

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WORKSHOP MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL  
BOCA RATON, FLORIDA  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2003  
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 1:00 p.m.

ATTENDING THE MEETING WERE:

Mayor Steven Abrams  
Deputy Mayor Susan Haynie  
Council Member Dave 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:**

There were no positions available.

**2. PUBLIC REQUESTS:**

No one wished to address the Council.

**3. REVIEW OF REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:**

a. Questions relating to the agenda.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.a.2. – Mizner Park Property Maintenance {Renewal}) Deputy Mayor Haynie questioned whether this item included the amphitheatre landscaping and the new fountain. Mr. Ahnell stated that the amphitheatre was not included, which is why the cost was less. Ms. Haynie confirmed with the City Manager that the Centre for the Arts would take over responsibility for maintaining the amphitheatre.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.c. – Resolution No. 31-2003 / Grant application from Palm Beach County for the development and construction of a public boat dock at Spanish River Park) Deputy Mayor Haynie requested the status of the police dock and whether the dock would come forward concurrently with the public dock. She then noted that this grant was for \$100,000 and asked where funding for the remaining \$300,000 would come from. Mr. Ahnell clarified that two docks would ultimately be constructed. The police dock, which is not included in this application, is estimated to cost \$200,000; \$100,000 will come from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LETF) and the balance would be funded by a grant from the Florida Inland Navigational District. The City's public dock costs approximately \$400,000; the grant in question today, and another separate grant, would provide \$200,000, and the City would fund the remaining \$200,000. Mr. Ahnell confirmed that the City would attempt to complete the docks concurrently.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.d. – Resolution No. 32-2003 / Grant application from the Office of the Florida Attorney General, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Program) Council Member Hager questioned whether any similar programs were currently in place. Mr. Ahnell responded affirmatively, advising that the City now has one elder crime specialist and two victim advocates. Additional details were provided related to staff, popularity of the program, and funding.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.a.2. – Mizner Park Property Maintenance {Renewal}) Council Member Hanson asked whether maintenance included upkeep of the parking garages and sidewalks. The City Manager is to follow up.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.c. - Resolution No. 31-2003 / Grant application from Palm Beach County for the development and construction of a public boat dock at Spanish River Park) Council Member Hanson questioned whether permitting would be required from the Department of Environmental Protection and Environmental Resources Management, a County agency. Mr. Ahnell stated that permitting is required and assured Council that the City would obtain all necessary permits from the appropriate agencies.

- b. Ordinance No. 4686 (*Regular Agenda Item 5, second of two required public hearings*), which would amend the Code of Ordinances, to provide that in all zoning districts certain parks and park facilities and City water, sewer, reclaimed water, and stormwater facilities and appurtenances shall be permitted uses, to provide that in all nonresidential zoning districts any buildings, facilities and uses owned, operated, utilized or conducted by the City (inclusive of police and fire stations) shall be a permitted use, and to provide that in all residential zoning districts City police and fire stations (and related facilities) shall be a conditional use.

Planning and Zoning Director Carmen Annunziato gave the PowerPoint presentation. He explained that City parks, Beach & Parks District parks, and City utilities would be permitted in all zoning districts. At the first public hearing, it was noted that some County parks are located at the Inlet within the City. Consequently, an amendment was drafted to address that issue and a revised ordinance would be distributed at tomorrow night's meeting. He went on to say that uses permitted in all nonresidential zoning districts would include all municipal buildings and facilities. This would address the issues associated with municipal uses within LIRP zoning; an example of same is the Sony building recently purchased by the City. Lastly, City police and fire stations would be permitted as conditional uses in all residential zoning districts. Mr. Annunziato explained that this provision would allow for establishment of a procedure that the City can follow when rebuilding and upgrading the fire stations in connection to the bond issue. The Planning and Zoning Board reviewed the ordinance and unanimously recommended approval, subject to an amendment relating to fire stations as conditional uses; the amendment was incorporated into the ordinance. Mr. Annunziato concluded his presentation and answered questions from Council.

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

- a. Procedure for Disconnecting Water Service

Financial Services Revenue Manager Janice Vassell gave a PowerPoint presentation, explaining the procedure engaged in by the City before a resident's water service is cut off. She began by explaining how many active accounts, both inside and outside the City limits, are serviced by the Water Department and then reviewed a normal billing cycle. Ms. Vassell outlined the procedures the City takes before disconnecting water service, which include mailing of a late notice, notification by placement of door hangers and courtesy phone calls. She then presented an analysis of the number of notices provided to delinquent customers for the months of November, December, and January. She also reviewed and compared procedures followed by other municipalities and Palm Beach County. Based on the comparison, it was noted that the City of Boca Raton provided more opportunities for residents to forestall "cut off" than any other entities. Ms. Vassell concluded her report and answered questions from Council.

**5. CITY MANAGER REPORTS:**

The City Manager had nothing to report at this time.

**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 asked that the City Manager include dress uniforms for Fire-Rescue personnel in next year's budget. Mr. Ahnell stated that this item would be discussed during the upcoming budget sessions and could be included in the preliminary budget numbers expected in July or August of this year.

Council Member Hager suggested a one-page synopsis of road construction taking place in the City, which could be easily read and understood by residents. Mr. Ahnell advised that there is detailed information available on the City's website and Channel 20, but he would have staff investigate additional ways of providing the information.

Council Member Hanson questioned when Florida Power & Light (FPL) and Asplundt were to appear before Council to answer questions related to tree trimming. Mr. Ahnell explained that they are scheduled to appear at the next workshop meeting.

Council Member Hanson commented on high windstorm insurance premiums in the State of Florida and mentioned a news article she had read regarding windstorm insurance. She noted that in South Carolina, after Hurricane Hugo struck, the premiums went down and have continued to do so. Ms. Hanson stated she was told that South Carolina does not allow density on its barrier islands and, consequently, that is why premiums have gone down.

Council Member Hanson asked whether the City had conducted a poll related to annexation. Mr. Ahnell replied no.

Deputy Mayor Haynie stated some residents had expressed concern that landscaping in some of the medians along SW 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue was obstructing vision. She asked the City Manager to follow up.

Deputy Mayor Haynie asked whether sewer problems along Royal Palm Road had been rectified. Mr. Ahnell explained that the problems, which amounted to a blockage within the old system, were resolved.

Council Member Hanson stated that people leaving the Boca Raton Resort & Club had mentioned an odor in the area. Mr. Ahnell stated that a large lift station is near the Resort's parking garage; the City has been working with the resort to resolve the issue.

The regular workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of Boca Raton, Florida, adjourned at approximately 1:50 p.m. on Monday, February 10, 2003.

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Vanessa Hines, Assistant City Clerk