

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

March 16, 2005

**CALL TO ORDER:** 4:36 P.M.

**ROLL CALL: COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Mayor Michael Montandon  
Councilwoman Stephanie S. Smith  
Councilman Shari Buck  
Councilman Robert Eliason

**EXCUSED:**

Mayor Pro Tempore William E. Robinson

**STAFF PRESENT:**

City Manager Gregory Rose  
Assistant City Manager Dan Tarwater  
City Attorney Sean McGowan  
City Clerk Karen L. Storms  
Finance Director Phil Stoeckinger  
Parks & Recreation Director Michael Henley  
Planning and Development Director Jory Stewart  
Utilities Director David Bereskin

**VERIFICATION:** Karen L. Storms, CMC  
City Clerk

**BUSINESS:**

1. **DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO PLACE UNDER CONTRACT, SUBJECT TO FUTURE CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL, THE PURCHASE OF ONE OF THE FOUR PREFERRED SITES FOR THE CITY'S WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.**

City Manager Gregory Rose stated Council approved Staff to move forward with construction of a water reclamation facility. Several sites were reviewed and four were narrowed down for possible selection.

Utilities Director David Bereskin advised the City retained the firm of Greeley and Hansen to evaluate potential sites for the City's water reclamation facility. He stated the City of North Las Vegas generated approximately 18 million gallons of wastewater per day. Of that 18 million, 15 million gallons were sent to the City of Las Vegas and 3 million gallons went to the Clark County Reclamation District. Director Bereskin stated it was estimated future growth in North Las Vegas would generate approximately 50 million gallons of wastewater per day by the year 2030.

Director Bereskin made a presentation on the proposed facility and provided a description of the potential sites proposed for the facility. He described the criteria used to select the four preferred sites. He predicted if everything were to proceed ideally, the facility would be up and running after the first quarter of 2009. Director Bereskin requested Council authorize the City Manager or his designee to recommend the selection of one of the four sites for construction of the water reclamation facility.

Mayor Montandon pointed out one of the preferred sites was at the corner of Cheyenne and Pecos, the site of the Cheyenne Sports Complex. In response to a question by Mayor Montandon, Director Bereskin responded if that site were chosen for the water reclamation facility, a new site would be selected for the Sports Complex. Director Bereskin stated the Cheyenne and Pecos site was not the first priority selection for the water reclamation facility but was just one of the options for Council consideration.

Councilwoman Smith asked which parcel was being recommended by Staff. Director Bereskin responded site 8 on the map, which was at Cheyenne and Lamb, would be Staff's recommendation. Mayor Montandon asked Director Bereskin why 40 acres was required for the proposed facility. A staff member explained in order to accommodate 50 million gallons of wastewater per day, a minimum 40-acre site was required.

**ACTION:** CITY MANAGER AUTHORIZED TO EXAMINE ALL FOUR SITES, IDENTIFY THE PREFERRED SITE AND BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS.

**MOTION:** Mayor Montandon

**SECOND:** Councilwoman Smith

**AYES:** Mayor Montandon, Council Members Smith, Buck and Eliason

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

## **2. PRESENTATION AND DIRECTION TO THE CITY MANAGER REGARDING BACKFLOW SERVICE ENHANCEMENTS.**

Utilities Director David Bereskin requested Council approval of an enhancement to the Backflow Service Program. He made a visual presentation and explained how the program

currently worked and what changes were being requested. Director Bereskin stated City Ordinance 1125 and Nevada Administrative Code 445A required annual certification of the backflow devices installed in commercial business. He advised the City was currently at approximately 86% compliance. He explained the businesses were required to have the backflow devices tested annually and the report sent to the Utilities Department. If the device failed, the company was required to have it repaired. It would be up to Utilities Staff to ensure the testing was completed and repairs were made. The company paid a monthly service charge with their water bill which covered the cost of data entry, letters and enforcement of repairs of the backflow systems. The cost to the commercial customer for testing and repair of the backflow devices amounted to approximately \$200,000 per year. He requested Council approval for the City to contract with testing companies to test the backflow devices for the commercial businesses. He anticipated 100% compliance if the City contracted with an outside company for the testing. The customer would still maintain responsibility for all repairs. Director Bereskin stated, if Council approved this request, Staff would be better utilized in other areas. City Manager Rose recommended approval.

