

Airport Advisory Committee

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 2, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cliff Hix, Chairperson
Terry Calloway
Scott Crain
Chris Hoffman
Jay Humbard
Donald Murray

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kurt Balthazor, Vice Chairperson

OTHERS PRESENT: William A. Beasley, Director of Public Works
Bill Pyle, Airport Manager
Joye VanGorden, Admin. Asst. to Dir. of Public Works

The Airport Advisory Committee met on Monday, February 2, 2009, at 12:00 p.m., in the City Hall Commission Room. Chairperson Cliff Hix called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. with six (6) members present.

The first order of business was the election of a Chairperson and a Vice Chairperson for 2009. Cliff Hix nominated Kurt Balthazor as Chairperson. This nomination was seconded by Scott Crain and Kurt Balthazor was elected by acclamation. Scott Crain nominated Chris Hoffman as Vice Chairperson. This nomination was seconded by Terry Calloway and Chris Hoffman was elected by acclamation. In the absence of the newly elected Chairperson, Vice Chairperson Chris Hoffman presided over the remainder of the meeting.

The second order of business was the approval of the minutes of the special meeting of September 29, 2008. Jay Humbard moved, seconded by Scott Crain, that the minutes be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

The third order of business was an update on the Airport Master Plan Update and Layout Plan. The City of Pittsburg received notification from the FAA that they have been awarded a grant for the Airport Master Plan Update and Layout Plan. This grant is based on a 95% FAA/5% City funding split. The City staff met with the Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) to request that the City's share (5%) of this project be funded with industrial funds since activity at the airport is an important economic tool for industry. The EDAC agreed and the City Commission approved as well. The estimated cost of this project is \$150,000 with the City's share being \$7,500. The EDAC has approved funding up to \$10,000 for this project.

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The City staff also solicited statements of qualifications and experience from airport consultants relative to the preparation of an update of the Airport Master Plan and Airport Layout Plan. Only two proposals were received, Burns & McDonnell and the team of Professional Engineering Consultants (PEC) and Bucher, Willis & Ratliff Corporation (BWR). A committee comprised of Bill Beasley, Bill Pyle and Mark Turnbull interviewed both these firms. Both firms were good and are capable of doing the work, but the Committee has selected the team of PEC/BWR. PEC has been a partner to the City of Pittsburg and has served Pittsburg including its airport for nearly eight years from its office in Pittsburg. BWR performed the last Master Plan Update for the Atkinson Municipal Airport. One thing that both firms capitalized on was the importance of forming a committee of experts in the airport field, members of the Airport Advisory Committee, users of the airport and the general public to gather important data that will address the long-range plans for the airport to make sure all the needs of the future are addressed. This will be about a one-year process to go through and complete the update of the Airport Master Plan and Layout Plan.

The fourth order of business was discussion of the possibility of increasing fuel prices at the airport. This issue was brought up at the last meeting. The fuel prices were actually increased \$.25 to \$.75 above City cost for local users and \$1.00 for transient users. This increase became effective January 1, 2009. The City has had to subsidize the airport over the last couple of years with subsidy in 2006 being \$140,000 and the subsidy last year being \$100,000. A recommendation to increase the fuel prices that became effective January 1st was taken to the City Commission. At that time, the City Commission expressed that they would like to see the airport become more self-sufficient and that they did not feel the increase was enough because of the subsidy. As a result, the City staff has gathered information to compare fuel prices to other airports and to propose another increase in an attempt to lessen the subsidy at the airport. The staff prepared the attached charts to compare an increase of \$1.00 above the City's fuel cost for local users and \$1.25 above the City's fuel cost for transient users with other airports. In these charts fuel prices are compared to Joplin and Ft. Scott, two local airports within 50 miles, and other airports having similar services that the local users at the airport frequently fly into. These charts show that even with fuel cost plus \$1.00, Pittsburg was lower than everybody but one for transient Jet A fuel as well as the same for 100 low lead fuel. Information was also compared to and obtained from Control Vision's website that tracks fuel prices nationally. It was noted that cheaper fuel prices could be found, but they were located at airports that have limited services and self-service fuel dispensing.

After general discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee that enough time had not elapsed since the \$.25 increase in January of 2009 and recommended that the fuel prices not be increased until after their next quarterly meeting in May to allow time to gather more concise data on the first full quarter of fuel sales after the increase. They also recommended that staff approach the County to see if they would be willing to support the airport noting that most airports are County-operated.

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The fifth order of business was discussion of an Airport Day. The City is not opposed to an Airport Day, but due to the fact that all City budgets are being cut back only a limited amount of money can be spent on such an event so donations and volunteers will be needed to help cover some of the costs. The City had estimated it would cost \$2,000 to \$3,000 for the event.

After general discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee that the event be limited to only a static and fly-by display similar to the one held two years ago and that it be pushed back from May to a date in either June or July.

Under Other Business, was approval of the meeting schedule for 2009. These meetings are normally held quarterly the first Monday of February, May, August and November. However, Mr. Beasley requested that the May 4th meeting be changed to the second Monday, May 11th, as he would be out of town. It was also requested that the August 3rd meeting be changed to the second Monday, August 10th, due to other conflicts.

Also, under Other Business, the City staff requested the Committee to establish a lease fee for the hangar space formerly occupied by Mike Gall dba Mike's Aircraft Repair so that the availability of this hangar space could be advertised. After general discussion, this fee was established at \$500 per month.

Also, under Other Business, the City staff explained that due to recent budget cuts they were considering rolling back the hours of operation at the airport. Currently, the operating hours at the airport are 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Staff is proposing that these hours be changed to 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. during the winter months and from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. during the summer months. After general discussion, the Committee agreed that the hours of operation could be cut back.

