SHREVEPORT CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes

June 25, 2013

The Committee of the Whole was called to order by Chairman Michael Corbin.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Councilman O. Jenkins seconded by Councilman S. Jenkins for approval. Motion approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmen Rose McCulloch, Everson, O. Jenkins, Corbin, Webb, Shyne, and S. Jenkins. 7. Nays: None.

Awards and Recognition of Distinguished Guests by the Mayor

Awards and Recognition of Distinguished Guests by City Council Members

Communications of the Mayor

Mayor Glover: Yes, Mr. Chairman, members of the council I ask that you check your schedules for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week some time possibly adjacent to the Infrastructure Committee Meeting might work well. I know Mr. Chairman you and I talked about getting together to talk further about the dog park situation. I would love to be able to get that scheduled with you and any other members of the council who may be so willing. I have no problem with that being a completely open meeting, so I don't know what that means in terms of you all having to get notice in the event that more than 3 members decide to join as well. I think it would be great to be able to have other folks from the community as well, to be able to be a part of that dialogue. We'll have a chance to be able again to share with you all who were not here on last Friday the information that we put forth and that power point presentation from my perspective. That is the basis of why it is that I have taken the position that I have with regard to this matter and believe with all due respect to the court, that a part of the reason is to why it is that you empower a mayor to be able to have the kind of discretion that's needed in this situation and so we do not end up finding ourselves potentially victims of what it is that I detailed to the council within that particular power point presentation. That we have a situation that is considerably more costly than the potential money that could be provided to us; that it is outside of the way in which the Waterway Commission has engaged the City of Shreveport to do similar types of projects as you all saw on the last council agenda. You all unanimously passed the resolution allowing us to be able to enter into the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Quit Claim Deed for the improvements that will be done to Riverview Park, a process that would be overseen by the Waterway Commission. Any cost overruns, all the problems or what have you, would be encompassed on their side of that equation and would be addressed before it

will come back to us to be given back to the City of Shreveport to that Quit Claim Deed process for maintenance and operation. That's not a part of what's at play with the dog park situation and it accounts at least in part for why it is that we've offered to you what it is that we've offered. We believe that it's something that bears serious consideration. We hope again that rather than coming in and providing just objections, also suggesting our options and alternatives that gives us a course of direction, but ultimately we'd like to be able to work with you guys to see how we ultimately end up with some point of resolution and go forward.

Councilman Shyne: Mr. Chairman I would just like to suggest to Jeff over there that at the next meeting he make sure he take his pocket recorder with him.

Councilman Corbin: Any interests, we're going to have a 1:30 meeting on Tuesday the 2nd in having this meeting at 3 or 3:30 Tuesday and make an afternoon of it?

Councilman Shyne: Wait a minute. Say that again now.

Councilman Corbin: I mean follow the Infrastructure Committee Meeting.

Councilwoman McCulloch: At 1:30, right?

Councilman S. Jenkins: One thirty.

Councilwoman McCulloch: The Infrastructure Committee Meeting and then what time is this –

Councilman Shyne: You say July 2nd?

Councilman Corbin: Check your calendars and let me know.

Councilman S. Jenkins: I can do it at 3:00.

Councilman Everson: I was one of the few people that came to the last meeting when we done this so I don't know.

Councilwoman McCulloch: So 3:00 is the time?

Councilman Everson: It would be most important if some of the other folks could make it.

Councilman Corbin: If we could do 3:00 on Tuesday the 2nd and –

Councilman Shyne: For the Infrastructure Committee?

Councilman Corbin: No, no. This would be --

Councilman Everson: No, Infrastructure and then a Dog Park Meeting.

Councilman Corbin: This would be a Dog Park Meeting and we would need to have that as an open meeting so the public can be –

Mr. Thompson: Yeah, that's what I was inquiring. You're talking about a regular special council meeting or –

Councilman Corbin: Correct and if the chamber is available at that time.

Councilman Shyne: Art, Mr. Chairman I thought it was going to be a public meeting for the dog park and I was just going to excuse myself.

Mr. Thompson: What time is that?

Councilwoman McCulloch: Three o'clock.

Mr. Thompson: We'll have to check to see if – I don't know when the Parish Commission or the MPC meet.

Councilman Webb: The Parish Commission asked us to move to two.

