Chairman Bennett called the Agenda (Work) Session to order with Councilmen Rico, Berz, Benson, Page, Gilbert and Gaines present. Councilman Pierce joined the meeting later. City Attorney Phil Noblett; Management Analyst Randy Burns; and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Steve Leach, Daisy Madison, Dennis Malone, Mark Keil, Danny Thornton, Richard Beeland, Lee Norris, Barry Bennett, Alice Cannella, Debbie Davis, John VanWinkle, David Johnson, Missy Crutchfield, Gary Hilbert, Chief Randy Parker, Danny Thornton and Mayor Littlefield. Chief Williams and Karen McMahon joined the meeting later.

Chairman Bennett noted that the Final Agenda was available to everyone and turned the meeting over to Daisy Madison, in the absence of Dan Johnson. Ms. Madison noted that we had already gone over the agenda two weeks ago but that she would hit some of the highlights. The first was Ordinance (a) Final Reading providing temporary exception to the City Code for employees assigned to the 9-1-1 Communication Board.

Ordinance 6(a) First Reading, adopts and enacts a new Code for the City, including the Zoning Ordinance.

Ordinances (b) and (c) are zoning items that have already been discussed.

Ordinances (d), (e), (f), and (g) are all closures and abandonments and will be discussed in the Public Works Committee.

Resolutions (b), and (c) are Public Works related and will be discussed later. Resolution (h) is a zoning issue.

Ms. Madison then went back to Resolution (a), which relates to Provident Life & Accident Ins. Co. Project delegating certain authority to the Industrial Development Board and executing an Agreement for payments in lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes.

Resolution (f) authorizes the Mayor to execute an “Offer to Purchase” with Orlandi Laboratories relative to Lot 18 of the Enterprise South Industrial Park.

Ms. Madison further elaborated on Resolution (h), which is a Special Exceptions Permit for Ward Properties for a two-family dwelling in an R-1 Residential Zone on a tract of land located at 3816 Montview Drive.
Ms. Madison continued with next week’s agenda, reading Resolution (a), which authorizes payment to the United States Conference of Mayors for 2009 dues in the amount of $12,242.00.

**Resolutions (b) (c) and (d)** are Parks and Recreation related and will be discussed by Larry Zehnder during the Public Works Committee.

**Resolution (e)** authorizes a Lease Agreement with Barry Garrison for property located at 5522 Clear Creek Road to maintain a garden on the property. This property is in the flood zone.

Ms. Madison was prepared to move on to purchases for tonight; however Councilman Page wanted to go back for more discussion on **Resolution (e)**. Danny Thornton was present and explained that Mr. Garrison was the neighbor next door to the property and had been maintaining and keeping the grass cut at 5522 Clear Creek Road and wanted to use this for garden purposes, and it is in the floodway.

Ms. Madison went back to the Purchases, beginning with the purchase of a Dodge Charger for General Services from Harry Lewis Chrysler in the amount of $19,186. Councilman Page questioned why we were buying just one automobile; after some slight confusion Councilman Page acknowledged that he now could see the reasoning behind this.

The next purchase was a Blanket Contract for Infield Condition for Softball Fields for Parks and Recreation from Southern Athletic Fields at $298 per pallet. This was the low bid.

The third purchase was a Blanket Contract for Meats & Food Items for Human Services from Amerifoods at approximately $76,700 annually. Councilwoman Berz questioned what this was for. Ms. Madison responded that it was for food for the Day Care Centers through Human Services. Councilwoman Berz asked if this was covered by Federal money, with Councilman Benson noting that it was just passing through us.

At this point, Councilwoman Berz wanted to go back to the Blanket Contract for Infield Condition for the Softball Fields, noting that there was a big difference in prices--$298 per pallet to $457.69 per pallet. She wanted to know if there was a big difference in quality? She stated that she would not mind paying the higher price if it would last longer. Ms. Madison indicated that there was not that much difference between the chosen vendor and the next, which was Lesco ($298.00 versus $300.00). She added that she did not know the reason for the jump to $457.69 for BSN Sports.
The next purchase was for Information Services and was a Contract for Maintenance Co-Location Storage with Airnet in the amount of $13,670. Mark Keil was present and explained that IS did not expect it to take as long to move into a new location and this exceeds the $10,000 limit and had to come before the Council. Chairman Bennett confirmed that since the Contract had now expired that this amount would just be the difference between the time the Contract expired and moving into the new location. Mr. Keil stated that they did not know exactly how much time they would need to extend to. Councilwoman Gaines stated that this made sense to her—that she got it.

