

Councilwoman Elliott asked if HB 1141 is required by law. Mr. Miller said a major hearing for annexation would come at a later date and an annexation agreement must be reached before there is a vote.

The Scotten and Johnson annexations would be accessed via the Ripken Stadium area. Paradise Meadows requires a more extensive extension of water and sewer lines.

Councilman Kupferman asked if Paradise Meadows changed its request, would it have to go to the “back of the line”. Mr. Miller said an amendment at this time may not change their position.

Councilwoman Elliott questioned the City regulations. Mr. Miller is looking into the State regulations at this time.

Mayor Bennett feels that if a public hearing has been held, then changes to the original request should go back to “ground zero”.

Councilwoman Elliott asked if Glengarry and Paradise Meadows want to make a change, would a letter of retraction be needed. Mr. Miller said it would be needed.

Council President Hiob noted that these appear to be one but will come in concurrently as separate entities. Mr. Miller said the petition would have them considered contiguous.

Councilwoman Young asked if the 22 million dollars would be at City expense. Mr. Miller said that it would be a Council decision. She also would like the proposal requirements to include a credit check to eliminate annexation without development. Mr. Miller indicated that the annexation procedure is subjective and this could be added.

Councilman Kupferman noted that no City money will go into the infrastructure, it is developer money. He also stated that the City must get a wavier from the County to change zoning from AG to R-1. All development will be market driven and with BRAC coming to the area and this issue should be settled.

Mayor Bennett indicated that the County could hold up development. Councilman Kupferman agreed that the delay could be up to 5 years.

Council President Hiob asked why lack of development would be a problem for the City. Councilwoman Young feels it would be counter productive and not in the City’s best interest.

Ms. Grover distributed a list of current annexations on the City’s list to be processed. She asked if there were any issues with the Scotten and Johnson requests. No problems were noted. Councilman Kupferman stated that Paradise Meadows may reapply.

B. Delegation Meeting Discussion Topics

1. Municipal Revenue Source Protection

Mr. Miller will be meeting with the State delegation tomorrow in Jarrettsville. He noted that these are difficult fiscal times and everyone is working on a “tight” budget. He will inform those at the meeting that Aberdeen does not want State revenue sources reduced.

2. Support for Water Project

Mr. Miller noted that the City is considering two options for City water and is asking for revenue sources and support to get water on line because of BRAC.

3. Hotel Tax/Tourism

Mr. Miller said the City will again ask for a Hotel Tax because Ripken Stadium will need 2 million dollars for repairs with no current revenue source.

4. Other - None

C. WRE and Water Investigation Bids

Mr. Lapinsky provided a power point presentation from the Water Resource Element book and is supported by House Bill 1141. This demonstrated how it will be used with the Comprehensive Plan. The three major elements considered are water supply, nutrient loading, and stream habitat. He provided a handout showing his recommendation for the Water Resource Element Study by Davis, Bowen, & Friedel, Inc. in the amount of \$55,015, not requiring a public meeting and \$68, 515 if a meeting is held. His recommendation for the Groundwater Supply Feasibility Study is the firm of ARRO in the amount of \$21,905. Mr Lapinsky does not feel there is a need for a public meeting.

Mayor Bennett asked if a public meeting should be held. Mr. Miller said this is a local option and decision.

Ms. Grover said the Comprehensive Plan cannot be adopted without this work.

Council President Hiob asked if this could hold up the water and sewer decision. Mayor Bennett said it would not.

Councilwoman Young does not understand the large cost difference. Mr. Lapinsky said it was the additional man hours required.

Councilman Kupferman asked how much money was budgeted for this study. Mr. Lapinsky said the amount was \$70,000 and there was some Capital money left to work with in the current budget.

Mr. Lapinsky said the Water Availability Study would be on the agenda for the next Council meeting. An application is with MDE for water allocation of 1 million gallons per day. The ground water availability and contaminants processes each have an exit point.

Mayor Bennett asked the time frame. Mr. Lapinsky said it would take approximately 60 days.

4. Liaison Reports

Councilman Kupferman reported that the Chamber of Commerce would relocate to the John Wright Building on West Bel Air Avenue in January.

Councilwoman Young reported that the Christmas Parade will be held the first Saturday in December. The Committee understands there will be a 5% reduction in their budget for this event.

Council President Hiob reported no news for Fire House #3. He also reported the Planning Commission recommended approval for the Rock Glen Business Park rezoning from R-2 to M-1 and Ferrell Fuel's request for storing/selling propane from their current location.

Councilwoman Elliott reported that Comcast has added additional cable to the Senior Center.

Mayor Bennett reported that Parks and Recreation programs are moving forward. The Aberdeen Bull Dogs will be sending 3 teams to Ohio for a tournament. He also noted that a letter has been sent to the County regarding the Senior Center and Recreation Center being included in their 10-Year Capital Project.

Mayor Bennett reported that the Economic Development Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. concerning working with businesses, working with EDC for City Businesses, and EDC providing some funds.

Mayor Bennett also attended the ground breaking for the COPT site on RT. 22 at the APG gate. This event was attended by State and Federal officials and is a good project for the City.

5. Other – None

6. Adjournment at 5:30 p.m.