

Pleasant Grove City Council Special Work Session Minutes
April 28, 2010
6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor:

Bruce W. Call

City Council Members:

Cindy Boyd

Val Danklef

Lee G. Jensen

Kim Robinson

Jeffrey D. Wilson

City Recorder:

Colleen A. Mulvey, Deputy Recorder

Others:

Scott Darrington, City Administrator

Tina Petersen, City Attorney

Ken Young, Comm. Dev. Director

Deon Giles, Leis. Services Director

Lynn Walker, Public Works Director

Libby Flegal, NAB Chairperson

Jay Meacham, DAB Chairperson

Richard Huish, DAB Design Committee

Laurel Backman Riddle, DAB Design Committee

Mike Chamberlain, DAB Promotions Committee

Robert Rainaldi, Planning Commission

The City Council Members and staff met in the City Council Chambers at 86 East 100 South, Pleasant Grove, Utah

1. Call to Order

Mayor Call called roll for the Council and noted that Council Members Boyd, Danklef, Jensen, Robinson and Wilson were present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Council Member Jensen.

3. Opening Remarks

Opening Remarks were given by Council Member Wilson.

4. Interview firms that responded to the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Civic Center

Mayor Call explained that tonight we will hear a short fifteen/twenty minute presentation from the remaining two of the four firms that had the highest rated evaluations from our group that reviewed the RFP's. There will be a question and answer period for each firm after their presentation, and the discussion by the Mayor, Council and staff regarding which firm will be selected will take place immediately after these presentations tonight.

Jim Child, Gordon Clark and Danny Fuchs of JRCA Architects, Inc. and Terrall Budge of DesignWorkshop presented their proposal (Exhibit C) and answered the Council and staff's questions regarding their presentation.

Niels Valentiner, Brent Tippets and Steve Crane came forward next and presented their proposal for VCBO Architecture (Exhibit D) and answered the Council and staff's questions regarding their presentation.

Mayor Call thanked each firm individually for their time and efforts in preparing and presenting their proposals.

Discussion

Mayor Call asked Director Young for his input on how he would like to proceed on discussing these four candidates. Director Young stated that if we could rank these proposals tonight while this information is still fresh in our minds and from there if we feel that they are ranked closely or if there is more investigation required or we need to go out and see some of the projects we can take it from there. Director Young said that he does not feel that we need to go check on any of their projects, that he thinks that we have a lot of good information already and that we can make a decision, but it is whether the Council feels that way as well. Director Young said that he would like to see us move forward quickly on this and make a decision as quickly as possible.

Mayor Call listed all four firms on the whiteboard and then asked the Council, staff and the DAB members to vote on how they ranked them. VCBO had the most first place votes. The Mayor then asked for some discussion on why they chose VCBO.

Director Giles commented that he has worked with them in the past and that they were very good to work with. They have a lot of experience with getting the community and staff involved in the project; they collected a lot of information and held a lot of good meetings to continually keep everyone involved.

Council Member Danklef stated that he saw a passion in their presentation that he did not see in the others and that he liked the concept that they've got what they need in-house.

Council Member Jensen said that he also liked the fact that they are in-house and that they showed a lot of passion, also that much of their presentation showed slides of Pleasant Grove and that really spoke to him as a citizen of Pleasant Grove and that they showed a real interest in us.

Director Giles added that it is important to him that the staff gets what they need from these projects and that he has been to one of their projects, the Wasatch Library and talked with the staff there and how they got the staff involved in what they needed from the project.

Council Member Boyd said that she felt that they had experts for each of the phases on the projects and also that they were very enthusiastic, like this wasn't just a job but an investment for them.

Council Member Jensen commented that he was also impressed with the way they talked about getting the community involved. Mayor Call added that they did have a very proactive approach with involving the public.

Council Member Danklef also pointed out that VCBO's three presenters seemed to be the most cohesive unit, they acted like they did work well together and they didn't have to correct each other, their presentation was a little more polished than the others.

Council Member Jensen commented that they have gone through this process before when our Library was looking for proposals and they were also the first choice of the Library.

