

Roeland Park City Council
SPECIAL CALLED
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes
September 15, 2008

Meeting began at 6:00 PM

Present: Meeting Chair: Bill Art, and Co-Chair Scott Gregory. Others present: Adrienne Foster, Bob Meyers, Megan England, Toni Hull, Josh Zaroor, John Carter, Debra Mootz, Mark Kohles, Steve Petren, and a few residents of the city.

I. Call to order

II. Old Business

The issue of renovation and expansion of the City Hall and or build a new City Hall and how this can be financed.

The meeting was called due to concern of how to finance if we were to decide to build new or renovate the current location. The feasibility study indicated a number of options that at minimum would require some financing between \$5M for one plan and upwards to \$18M in another plan. The study indicated a need for more space and the urgent need to make the police department safer and more secure.

The following are a few of the comments from the lengthy discussion by those present at this meeting:

- Build a new city hall because this would cost the least.
- Stay at the current location and update with in the current revenue stream that already exists on this T.I.F. site
 - There was a lot of surprise about the cost of this project. Some have had no desire to take more land by purchasing it due to the city's history of being poor land owners/ developers. Example the former Roeland Park School purchased 4 yrs ago.
- There seem to be consensus to not raise taxes.
- One idea to share space regarding police services.
- One comment that residents over age 40 were not for raising taxes to do this project and those residents younger would be fine to raise taxes for this project.
- Not certain why and where the amount of \$300,000.00 came into play for helping out the Child Care Center. Why would we not do the same for the rest of the property owners?
- The economy is too uncertain to take on more debt.
- The city staff could come up with the amount needed and provide how this could be done with out raising the mil-levy.
- Comment about wanting any acquired land to become a parking lot.

- Take a look at more options such as share a city hall and police services with another city / cities.
- Another comment that the architect completed his job and that the city needs to pick which of the plans presented and the city staff would come up with a way to finance with out raising taxes.
- The residents need to know about the needs of the police and city staff in all of this.
- There were comments of not just doing a face lift to the city hall. Need new one.
- May need to raise taxes. Need to decide something.
- There are complaints from residents about the costs of studies being done, but nothing still gets decided.
 - Need to set a decision date so that the property owners north of city hall can move forward with plans of their own.

The next Finance Meeting 9-22-08 will decide upon the decision date. On that decided date the council will determine if the city will or will not acquire the properties on the north side of the city hall that are contained in the T.I.F. district.

Adjourn at 6:55 PM