

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

April 2, 2001

Site Inspection

CONVENE: 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember G. Riki Hokama, Chair
Councilmember Alan M. Arakawa, Member
Councilmember Robert Carroll, Member
Councilmember Jo Anne Johnson, Member
Councilmember Dain P. Kane, Member
Councilmember Patrick S. Kawano, Member
Councilmember Michael J. Molina, Member
Councilmember Charmaine Tavares, Member

EXCUSED: Councilmember Wayne K. Nishiki, Member

STAFF: Ken Fukuoka, Director
Richelle Kawasaki, Legislative Attorney
Pauline Martins, Committee Secretary

ADMIN.: David Goode, Director, Department of Public Works and Waste
Management
Lieutenant Darrell Johnson, Lana`i District Commander, Department of
Police
Officer Michael Rodriguez, Lana`i School Resource Officer, Department of
Police
Floyd Miyazono, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation
Marjorie Sabin, Recreational Technician, Department of Parks and
Recreation

OTHERS: **Item 9:** Ron McOmber
Vince Bagoyo, Jr., Vice President, Lanai Company
Sol Kaho`ohalahala

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BF-9 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002 FOR THE
COUNTY OF MAUI

The Committee assembled at the existing Lanai Landfill site, located on Kaunalapau Highway at 4:00 p.m..

Chair Hokama provided a brief introduction, noting that the wind was not severe at the time of the site inspection.

David Goode, Director of Public Works and Waste Management, indicated that windblown litter, the small number of employees, and lack of cover material are the main challenges of the Lanai Landfill. He indicated that the Department currently has an arrangement with Lanai Waste Systems to work off their bill with the County by providing cover material to the Lanai Landfill. However, he noted that Lanai Waste Systems has not been reliable about delivering the cover material.

Mr. Goode informed the Committee that the site is currently owned by Lanai Company. He noted that the County is negotiating with the Lanai Company for the transfer of title to the existing site as well as the proposed Lanai Landfill site across the street to satisfy fees the Lanai Company owes the County.

Chair Hokama noted that there is no water or electricity available on the existing Lanai Landfill site. He indicated that the plan is to relocate the site across the street. The direction of the prevailing wind should decrease the amount of windblown litter across the Highway. He also indicated that electrical power would be available at the proposed site.

Councilmember Kane inquired as to the projected time frame for the relocation of the Lanai Landfill.

Chair Hokama indicated that he hopes to see it happen within the next two years.

Councilmember Kawano inquired about the costs associated with closing the existing Lanai Landfill.

Mr. Goode indicated it costs between \$300,000 and \$600,000 per acre to close a landfill and the existing Lanai Landfill site is approximately 15 to 20 acres in size.

Councilmember Kawano asked how much it costs to open a new landfill.

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Mr. Goode indicated it could cost up to \$500,000 per acre due to the lining of the site, water collection, and gas vents. He noted that the Lanai Landfill qualifies for "small community landfill" exceptions to these requirements due to the fact that it accepts less than 10 tons of waste per day.

Councilmember Kane inquired as to the possibility of covering the equipment located at the existing Lanai Landfill.

Councilmember Kawano asked why the equipment cannot be parked at the County baseyard located in Lanai City.

Mr. Goode indicated that there is a problem with space availability at the County baseyard.

Chair Hokama indicated that there is an open building where equipment is parked. He suggested enclosing the building to keep the equipment secured at night.

Ron McOmber stated that during the previous administration, pipes were inserted around the existing Lanai Landfill to test for gas emissions in anticipation of the closing of the site. He noted that neither the existing nor the proposed sites are located above any aquifers, so there should be little risk of contamination to the water table.

Councilmember Kawano inquired as to the problem of windblown litter blowing into the ocean from the proposed site.

Chair Hokama indicated the ocean is approximately three miles from the proposed site.

Councilmember Kawano inquired as to the life expectancy of the existing Lanai Landfill.

Mr. Goode felt that the existing site could be used for another three to seven years.

Mr. McOmber expressed concern over Lanai Company's unfulfilled promise to take their wastes to their own landfill.

Councilmember Kane inquired as to whether the private landfill was located above any aquifers.

Chair Hokama indicated that the private landfill is not located above an aquifer.

