

**City Council/Homeowner Association Meeting
November 18, 2008**

Minutes

Steve Mitchell, Mayor, called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce him or herself. Mayor Mitchell introduced Director of Information Services Steve Graves and Assistant Director of Information Services Eric Mathews.

Presentation

Mr. Graves explained and demonstrated numerous applications which have been recently developed by the City's Information Services Department, including Animal Shelter- Google Map API, Issues Online, RPD Map Integration- Google Crime View and Sex Offenders, RPD Crime Weekly Email Subscription, Traffic Information Center, and Tree Inventory.

According to Mr. Graves, the goals of the new applications include: increasing usability, simplifying processes and managing and reducing environmental impact and increasing efficiencies in time, costs, and materials used.

Mr. Graves concluded with a summary of the IT Going Green effort, which includes: a high energy efficient personal computer replacement and virtualization centralizing infrastructure to reduce energy usage, smart routing for Solid Waste trucks and CORpool (city-wide carpool plan) to reduce gasoline usage, desktop remote control to increase staff efficiency and Filenet document management to reduce paper usage.

Current Events

- City Council is nearing adoption of a Neighborhood Development Overlay Program that allows neighborhoods to add additional development guidelines within their area. The new guidelines include changes to setbacks, heights, lot coverage and garage orientation; and have to be approved by 70% of people in the affected area through petition.
- City Council is also nearing adoption of new parking regulations for residential neighborhoods which would limit the parking of motor vehicles on the street contiguous to a residential lot to only those motor vehicles that are lawfully in the possession of a resident or occupant of said residence between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. A follow up briefing will be scheduled in the future so that a draft ordinance can be reviewed.
- Business Week recently recognized the City of Richardson as one of the Best Places to Raise Kids. Only two cities in Texas and 100 nationally were given the honor.
- The City has been tracking TxDOT's HOV Lanes Performance Review very closely. The Texas Transportation Institute is conducting a review, including investigating the need for improved signage and a possible access point near Collins/Campbell Road. We will keep you updated as new information becomes available.
- Police Chief Larry Zacharias has announced his retirement effective December 31, 2008. A national search for his predecessor will begin in January. All internal applicants who are interested are being encouraged to apply.

- November 2008 sales tax was down \$175,000 or 6.6% over November 2007. City Council and staff are monitoring the situation closely and are prepared to take steps to address expenditure reductions should the need arise.
- In December staff will present City Council with a recommendation on how to proceed with the reconstruction of the Heights Park Playground. Said recommendation has been developed with input from citizen focus groups as well as the Parks Commission.
- On Wednesday, December 3rd, a ribbon cutting event was held to celebrate the completion of the Mark Twain Vitality Project, including the 6' masonry wall, entry features, and landscaping.
- Assistant Director of Health – Animal Services Dennis Wooten was recently recognized by the Texas Animal Control Association for his distinguished career and leadership in the field of animal services.
- Dr. David Bonnet was recently reappointed as the City of Richardson's Health Officer. Dr. Bonnet, who has a long standing local family practice, has been serving in this capacity for the past five years.
- Plano's City Council recently passed a large rezoning request for 120 acre parcel of land on Renner Road east of the Bush Turnpike and west of Shiloh Road located within the City of Plano. The new zoning allows numerous retail, office, commercial and entertainment uses in addition to a maximum of 1,200 multi-family units and 330 senior living units. We will keep you posted as the issue progresses.
- The City of Richardson has begun a number of traffic management upgrades, including unifying system improvements and traffic signal coordination. Said improvements should be completed by summer 2009.
- City Council has concluded its briefings on the Comprehensive Plan and Master Transportation Plan. Passage is expected by the end of the year.
- The City of Richardson was recently awarded the 2008 Clean Air Champion Award by the North Texas Clean Air Coalition for its numerous environmental initiatives.
- Municipal Court Administrator Kim Kierce was recently awarded the Extraordinary Achievement Award by the Texas Court Clerks Association for her leadership in the professional and accomplished career.

Open Discussion

Mayor Mitchell opened the meeting for general discussion.

Question: Can you file a complaint about a specific issue or topic on-line?

Response: Yes. There are more than 45 issues listed by topic, and more will be added in the future. Issues are routed to the appropriate city staff so that a reply can be generated as soon as possible.

Question: Can the City provide assistance to neighborhood associations with respect to developing their own websites?

Response: Yes. In fact, the Spring 2009 Neighborhood Leadership Workshop will include a seminar on web development. More information will be provided after the first of the year.

Question: How much are the new applications being utilized?

Response: Overall use of the City's on-line services has grown steadily since its inception. Efforts are underway to better track utilization of individual applications.

Question: What is the status of the Dallas Morning News Briefing?

Response: City staff recently met Dallas Morning News executives, who have committed to sending a quality control company behind their regular delivery service to ensure discarded papers are collected in a timely manner and stop delivery orders are enforced. They will begin this pilot program in those neighborhoods generating the most complaints. The City has decided to refrain from making a decision regarding next steps until it can determine if this new efforts is effective.

Update:

David Morel, Director of Circulation for Briefing, indicates the Dallas Morning News will be taking the following steps to respond to concerns regarding the distribution of Briefing.

- Utilizing a quality control company in addition to their regular delivery service to insure discarded papers are collected in a timely manner and stop delivery orders are enforced. This effort will begin almost immediately in a number of neighborhoods throughout the City.
- Possibly implementing a non-saturation model that would target specific homes rather than throwing papers to every non-subscriber. This will essentially be an opt-in model rather than an opt-out model.
- Maintaining an open dialogue with city officials and residents. Mr. Morel mentioned he has met or spoke with a number of you about the problems in your neighborhood. He asked that we encourage you to contact him directly with additional questions or concerns. He can be reached at 214-977-7785 or dmorel@dallasnews.com.

An attendee thanked the City of Richardson and its staff for providing exceptional assistance to the Dallas County Elections Office during the recent election cycles, in which more than 29,000 people voted at City Hall.

Ending Comments

Mayor Mitchell stated a meeting will not be scheduled in December due to the holidays. The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Attendees

Steve Mitchell, Mayor
Bill Keffler, City Manager
John Murphy, City Council
Randy Roland, Wyndor Estates
Chris Davis, Cottonwood Heights
Jim Troxell, Carrington Estates
Larry Moore, Woods of Springcreek II
Eddie Dees, Cottonwood Creek
Bill Kinder, Springpark North

Bob Townsend, City Council
Pris Hayes, City Council
Robert Pavelick, Yale Park
Joe Russum, JJ Pearce
Zach Vaughn, Northrich
Janet DePuy, Heights Park
Jay Dalehite, Canyon Creek
Bob Macy, Town North Park
Jerry Schleicher, The Crown

Kenan Brandes, Glenville Park
Susan Sams, Cottonwood Creek
Bob Nusser, Custer Trail
Don Wilson, Heather Ride Estates
Scott Morrisson, Duck Creek
Mel Adams, Knolls of Canyon Creek
John Wallberg, Owens Park
Patty Brooks, Fairway of Sherrill Park
Nathan Morgan, Mark Twain
Steve Graves, Director of Information Services
Eric Matthews, Assistant Director of Information Services
Don Magner, Director of Neighborhood Services
David Morgan, Assistant City Manager

Richard Cudlipp, Marlborough Square
David Stanowick, Saddlebrook
Pam Fields, Owens Park
Andrew Laska, Richardson Heights
Bill Denton, Duck Creek
Evan Thomas, Richland Meadows
Lou Wallace, Enclave of Breckinridge
Jennifer McCouley, Northrich