

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY COUNCIL
BOCA RATON, FLORIDA
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2002
1:00 PM

The regular workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of Boca Raton, Florida was called to order by Mayor Abrams at 1:01 p.m.

ATTENDING THE MEETING WERE:

Mayor Steven Abrams
Deputy Mayor Susan Haynie
Council Member Freudenberg
Council Member Bill Hager
Council Member Carol Hanson

Also attending the meeting were:

City Manager Leif J. Ahnell
City Attorney Diana Grub Frieser
City Clerk Sharma Carannante

1. BOARD INTERVIEWS:

- a. Boca Raton Housing Authority – two (2) vacancies, due to term expiration. Terms expire 11/14/02.

Marian Pearlman Nease expressed interest in retaining her position.

- b. Civil Service Board – one (1) vacancy due to term expiration. Term expires 11/01/02.

No one came forward to interview.

2. PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Clint Oster spoke in support of a bicycle suitability map for the City and in opposition to building larger roads to accommodate more traffic. He encouraged the use of alternative means of transportation and also voiced support for locker room facilities for new projects.

John Stetz stated his opposition, on the basis that it would contribute to traffic gridlock, to the possibility that Tri-Rail may, in the future, utilize the Florida East Coast (FEC) tracks. He suggested the idea should not be given further consideration until the FEC tracks are moved above ground level. Mr. Stetz then provided information on breakwaters as a way to retard beach erosion, adding that they are beach-friendly and safe for swimmers.

3. REVIEW OF REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. Questions relating to the agenda.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.a.2. – Emergency Medical Care Vehicle) Council Member Freudenberg questioned whether any differences exist between the vehicles to be purchased and the vehicles being replaced. Fire Chief Bruce Silk responded that the two replacement vehicles would be upgrades and provided details relating to the improvements. Chief Silk then confirmed that the new vehicles would have no problem fitting into the City's fire stations.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.i. – Resolution No. 184-2002 / Grant from the Junior League of Boca Raton Community Support Fund for an Elder Crime Education Program) Council Member Freudenberg asked

for clarification of this item. Mr. Ahnell explained the Junior League has funding available to support elder education programs. The City's police department was the first in the County to start an elder education program; the Junior League has expressed interest in supporting this endeavor, thereby forming a partnership between the League and the City.

(Consent Agenda Item No. 3.e. – Resolution No. 179-2002 / Joint Project Agreement with Palm Beach County relating to intersection improvements at Military Trail and Potomac Road) Deputy Mayor Haynie mentioned that Military Trail is a County road and questioned whether an equitable split in cost between the City and the County had been obtained regarding these improvements. Mr. Ahnell stated that the split was equitable.

(Consent Agenda Items 3.f.g.&i. – Resolution Nos. 180-2002, 181-2002, & 182-2002 / Easement Deeds from Carriage Homes at Woodfield Hunt Club Homeowners Association, Inc., Country Club Maintenance Association, Inc., and Woodfield Hunt Club Homeowners Association, Inc. relating to traffic signals) Deputy Mayor Haynie requested the schedule for installing the signals. Mr. Ahnell explained that work on the signal for the Woodfield and Jog Road intersection was expected to begin next week. The remaining signals should be operable, at least in flash mode, within 45 days.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.j. – Resolution No. 185-2002 / Agreement with Kise, Straw & Kolodner, Inc. for consulting services related to historic preservation activities) Council Member Hager requested the qualifications of this law firm. Mr. Ahnell explained that this firm was selected through a screening process and found to be the one with the highest qualifications and the most experience.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.a.1. – Bus Transportation Services) Council Member Hanson referenced the transportation for summer camp and “unit” pricing and questioned whether the cost would remain the same as originally approved. Mr. Ahnell explained that “unit” pricing referred to the cost per child for transport. While that cost could fluctuate, based on the number of children attending camp or summer school programs, the price per child for transport remains the same.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.b.1. – Emergency Manhole Replacement) Council Member Hanson questioned why manholes are created approximately 15 feet deep if the City does not have the resources to repair them. She also asked whether any manholes were deeper than 15 feet and whether cameras are used for maintenance/repair purposes. Utility Services Director Mike Woika explained that in order to use gravity for drainage, a certain amount of pitch or fall is necessary to move the drainage from the house to the lift stations, which is why a depth of 15 feet is recommended. If the manholes were at a depth of five or six feet, a multitude of lift stations would be required; one on almost every block. He then explained that lift stations range from 12 to 16 feet in depth. Because of that depth, which is usually below sea level, an outside contractor, experienced in sheeting and shoring, etc., is used since the City is not equipped for that type of construction. Mr. Woika explained that cameras are used for preventative maintenance and provided additional information as requested.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.d. – Resolution No. 178-2002 / Contract with New Century Acquisitions, Inc. relating to improvements to Blue Water Townhouses Plat) Council Member Hanson questioned whether or not the contract should be notarized. Mr. Ahnell is to follow up.

- b. Ordinance Nos. 4656 and 4657 (*Regular Agenda Item Nos. 4 & 5*), which relate to property located at 5580-5798 North Federal Highway, amending the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan and rezoning the approximate 12.08 acre site.