Council Member Wilson stated that everything they said represented Pleasant Grove, they came and looked at us and seemed to understand Pleasant Grove.

Mayor Call said that JRCA had the second most first place votes and asked for discussion on why anyone felt that they were the most qualified.

Richard Huish said that he thought JRCA was more well rounded; they tied everything in to their detail and were not just about architecture, it's getting people in the area and giving them a reason to stay. They are a team that has the criteria and understanding and their package was detailed.

Director Young stated that CRSA, JRCA and VCBO were all very good and that he would be happy with any of them but the reason that he leans towards JRCA is that he felt like they were enthusiastic and that he also appreciated their approach of creating a project that would be a legacy and that they involved the concept of art.

Mayor Call stated that he liked the fact that JRCA were the only ones who brought up the concept of using civic anchors for a commercial benefit.

Council Member Robinson said that they really considered the existing studies from the 20/20 plan plus the RUDAT and didn't ignore that content. Council Member Robinson admitted that she liked all three firms (CRSA, JRCA & VCBO).

Laurel Backman Riddle said that she liked the way that JRCA looked at the whole big picture and how it all can work together, that they had a better feel for what she hopes gets accomplished, that this is a plan that encompasses everything and makes things come alive and stay alive.

Mayor Call added that they also talked about extending the borders of this project and that he liked that they talked about using the plan that they come up with and presenting it in such a way that it becomes a marketing tool for us to use.

Mayor Call next commented on CRSA, stating that Mr. Roberts seemed to have a very good specific knowledge of the architecture and styles and liked that fact that they brought up doing what is right for Pleasant Grove. They researched buildings that no longer even exist here and tied in those details.

Council Member Robinson said that Mr. Roberts knew exactly what Pleasant Grove's architecture is and it seems that he knows how to put it into place especially for Main Street, incentives and grants for owners to come up to what the design will be. Council Member Boyd added that he does have a lot of historical expertise because of his Board affiliation with the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Mayor Call stated that we are going to select a firm to work with, but there is a way to leave things open to a certain extent until we get down to a detailed scope of work, it's not like we are going to play one project off the other, but we can approach one and inform them that they are our number one choice but that we need to get down to some more detail on the numbers.

Administrator Darrington added that they will probably want to come back and meet with us so that we can define the scope of work so that they can come back with the real costs. We can start with VCBO bring them in and say they are our number one choice and we are not giving them the contract yet because we need to talk about the price.

Council Member Boyd said that along with talking about price, we might want to also point out some of the concerns that the others had, the ones that did not think VCBO should be the first choice and at least give VCBO the chance to comment.

Mayor Call suggested that we bring VCBO in first without a guarantee of contract and let them know that there are some questions we need answered. The Mayor then asked Director Young if he could take the concerns that were brought up and also take the strong points of the other firms' presentations to create a more detailed picture for VCBO and sit down with them and give them a chance to address them. Director Young indicated that he could.

Mayor Call asked the Council and staff and the DAB members to compose an email that lists their hot points and pressing issues that they feel need to be addressed and send it to Director Young. Director Young asked that this be made a priority and that whatever has been sent to him by noon on Friday he will make sure it gets addressed. Administrator Darrington asked to be copied in on all of these emails so that he can get a better picture of the scope and details. Director Young then passed out copies of his vision of the Civic Center (Exhibit E) and said that the Facility Needs Assessment and Conceptual Design information packet (Exhibit F) is on the City's website for everyone to review.

Mayor Call asked if there was anything else to be discussed, nothing else was brought up. The Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn.

ACTION: At 8:37 p.m. Council Member Wilson moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Jensen seconded and the motion passed unanimously with Council Members Boyd, Danklef, Jensen, Robinson and Wilson voting, "Aye."

5. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

This certifies that the Work Session Minutes of April 28, 2010 are a true, full and correct copy as approved by the City Council on May 18, 2010

Colleen A Mulvey, Deputy City Recorder

(Exhibits are in the Work Session Minutes binders in the Recorder's office)