Councilwoman McCulloch: What time?

Mr. Thompson: It looks like there's going to be an MPC meeting.

Councilman Webb: We could meet in the backroom.

Councilman Corbin: If you would verify when the room's available and then let me know and we'll contact everybody and see who's available.

Mr. Thompson: I'm sorry. You still want us to check on that time?

Councilman Corbin: If that time's not available let me know what is available, either earlier on Tuesday or another day of the week. Mayor Glover, anything else?

Mayor Glover: That concludes.

Councilman Corbin: Any council member have any communications at this time?

Communications from Council Members

Councilwoman McCulloch: I have a question. Mr. Sibley, were we able to (inaudible) or track down the contract?

Mr. Sibley: Yes ma'am. Let me check my notes and see what I have on that. I think they just posted their purchase order and their invoices should be paid by Friday.

Councilwoman McCulloch: By Friday? Okay, thank you.

Councilman Corbin: Any other communications from council members? Alright, that brings us to Public Comments. We have some requests to speak. Council and I recognize Mr. Sammie Mears and I will ask that everybody try to get your comments in within the 3 minute time frame if possible.

Public Comments

Mr. Sammie Mears: (1901 Centenary Blvd. Shreveport, LA. 71101-District B) I'd just like to ask for everyone if you would, when you have the opportunity pray for one of our senior adult members Mary Ford and Jeff I left you a message I think; Oliver, a message about Mary Ford having a bad fall. She had a fall at her home and broke her hip and had to be taken to the hospital for immediate surgery on Sunday so she's been a long time member of Noel Methodist Church. I just want to bring that today and also, when I got here today I did speak to the people who were here about the bus changing and all. At first I didn't understand until the circulation was brought up and I think the circulation helped me to understand a little bit better about what's going on so I wouldn't feel like I was so confused because the last time I was here and I heard it was changing from the regular place it just gave me the creeps, the jitters, the gooeys so to speak and I just didn't like it, but I think today maybe my mind's put at ease a little bit better about that. And when my mind gets real jittery it makes me think about the situation I saw on yesterday when I was watching The Golden Girls for a moment and this guy told Rose Nyland, not Rose McCulloch. You got me the last time on that. I won't forget that, but anyway he told Rose Nyland that I enjoyed going with you and I'd like to give you a ring. She said, "Oh, I can't accept jewelry" and he said, "I mean I'd like to give you a phone call." She said, "Oh, that ring." As you can pretty well tell, there's one of them in the bunch.

Councilwoman McCulloch: It wasn't me.

Mr. Mears: I kind of figured it wasn't you. It was that dumb one, but the thing I did want to say is that I felt a little bit dumb at first at the last meeting when I didn't understand the whole details about the bus situation and I think that I'm not feeling dumb anymore. At least I'm not gonna feel like Rose Nyland because anyone who says like it's not over 'til the fat lady sings and she walks and sing *I'm singing in the rain*, what a dingbat. Thank you.

Councilman Corbin: Thank you, Sammie. Council and I now recognize Ms. Marty Van Cleave.

Councilwoman McCulloch: I like that color on you Sammie, the shirt.

Mr. Mears: Watch it!

Councilwoman McCulloch: Watch it? He told me to watch it.

Ms. Marty Van Cleave: (Town South Estates Subdivision) Mr. Corbin is my district councilman and I have lived in Shreveport for 48 years. I have comments regarding the dog park issue and you have heard from me before. I have owned dogs in the past and have loved them dearly. I believe this issue has evolved into a financial issue. Do you council members really think we taxpayers want you to spend a million dollars of our taxpayers' money to construct a dog park when our streets are filthy because we don't have street sweepers and cleaners anymore because of budget cuts at the onset of Mayor Glover's first term? I had heard that there's only one cherry picker truck available to help power outages from storms. Our riverfront area near the River Queen Tour Boat is disgustingly overgrown and there is signage of several rules down there. One of which states No Smoking and another one says No Littering. There are about 2 million cigarette butts on the ground near the sign and by the way, children are swimming in the Barnwell Cascading Waterfall. Does that not bother you? Many amenities that we have are not taken care of. Many of our city residents are slobs and our city cannot afford to clean up after them, much less clean up after dogs. Our city services can hardly pick up dead animals in a timely manner and as I stated in April, you want to build a dog park, want my tax money to clean up the poop, my tax money to pay for liability insurance and lawsuits when an aggressive dog attacks another dog or an adult or a child and you know it will happen. That fee is not even included in the cost estimates that was in the *Shreveport Times* the other day. Dog urine kills grass. Then you will have a dust bowl and a mud hole. Are you kidding me?! And this is for dog owners, mainly dog owners to socialize. By the way, why does the dog park constituency oppose an existing area (in other words) Princess Park where some necessary facilities already exist? If there is to be a dog park, charge a use fee and have designated hours of use: days, hours, whatever. I don't know if you can revisit this situation, but shame on you if you rush your decision on this. Please, no more funding for frivolous projects when basic and sustaining needs of our city should be a priority. Thank you.