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Mr. McOmber said that all the water located in the area was non-potable, brackish, hot and salty.

Chair Hokama recessed the inspection at 4:10 p.m. so that the Committee could reassemble at the proposed Lanai Police Station site.

Chair Hokama reconvened the inspection at 4:30 p.m. at the proposed Lanai Police Station site, located between Sacred Hearts Church (815 Fraser Avenue) and the Department of Land and Natural Resources lot (911 Fraser Avenue), across the street from Lanai Auto Parts.

Chair Hokama provided a brief introduction indicating that this is one of many proposed sites for a new Lanai Police Station in the last 20 years.

Lieutenant Darrell Johnson, indicated that the Department of Police is anxious to get the project started. He noted that the current police facilities are shared with the Judiciary and are extremely cramped. He noted that the holding facility that they have is an old icehouse that was converted into a cell. They are only allowed to house prisoners there for two hours at a time. If they have someone in custody for longer than that, they have to handcuff the person to a bar, located in the station, and an officer must stay with them at all times until the next available flight or boat to Maui departs Lanai.

Councilmember Arakawa inquired as to the proposed location of the Police Station.

Chair Hokama indicated he was not sure about the project dimensions; however, the area currently being used by the Church for parking would probably remain open and the Police Station would be constructed beyond the parking area.

Mr. McOmber said that the proposed Police Station is really needed. He said the location was selected because of its close proximity to the community. He noted that there is a significant drug problem on the island and that the police need a good working environment.

Chair Hokama noted that the design is completed and what is being requested by the Administration are funds for construction costs.

Councilmember Kawano asked about living quarters.

Chair Hokama pointed across the street to the cottage where the Police Lieutenant is housed.

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Councilmember Kawano asked if the existing trees would be knocked down.

Chair Hokama indicated that the trees would remain undisturbed.

Lt. Johnson indicated that there are two police cottages located on the other side of town.

Councilmember Kawano inquired as to the permanency of the police personnel on the island.

Lt. Johnson indicated that they are finding people to stay longer.

Chair Hokama recessed the inspection at 4:40 p.m. so that the Committee could reassemble at the proposed Lanai Community Center site.

Chair Hokama reconvened the inspection at 4:50 p.m. at the proposed Lanai Community Center site, located at the corner of Kaunalapau Highway and Manele Road.

Chair Hokama provided a brief introduction.

Floyd Miyazono, Director of Parks and Recreation, indicated that the plan is to construct a 7,000 to 8,000 square foot center that would include a certified kitchen facility and a dormitory to house off-island school teams and clubs. He noted that the Department is seeking a warranty deed from Lanai Company for the property; however, it will be one or two months before that process is completed. He indicated that he believed the subdivision of the property had been completed.

Councilmember Kawano asked whether the deed would be recorded prior to the end of the budget session.

Mr. Miyazono indicated that this did not appear possible; however, a proviso could be inserted to require recordation of the deed prior to the expenditure of funds for the project.

Councilmember Kawano asked why the process had taken so long.

Mr. Miyazono indicated he had tried to push forward with the request.

Councilmember Arakawa asked why the proposed site was selected and why it was relocated.

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Mr. Miyazono was not aware of how the site was chosen and whether or not it was relocated.

Councilmember Arakawa expressed concern over the selection of the site and wanted to know how it could be relocated after the community plan was adopted. He asked whether the community was allowed to provide input on this new proposed site.

Mr. Miyazono, again, indicated he was not aware of the selection process for the site.

Councilmember Arakawa asked whether it was part of a park assessment settlement and why the site was not in the center of town. He indicated that he was curious to see "who pulled what strings" to relocate the site.

Councilmember Molina asked about the size of the center.

Mr. Miyazono said that it is not settled yet and the project still needs to go out to bid. However, it is intended that a 7,000 to 8,000 square foot center be constructed.

Mr. McOmber said he had recently met with the Mayor and felt that it was not proper to construct the facility without community input.

Councilmember Arakawa repeated his concerns about relocating the site after the community plan was adopted, preventing community input on this new proposed site.

There being no further questions or discussion, Chair Hokama adjourned the inspection at 5:03 p.m.

APPROVED:



G. RIKI HOKAMA, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee

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