The next Airport Advisory Committee meeting will be held May 11, 2009.

There being no further business to be discussed, Don Murray moved, seconded by Cliff Hix, that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Joye VanGorden

Administrative Assistant to the Director of Public Works/Deputy City Clerk

Attachments: Fuel Price Charts

January 1 to January 24 2009

Jet A Cost	\$1.68
100LL Cost	\$2.24

Jet Local with tax	\$3.09	\$1.00 above cost
Jet Transit with tax	\$3.36	\$1.25 above cost
100LL Local with tax	\$3.66	\$1.00 above cost
100LL Transit with tax	\$3.93	\$1.25 above cost

Jet Local	8247.7
Jet Transit	635.5
100LL	1715.5
	<u>10598.7 gallons</u>

Central Region Average Price

Jet A	\$3.97
100LL	\$4.00

JET A

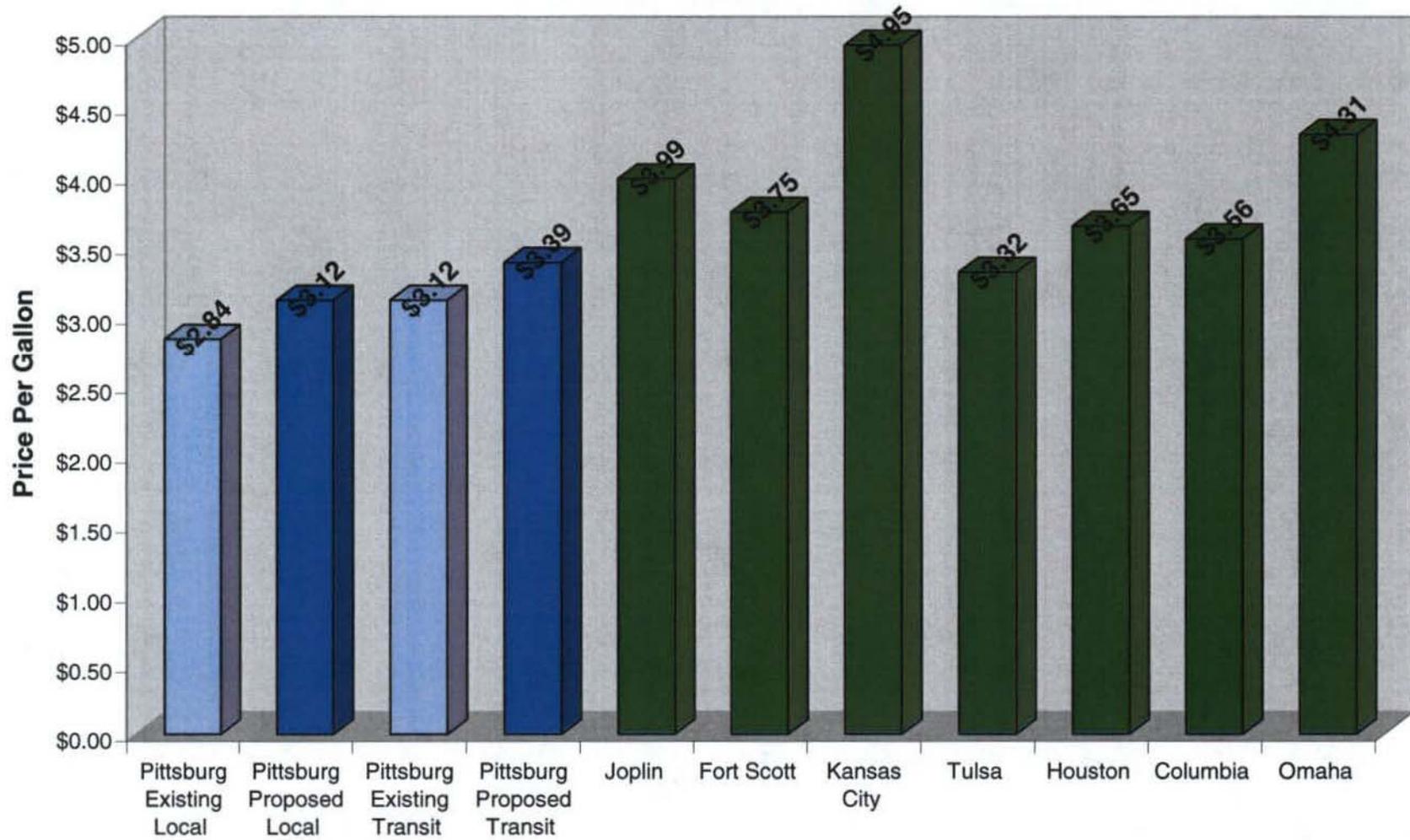
Pittsburg Existing Local	\$2.84
Pittsburg Proposed Local	\$3.12
Pittsburg Existing Transit	\$3.12
Pittsburg Proposed Transit	\$3.39
Joplin	\$3.99
Fort Scott	\$3.75
Kansas City	\$4.95
Tulsa	\$3.32
Houston	\$3.65
Columbia	\$3.56
Omaha	\$4.31

100LL

Pittsburg Existing	\$3.66
Pittsburg Proposed Local	\$3.66
Pittsburg Proposed Transit	\$3.93
Joplin	\$3.99
Fort Scott	\$3.75
Kansas City	\$5.40
Tulsa	\$3.27
Houston	\$4.28
Columbia	\$3.88
Omaha	\$4.61

Proposed Jet A Fuel

Base Price + \$1.00 = Local / Base Price + \$1.25 = Transit
tax included



Proposed 100LL Fuel

Base Price + \$1.00 = Local / Base Price + \$1.25 = Transit
tax included

