CANBY CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES February 3, 2011

Presiding: Mayor Randy Carson.

Council Present: Rich Ares, John Henri, Jason Padden, Walt Daniels, Greg Parker, and Brian Hodson.

Staff Present: Greg Ellis, City Administrator; Matilda Deas, Project Planner; Eric Laitinen, Aquatics Program Manager; Penny Hummel, Library Director; and Kim Scheafer, City Recorder.

Others Present: Joe Driggers, Bill Milne, Debbie Pearson, and Vicki Pounds.

Mayor Carson called the Work Session to order at 6:03 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The City Council and Canby Area Parks and Recreation District Board Members met to discuss proposed ballot language.

Bill Milne, CAPRD Chair, introduced the CAPRD Board. Don Morgan and Janie Malloy were not able to attend the Work Session. A ballot measure had been filed for the May 17 election.

Joe Driggers gave a history about CAPRD which had been formed over 40 years ago. Voters had approved the district but not a tax base. It started with the same boundaries as the School District, but the Charbonneau area was later removed. A few years ago the City made a decision that the Park and Recreation District would be a better way to fund the pool. The vision they had developed was for the recreation district to be a funder like a foundation or a granting agency. It was a different model from what people were accustomed to. If the ballot measure was successful, CAPRD would enter into an IGA with the City to replace the funding from the serial levy on an annual basis. The rest of the money would be spent on grants to existing community providers, such as Canby Kids and the Adult Center.

Councilor Ares clarified that the pool and staff would still be the City's but the funding would come from CAPRD. The excess would be used to fund other recreational entities.

Matilda Deas, Project Planner, said that when the economy went down it was decided that it would be hard to get funding for a new community facility. The pool had always been well supported in the community and there needed to be a permanent solution to the pool. With this ballot measure, there would be a funding source for the pool that the City would no longer have to fund but the City would still manage because they had good employees. Nothing would be changed except CAPRD would be reimbursing the City for the cost of running the pool. When the economy improved, there could be a renewed discussion about the community center.

Mayor Carson gave a history of the Park District and the attempts that had been made for funding. The Council had previously said the pool would close in 2012. The current Council needed to decide if they wanted to support this new proposal.

Mr. Driggers said conceptually they thought the pool was the most important element and other providers needed help. They wanted to set aside money for capital improvement projects for recreation, programs, and for the future.

Eric Laitinen, Aquatics Program Manager, stated the mechanics of the pool were in pretty good shape and running well. The dressing rooms were small and there was virtually no lobby. The pool was structurally sound; it simply was not meeting all of the needs. In the past five years a new roof had been put over the lobby and dressing rooms. A new filter system had also been installed.

Councilor Parker said without an IGA there was no way to determine where the liability was. They might have a library levy on the ballot as well.

Ms. Deas said CAPRD did not want to be in competition with the library and this gave the pool some time and did not conflict with the library. The City was not going to fund the pool anymore, and this was a permanent funding solution.

Mr. Laitinen said since the five year levies, they had done more maintenance to keep the pool up.

Councilor Hodson asked if the CAPRD Board was in support with where they were going and what the levy meant.

Mr. Milne said the board was unified.

Councilor Hodson liked the idea of a Park District. He wanted to know that when this went through that the leadership piece was there.

Mayor Carson said the Council needed to decide if the pool would shut down in 2012 unless CAPRD's levy was approved or if CAPRD's levy failed the City would try to pass a five year bond.

Councilor Henri thought there should be a facility assessment to determine the condition of the pool.

Councilor Padden was concerned about the plan that would be presented to the voters. The Council had agreed to have the CAPRD bond go before the library bond, and he did not want the library to get held up as the plan was ready to go. He was in favor of having a pool in Canby and agreed the pool should be the catalyst for CAPRD. He did not think the City should go out for a levy if the CAPRD bond failed.

Councilor Hodson said he was for CAPRD and wanted more recreational opportunities in the City.

Councilor Henri asked if they had an operational plan for the employees at the pool.

Mr. Driggers replied that anything needed would be contracted out.

Councilor Parker asked if this had been vetted with the School District.

Ms. Deas said they had been in the process as a stakeholder in the original version.

Councilor Parker stated that School Superintendent Rose had not been asked to review the plans. He thought the School District needed to be brought on board.

There was a suggestion to get the Chamber and Canby Kids involved and get the message out before the election.

Councilor Ares did not want to put any General Fund money into the facility. If it came to putting a levy out again due to citizen input, and it was not a cost to the General Fund, he did not know why they would not put it out again.

There was Council consensus for CAPRD to proceed.

Ms. Deas said a full presentation on the levy would be given to the Council on February 16.

Mayor Carson adjourned the Work Session at 7:55 p.m.

Kimberly Scheafer, CMC

City Recorder

Randy Carson

Mayor