

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, June 15, 2009, for the purpose of reviewing a sign proposal from Doctors Community Hospital (DCH).

Mayor Davis started the meeting at 7:30p.m. It was held in the Council Room of the Municipal Building.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Edward V.J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Judith F. Davis.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager and David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Kyle Goon, The Gazette; Tom Crowley, DCH Chief Operating Officer; Rick Groff, Ben Dyer & Associates; Daniel LaPlaca, DCH Attorney

Mr. LaPlaca began by describing some of the recent facility additions and changes at DCH and stressed the need for additional signage. He outlined the plans for new entrance signage.

Mayor Davis indicated that the City had concerns given that this was a gateway location to the City. She noted that since the sign was located on DCH property, the City's options were limited. She expressed concern about sign height, landscaping and lighting.

Mr. LaPlaca reported that the sign and letters were backlit. Mr. Crowley noted that the landscaping would have some lighting.

Mayor Davis asked about irrigation for the landscaping. Mr. Crowley responded that DCH did not envision irrigation and planned to use native, low water plants.

Mr. Roberts asked why the sign needed to be so long. Mr. Crowley responded that the sign designer had designed the sign to fit the topography. Mayor Davis asked if the wings were going to be lit. Mr. Crowley responded no but that the landscaping would be bathed in low wattage lighting.

Mr. Herling asked how bright the lighting would be. Mr. Crowley responded that the letters would be backlit and could be seen from the roadway.

Mr. LaPlaca announced that the case was before the Planning Board on Thursday, June 18. Mr. Crowley indicated that they hoped to have the sign installed by July 4.

Mayor Davis asked about the distance from the tree buffer behind the sign and asked if the sign could be moved closer to the tree line. Mr. Groff responded that he didn't think the sign could be moved. Mr. Roberts suggested the addition of trees behind the sign.

Mayor Davis asked if the sign could be shrunk. Mr. Crowley responded that based on the curvature of the sign, he didn't believe it would appear that large.

Council requested that no trees be removed during installation and that trees be added behind the sign. They also requested a copy of the landscaping plan and suggested a condition that no future signage be located on Hanover Parkway. Finally, Council suggested that DCH investigate solar lighting for the landscape lighting. Council indicated preliminary support for the sign with the inclusion of the above conditions and directed staff to place this matter on the June 22 agenda.

The meeting ended at 8:07p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*David E. Moran
Assistant City Manager*