Councilman Shyne: Mr. Mayor, you just won.

Councilman Corbin: Council will now recognize Mr. Charles Philyaw.

Mr. Philyaw: Joe Shyne, you ain't about nothing.

Councilman Shyne: Now if you come up here being personal I'm a ask the police to put you out. Cause we don't have that.

Mr. Philyaw: Well, I'm telling you.

Councilman Shyne: And if the police will let me, I'll put you out.

Mr. Philyaw: You go thru things now.

Councilwoman McCulloch: Just give him a chance so he can –

Mr. Charles Philyaw: (3929 Eileen Lane – Shreveport, LA.) It don't make no difference if you ever get the streets – I'm gone be gone anyway cause I seen the mayor when I came from Vegas. It don't make no difference if you don't get the streets fixed or not. You just patching the city up. That's what y'all doing. I'm a call it patch Louisiana. You know that big ole chicken right there? That big ole chicken right there in the front of the (inaudible). That's our mascot I guess. We ain't nothing but a big ole chicken. That's all. So we ain't getting the streets fixed and just patching 'em up. All I see – and then my friend Frank Hawkins – I just left Vegas. We drove in a silver car (Rolls Royce). You know what I'm talking about? I don't need this, but I'm a stay, this my home. But, I'm a tell you –

Councilman Shyne: You ain't the only somebody who can ride in a Rolls Royce.

Mr. Philyaw: You ain't rode in one, have you? You got one of these. No, you don't have one of these. I'm sorry, but I got one of these.

Councilman Shyne: But I got a nice bank account.

Mr. Philyaw: I got that, too. I'm a get money. I got a concussion. I'm a get everything you got or more, but then I'm a tell you –

Councilman Shyne: That's why you act like you act, cause you got a concussion?

Mr. Philyaw: The streets – and then you trying to get the streets – you already vote against it down there in Winnfield. Loving up dup with him; we gone get the streets fixed. We gone do this and you vote against it. I don't know what everybody doing cause I'm excited. Let me pause. Let me settle down. And you, you suppose to got the – right there on Jimmy Cotton. That's where I stay at, right on Eileen, going up the – on my go cart, my old go cart got a big ole plug out of my –

Councilman Shyne: You don't stay there no more. Sam, he doesn't stay there no more. He stay (inaudible).

Mr. Philyaw: I'm out of my wheelchair. My go cart, it's already got a big ole plug out of. It's a big ole plug in the – Catherine Street, that's a nice street. I wish y'all could fix the streets up like Catherine, not the others cause I see where y'all fixed the – from the freeway 220 all the way up to –

Councilman S. Jenkins: Milam?

Mr. Philyaw: Nah, all the way up to Lakeshore right there to where Jimmy Cotton's at; right there and it stops right there. It's all messed up, that street. I was gone have all the bus drivers come down cause they know the city cause I'm trying to get them down here. They can tell you about it, all the streets is messed up and then you talking about I don't know if you get – y'all done already funded a dog park. That's unbelievable. If you did that I know Michael Vick did some stuff, but if y'all did that,

that's unbelievable. I don't believe that. If y'all did that, that's really unbelievable and a dog park and you need a – and then I got the – down in the mail that I'm talking about, building, fixing up down here at the what that is; by Sprague down there, Allendale and I went to that meeting over, Allendale and what it is?

Mayor Glover: Ledbetter Heights.

