

**MEDINA CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
*Medina City Hall Council Chambers  
July 28, 2008; 6:00 pm*

**CITY HALL PUBLIC TOUR AND SCHEMATIC VIEWING**

City Hall was open for public tours and for viewing of City Hall facility schematics from 6:00 to 7:00 pm.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The July 28, 2008, Special Meeting of the Medina City Council was called to order by Mayor Nelson at 7:12 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Council Members Present: Lucius Biglow, Drew Blazey, Bret Jordan, Jim Lawrence, Mark Nelson, Bob Rudolph, and Shawn Whitney

City Staff Present: Mike Caldwell, Interim City Manager; and Rachel Baker, City Clerk

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor opened the floor to public comment about the City Hall facility at 7:19 pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Resident Jan Brekke said it is a privilege to live in Medina. He declared the strength of America and the root of democracy are in local governments. Mr. Brekke pronounced the challenge for the City Council and staff is to provide leadership to the City of Medina. Resident claimed the population of Medina has not increased, but staff has and the Council should determine a balance. He said he is looking to the Council for leadership.

Resident Paul Edelhertz expressed he has concerns regarding the process and specifically that the schematics provided will skew feedback. Mr. Edelhertz said he is receiving feedback to preserve park space, particularly the beach park. Resident commented about maximizing park space and minimizing the impacts to it, and posed a question about City Hall being rebuilt at a new location. He suggested Council consider a long term vision for the community.

Resident Pat Boyd voiced he is looking to the Council for leadership and that the decision belongs to it. He suggested the one criteria missing from the matrix is that the decision must be politically viable. He said he would like to see criteria ranked in order of what general populace will let us do. Mr. Boyd remarked that stuff needs to be done.

Resident Dina Johnson inquired if City Hall building holds any landmark status and the Council responded that research is being conducted about its status on the historic register.

Resident Tim O'Brien asserted he is a proponent for keeping as much waterfront space as possible and suggested Council look into alternative locations for City Hall.

Resident Tim McGee disclosed he does not have enough information to draw a conclusion, but can comment objectively. He said the beach park is the best real estate in the United States and the challenge for the Council is to make a realistic determination of the City's needs to function properly and to provide adequate space. Mr. McGee commented that the middle ground should be found between city operations and minimizing impacts in order to gain the biggest land use benefit. Resident suggested another option to consider should be razing and rebuilding City Hall.

Resident Miles Adam stated the Council has three decisions to make: first, whether or not to expand, second, where to expand, and third, how big. He explained why a total relocation would be difficult and why it would not be the best solution. Resident suggested the Council look at option B1, expanding the building on north end. Mr. Adam remarked that in 2006, a similar full plan was delivered to the Council. He said it would be easy to construct, would be the best return on investment, would take the least amount of park space, and would be consistent with the image and historical look of City Hall. Resident alleged the population is not growing and all functions of a larger city are not needed. Mr. Adam reminded Council that former city manager Doug Schulze presented a similar idea and he suggested consideration of that proposal, saying that reducing expansion would return park space.

Resident Kristen Edelhertz asserted that more waterfront park space will never be gained and that the beach park is what makes the community special. She told Council it needs to decide whether the beach park will be a park or an office park and that it is important to protect the park, because once the building is expanded, the structure will be permanent. Ms. Edelhertz suggested Council consider leasing space.

Resident Heija Nunn disagreed with option to raze City Hall, maintaining it is important to preserve the building, because it is one of the few remaining historical structures on the eastside. Resident said Council should look at highest and best use and the beach park should be preserved. She continued to say that the park is not meant to be used as an office park and suggested Council consider all options and get all questions answered in order to find a creative solution for space in the future.

Resident Laura Weingaertner supported option for relocation of City Hall and the police department. She commented that she would like to see the beach park expanded and the current building added to the park for community use. Ms. Weingaertner said she would like classes, such as kayaking, offered at the park.

Resident Bob Piper explained he would like to see the building refurbished, but not expanded. He suggested the City consider leasing office space in downtown Bellevue, especially since efficiencies can be offered through current technologies.

Resident Corinne Beardsley said the beach could be better used for kids and she would like to see more activities at the beach park. Ms. Beardsley commented that it is easy to lose sight of what is beautiful. She stated the Council should consider relocating the police department elsewhere in Medina and City Hall should be left as is.

Mayor closed comment period at 7:57 pm.

*The Council recessed for a break at 7:59 pm and reconvened at 8:10 pm.*

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### Approval of Professional Services Contract for Labor Negotiations Consultant (8:10 pm)

Caldwell introduced item and answered Council inquiries. Upon request of the Council, Caldwell agreed to provide updates for all three labor contracts and to include statements of consultant expenses with monthly city manager report.

**MOTION BLAZEY AND SECOND JORDAN TO APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT AND MOTION CARRIED 7-0 AT 8:18 PM.**

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council recessed into Executive Session at 8:20 pm to discuss city manager employment agreement, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g). All City Council Members, interim city manager, and Dick Cushing from Waldron and Company were present.

Executive Session adjourned at 10:45 pm.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### City Manager Appointment and Approval of City Manager Employment Contract

The Council did not take action on agenda item.

The Council elected to hold a Special Meeting on Monday, August 4, to interview a city manager candidate, to discuss candidate qualifications, and to review employment contract terms.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The July 28, 2008, Special Meeting of the Medina City Council adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:46 pm.

The Council will hold a Special Meeting on Monday, August 4, 2008, at 6:30 pm

The Council will hold a Special Meeting in Medina Park on Tuesday, August 5, 2008, at 7:00 pm, to gain public feedback about City Hall facility options.

The next Regular Meeting of the Medina City Council is scheduled to be held on Monday, August 11, 2008, at 6:30 pm.

  
Mark L. Nelson, Mayor

Attest:   
Rachel Baker, City Clerk