Development Services Senior Planner Jennifer Simon gave the PowerPoint presentation. She explained that the petitioner was requesting a universal conditional approval, which included an amendment to the Future Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan, a rezoning from Commercial (C) to Residential Medium (RM), site plan approval, and a technical deviation to build a 104-unit, three-story townhouse development, referred to as Windsor Court at Boca Raton. The location was outlined and more detailed zoning information was provided. The project was reviewed by the Planning and Zoning Board on January 3, 2002, and approval was recommended. The Parks and Recreation Board reviewed the project for land dedication on April 2, 2002. The Board recommended that the petitioner dedicate one

acre of land for public use; staff recommended a fee in lieu of land dedication in the amount of \$109,200. The applicant filed a notice to appeal the land dedication requirement.

On June 25, 2002, the first of two required public hearings was held regarding this project. At that meeting, Council voted on two issues, 1) the appeal of the decision by the Parks and Recreation Board, and 2) whether to transmit the amendment to the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Council granted the appeal for a fee in lieu of land dedication and approved the transmittal to DCA. The DCA completed its review in September and had no objections to the proposed Future Land Use Map amendment. In conclusion, staff recommended approval of the petition. Ms. Simon then answered questions from Council.

- c. Ordinance No. 4677 (*Regular Agenda Item No. 8*), which relates to Transportation Demand Management (TDM) in Downtown Boca Raton.

City Transportation Analyst John Reilly gave the presentation. He provided a brief history of events leading up to the creation of this new ordinance. Mr. Reilly stated that the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Committee, a core group from the business community, and City staff met several times to develop the draft ordinance and ensure that it met with the minimum requirements of the Downtown DDRI. During that time, it was also determined that a Citywide ordinance relating to TDM was advisable. Consequently, should this ordinance be adopted, staff would work with the appropriate parties to that end. Mr. Reilly then mentioned that the Downtown Visions Committee and the Planning and Zoning Board had reviewed the ordinance; both bodies unanimously recommended approval.

Mr. Reilly reviewed the provisions of the new ordinance, stating first that it addresses only the downtown area. In addition, the City would take an active role in providing the infrastructure for TDM, no payments in lieu of participation would be allowed, and phased implementation would be provided. Mr. Reilly gave details relating to how Traffic Demand Management would be accomplished. He then concluded his presentation. Council requested a menu of options, which would be available to businesses, and a suggested timeframe for implementation. Mr. Reilly then provided additional information to Council as requested. Discussion ensued regarding various facets of the program; Mayor Abrams suggested a revision to the ordinance that would add specific language relating to the dissemination of information by the City, and provide for quarterly meetings with designated TDM Program Coordinators to facilitate coordination between TDM initiatives.

4. FUTURE AGENDA MATTERS/ITEMS OF COUNCIL/PUBLIC CONCERN:

There were no items for consideration.

5. CITY MANAGER REPORTS:

Mr. Ahnell mentioned that grand opening ceremony for the pocket parks, scheduled for October 23, 2002, would be postponed until November, due to scheduling conflicts; a definite date will be forthcoming.

6. CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS:

The City Attorney had nothing to report at this time.

7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER REQUESTS AND REPORTS:

Council Member Hager reported on his recent visit to New York City and his attendance at the Madison Square Garden Memorial event, honoring firefighters. He noted that Boca Raton's firefighters did not have dress uniforms and asked the City Manager to research the cost of same and report back to the Council.

Council Member Hanson commented on a pocket park, located on NW 11th Avenue near Boca Raton Community Hospital, stating that some constituents had spoken with her regarding a problem with odor emanating from a nearby lift station. The City Manager was asked to address the issue.

Council Member Hanson confirmed with the City Manager that a development plan for renovation of the 5th Avenue Shops had not been submitted to the City. Attention then focused on 5th Avenue and the eight traffic proposals brought forward at a previous meeting to alleviate congestion on 20th Street and Federal Highway in that area; Mr. Ahnell provided details.

Council Member Hanson questioned whether staff had yet responded to the letter received by the City in regard to Mizner Grand. Mr. Ahnell stated that staff is working on it; he is to follow up.

Council Member Hanson asked for an explanation of the difference between a temporary Certificate of Occupancy and a permanent Certificate of Occupancy and under what circumstances they are issued. Mr. Ahnell is to provide that information.

Deputy Mayor Haynie stated that the North Federal Highway focus group, which she has been chairing, would be meeting in the Council Chamber on Wednesday, October 23, 2002, at 5:30 p.m. Discussion would continue relating to code enforcement issues in that area; other options, which area residents have asked the group to explore, would also be discussed. Ms. Haynie stated that anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Council Member Freudenberg reported that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) passed a resolution last week to seek a study to eliminate tolls on the turnpike. This action was taken in an effort to bring more traffic to the turnpike and relieve congestion on other roadways.

Council Member Hanson commented on the length of the absentee ballot and the fact that it is now printed in Spanish as well as English.

The regular workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of Boca Raton, Florida, adjourned at approximately 2:12 p.m. on Monday, October 21, 2002.

Vanessa Hines, Assistant City Clerk