Mr. Philyaw: Yeah, and y'all talking about fixing that up. Y'all need to just fix the streets up first and then do that. That's the first thing. Our city ain't about – in Bossier, they doing everything. I see they fixed they streets up already. I went over there the other day. I said ya'll need to come to Shreveport and they done fixed they streets up real good. I see they straightening they sidewalks. Let me ask you a question. On the sidewalks right out in the front. Is that the city property? No, I'm asking you.

Councilman Shyne: That's the mayor. That's mayor of the city.

Mr. Philyaw: Well, is that the city property? In the front, all the sidewalks and stuff like that.

Mayor Glover: Actually, in front of your house the sidewalk is -

Mr. Philyaw: City property?

Mayor Glover: The property owner's responsibility.

Mr. Philyaw: To cut it and do that?

Mayor Glover: Correct.

Mr. Philyaw: Well, I used to do that at my house back in Mooretown. I always clean it outside and cut my grass, but right there in the front of it?

Mayor Glover: Right in the front.

Mr. Philyaw: Not where you park at. That's the city property. The sidewalk, that 's city property or what?

Mayor Glover: The sidewalk itself, that's called the city easement. You have public access to that for utility line purposes, water lines, sewer lines or what have you, but the maintenance of the sidewalk actually is the property owner's responsibility.

Mr. Philyaw: Oh, okay. They won't cut that grass out there in the front cause it's a lot of grass out there in the front. I thought it was the city property. I thought that you supposed to – all the city people supposed to – and I know the road and all that where I stay at they come and fix it. I see they cleaned that up and everything, but aine got nothing to say cause I'm a be gone. I go golfing. I just come from golfing. I'm a go

golfing again so you just stay here and try to do your job. We voted you in here so try to do something better. Don't vote against everything. You always voting against everything. I heard about you. I heard about you done voted against it 3 times.

Councilman Shyne: You been knowing me for – look here –

Mr. Philyaw: I have, but you –

Councilman Shyne: I remember when you was in high school at Bethune.

Mr. Philyaw: Right, I'm up here now.

Councilman Shyne: Carried you down to Southern.

Mr. Philyaw: But that's where I made it. I had to get away from here. I had to get away from here.

Councilman Shyne: With the Shot Put, but you coming back –

Mr. Philyaw: Yeah, then I'm a tell you, you got come in here and vote for stuff.

Councilman Shyne: You coming back. You coming back.

Mr. Philyaw: What? I'm at home. Yeah, I came home.

Councilman Shyne: That's what I'm saying, you gone leave Vegas and come back home.

Mr. Philyaw: And then my friend Frank Hogan, he a contractor. He build houses up there in Vegas. He building senior citizen houses up there so I'm trying to partner with him and come down here and do some things. So I'm trying – he got a Rolls Royce so I'm trying to get him in Best in Classic. As a matter of fact, he from Slocum down here from Providence you know. He got a Super Bowl ring, too. So we gone try to do some things.

Councilman Shyne: Well, we got to get them back then, hear?

Mr. Philyaw: Well, he a (inaudible). His people down in Providence. He stay in Vegas. Went to school with me, he know what it's about so he doing well.

Councilman Corbin: Thank you, Mr. Philyaw.

Mr. Philyaw: I went out there for David Humm. He was the quarterback behind Kenny Stapleton. He got his (inaudible) and I'm trying to get my 503C going on the Dream Team Foundation. You ever see that as a dream – so scholarship funds and stuff like that, so I'm working on that. So that's what I'm doing now.

Councilman Shyne: Mayor, we need to keep him.

Councilman Corbin: Mayor Glover.

Mr: Philyaw: What that?

Mayor Glover: Brother Philyaw, I want to thank you for coming down. I want to thank you for also continuing to come out to neighborhood meetings and being concerned about the affairs of the city.

Mr. Philyaw: I'm here (inaudible) trying to get the people involved. Realize you messed up.

Councilman Shyne: There you go. We gone get those wheels of mine.

Mr. Philyaw: You supposed to did this man. Aine told you about the patches over there by the Coca Cola place, all them patches. Then you patched the street over there on the freeway. (Inaudible) holes, patch and patch, want to patch, patch. We gone call chicken patches. I guess we patch it with chickens.

Councilman Shyne: I got some friends that's in the car business that fix front ends.

Miscellaneous Matters

THE COMMITTEE RISES AND REPORTS: (Reconvenes Regular Council Meeting) ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:21 p.m.

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