Mayor Montandon asked Director Bereskin if he had any discussion with any of the businesses who had the backflow device installed. Director Bereskin replied he had not but would approach the businesses if directed by Council. He stated a Business Impact Hearing would be held to notify all the backflow customers of the change prior to being placed on the regular Council agenda. Mayor Montandon stressed the importance of attaining 100% compliance.

Councilman Buck asked about the financial repercussions of the proposed change. Director Bereskin stated the City yielded approximately \$600,000 in backflow fees paid by commercial businesses. He advised the City had the ability to fund the program, appoint Staff to other assignments and still realize a net saving of approximately \$60,000 which would be utilized for enforcement. Council Members Smith and Eliason expressed their desire to hear comments from the business owners before taking further action.

ACTION: STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS ACCEPTED

MOTION: Councilwoman Smith

SECOND: Mayor Montandon

AYES: Mayor Montandon, Council Members Smith, Buck and Eliason

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

**3. DISCUSSION AND/OR DIRECTION TO THE CITY MANAGER ON THE DROUGHT RESPONSE PLAN.**

City Manager Gregory Rose stated in December of 2003 the Parks & Recreation Department collaborated with a consultant on a Drought Response Plan after the City

Council adopted Drought Ordinance No. 1805. The Plan was used to identify capital improvements to be included in the five-year Capital Improvement Plan. City Manager Rose requested the Parks & Recreation Department present the Drought Response Plan at a Council Work Session for direction and possible formal consideration at a Regular Council Meeting.

Parks & Recreation Director Mike Henley introduced Nancy O'Connor, Parks Maintenance Manager, who assisted with the presentation of the Drought Response Plan. He explained the plan was prepared by the Parks & Recreation Department as a proactive approach to maintaining public landscapes under the existing drought conditions. Director Henley requested discussion with Council regarding the goals of the plan, as well as an action plan for projects to be included in the Capital Improvement Plan. Director Henley said a drought alert went into effect in early 2004 and should remain in effect for a considerable amount of time. He stated, if adopted, the plan would be updated annually and maintenance practices modified as warranted by drought conditions. The goals of the plan were to reduce current water usage by 20%, reduce watering days from 260 to 180 days, eliminate non-functional turf, reduce fall overseeding and replace inefficient irrigation systems. He felt the City's resolve in conserving water in parks and public landscaping would set a positive example to the community.

Parks Maintenance Manager Nancy O'Connor explained the elimination of overseeding would save a large amount of water and allowed the primary turf to receive nutrients all during the year. The action plan for the first year included the replacement of inefficient irrigation at Hartke and Valley View Parks, elimination of fall overseeding, turf conversion at the Neighborhood Recreation Center and Cheyenne Sports Complex and reduction of watering days by 25%. The proposed action plan for the following year would be to replace inefficient irrigation systems at Tonopah, Boris Terrace, Petitti, Eldorado and Monte Vista Parks, turf maintenance innovations to improve water efficiency and turf resiliency and utilization of a system to monitor water flow, detect leaks and remotely turn off the system when it rains.

Director Henley asked for Council clarification on the issue of non-functional versus functional turf. He indicated in the Drought Response Plan the non-functional turf areas were rights-of-way and medians. Director Henley stated the residents were being asked to "brown out" their yards and he felt the City had an obligation to assure there were some green areas in the parks for residents to play on. He requested Council approval of the plan.

Councilman Buck asked what was meant by "brown out" and Director Henley responded the intent was to have residents install desert landscape in their yards. Councilman Buck expressed her concern about the elimination of fall overseeding.

Councilwoman Smith expressed her concern about not having enough green areas for the public to play sports on.

**ACTION:** STAFF DIRECTED TO CONTINUE OVERSEEDING AND BRING FINAL PLAN TO COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Smith

**SECOND:** Mayor Montandon

**AYES:** Mayor Montandon, Council Members Smith, Buck and Eliason

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public participation.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**ACTION:** THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:14 P.M.

**MOTION:** Councilman Eliason

**SECOND:** Councilman Buck

**AYES:** Mayor Montandon, Council Members Smith, Buck and Eliason

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**APPROVED: June 1, 2005**

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Mayor Michael L. Montandon

### **ATTEST:**

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Karen L. Storms, CMC  
City Clerk