The next purchase was for Information Services, also, and was for 150 Lap Top Computers with Hewlett Packard in the amount of $581,098.50. Councilman Benson wanted to know who would be using the Lap Tops? Mr. Keil explained that this was in the Capital Budget, and these were not normal Lap Tops; that they would be used by the Police Dept. and everything they do is off these Lap Tops—that they were not just ordinary “on the top of the desk” Lap Tops. It was noted at this time that Chief Williams was present. Councilman Benson acknowledged that this was a complicated, technical thing and would be used just for the Police Department. Councilman Page wanted to know if these replaced old ones? If so, he wanted to know what we do with the old ones. Mr. Keil responded that we would try to sell the old ones but that they would be obsolete; that some of the poorer counties might show some interest in buying them. Councilwoman Berz wanted to know how obsolete they were? She questioned if they could not be used in our Recreation Centers. Mr. Keil explained that they would not function in Recreation Centers—that the Recreation Centers had plenty of computers anyway but their rooms would only hold so many. Councilwoman Gaines noted that we have new computers in many of the Recreation Centers.

Ms. Madison noted that the last five purchases were for the Public Works Department. The first of these was a Change Order for Liquid Calcium Nitrate from Siemens Water Technology. The usage was under estimated.

The next purchase was a Blanket Contract for Sodium Hydroxide from Univar USA at $3.02 per gallon. Councilwoman Berz wanted to know what the $3.02 per gallon translated to, and Adm. Leach stated about $100,000 a year.

Next was a Blanket Contract for Fencing & Fencing Materials from Capitol Wholesale Fence Co. This bid was re-issued and we received only one bid. Councilman Pierce wanted to know what kind of fencing were we talking about? Mr. Leach responded that it was security fencing or temporary fencing for numerous uses. Councilman Pierce wanted to know if they were recyclable? Mr. Leach noted that they were generally for projects we need to complete. Councilwoman Berz wanted to know if “Blanket Contract” was synonymous with “As Needed”? She was told “yes”.
The next purchase was for Biosolids Management System Support & Licensing Services from Material Matters, Inc. in the amount of $30,000.00.

The last purchase was a Blanket Contract for Asphaltic Concrete and was a dual contract with Highways, Inc. and Southeastern Materials.

At this point, Councilwoman Gaines noted that “Siemens” was misspelled as “Siements”. Adm. Leach noted her discerning “eye”.

**EARLY VOTING FOR RUNOFF ELECTION**

Attorney Noblett noted that the Election Commission was suggesting Early Voting only at the Election Commission office; they were recommending five days of Early Voting prior to April 14th. He stated that the Election Commission needed a vote from the Council as to the days they wanted for Early Voting—whether it be five days or two weeks.

Chairman Bennett noted that the 16th of March would be next Monday, questioning when we would need to start early voting if we held it for two weeks?

Councilwoman Pierce asked if we were talking about “working days” or including “weekends”? He noted there had to be five days between the end of Early Voting and the Election date and stated that we were talking about either five days or 14 days of Early Voting. He added that the Election Commission could figure out the days for this.

Councilman Benson stated that we were also deciding sites and whether it should be only at the Election Commission.

Councilman Pierce stated that he had been talking to Charlotte Mullins at the Election Commission, and he had no problem with just one voting site, but he also thought that we should go with ten days of Early Voting; that the Election Commission was suggesting only five days—that what we decide on, we have to pay for, and he would say ten days; that Early Voting usually started on a Wednesday or Thursday and if you only had five days, it would end on Monday or Tuesday, and it would be all over. He asked that this Council give he and Councilwoman Bennett the full benefit of 14 days. Councilman Page pointed out that it would not be just for Councilwoman Bennett and Councilman Pierce but also people who were running against them, too.

Councilman Benson noted that it would cost $30,000 a site for Early Voting.
Chairman Bennett stated that she, too, thought it took a while for people to get out and vote—that it takes people a while to learn which sites are available; that they need to be given adequate time, and it would be the same for everyone running.

Councilman Gilbert stated that he agreed—that we need the longer time for Early Voting.

Councilwoman Berz questioned the cost? Attorney Noblett explained that the cost would be per person manning the voting. Councilwoman Berz wanted to know if $30,000 covered both five days and two weeks? Attorney Noblett responded “no”—that the cost would not be the same. Councilman Pierce added that they already had the personnel there, and it would amount to one-half hour overtime; that they could split the shifts—that it was not a big thing.

Chairman Bennett confirmed that this would be brought forward at tonight’s meeting.

At this point, Attorney Noblett stated that we would hear from Mr. Horton’s attorney at Attorney-Client meeting at 5:00 P.M. (Mr. Horton was an employee who had asked for a hearing before the Council). He explained that he wanted to continue the hearing that was scheduled for March 16th.

Councilman Pierce asked if this was the first time he had asked for a continuance? Councilman Gilbert stated that he thought it was the second time. Councilman Pierce questioned the “rush” and why we needed to talk to his Attorney. Attorney Noblett stated that a Phone Conference was set up.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 P.M.