

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WORKSHOP MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL  
BOCA RATON, FLORIDA  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2006  
1:30 PM

The Workshop Meeting of the City Council of the City of Boca Raton, Florida was called to order by Mayor Steven Abrams at 1:30 p.m.

ATTENDING THE MEETING WERE:

Mayor Steven L. Abrams  
Deputy Mayor Susan Whelchel (arrived at 2:10 p.m.)  
Council Member Bill Hager  
Council Member Susan Haynie  
Council Member Peter R. Baronoff

Also attending the meeting were:

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

**PROCLAMATION:** Love Your Library Month – February 2005

The proclamation was accepted by Library Services Manager Cathy O'Connell, who introduced staff member Shilo Perlman. Ms. O'Connell credited Ms. Perlman with coordinating Love Your Library Month activities.

**1. BOARD INTERVIEWS:**

a. Elder Affairs Advisory Board – seven vacancies

Joni Marin, Wilma L. Greenfield, Joseph E. Kafer, Sarah A. Bialy, and Margaret Guy interviewed for positions on the Board.

**2. PUBLIC REQUESTS:**

John Stetz referred to the proposed sewer installation for Spanish Village, advising that residents could not afford same and asked Council for financial assistance, if not a reversion to the original price quoted years ago. He then advocated Boca Raton as the site for the Scripps Research Institute. He reiterated previous comments regarding the scarcity of workforce housing and opined, should the sewer assessment be imposed, his neighborhood would cease to be one of the few affordable housing areas.

Anita Hare Goldfeld advised that she has coordinated Palm Beach County's Senior Immunization Project for the past three years. She urged the City to join this project that vaccinates low-income seniors against the flu, tetanus, and pneumonia.

Bill Fenner referred to the dredging of Boca Inlet and asked for an update. He also mentioned that signage was needed for incoming boat traffic at the Inlet. Mr. Ahnell stated staff had expected that the project would be completed by now; in fact, dredging was to have started tomorrow. He advised that regulations related to sand quality and consistency for the beach renourishment projects have changed in the last 60 days; the sand that was to be used is now not consistent with what is presently required by the State and a backlog has ensued as contractors are stuck on current jobs, trying to comply with the new regulations, and falling behind.

Municipal Services Director Bob DiChristopher explained that the contractor should be pumping sand by the end of the week; a notice to proceed at South Beach had been received. However, the contractor is finishing a job in Palm Beach; it depends on how quickly he can complete same. Mr. Ahnell added that having a permit does not mean that work can be started; responding to Council Member Hager, he then provided additional information as to how many agencies the City must comply with in order to begin and continue the dredging.

James Ingalls explained that he was having long-term problems with businesses located on NW 1 Avenue, across from his home; these problems included noise, speeding, and littering. He provided the City Clerk with a list of his grievances; staff is to contact him at a later date.

Jan Yates, Andrea Camunez, and Claudia Schorrig, addressed the sewer installation at Spanish Village and University Heights. They were opposed to the installation and generally expressed the same viewpoints, opining that 1) it was not necessary; 2) it was too expensive; and 3) it would change the character of the neighborhood after completion. They also opined that the City should assist with the costs of the installation, which had increased in price dramatically since the City originally proposed this project years ago. Bill Trinkka, who owns property in the area, which was converted to sewers several years ago, supported the installation but also felt the cost would be a burden for the homeowners.

Responding to comments regarding delays that have kept this project from coming to fruition, Mayor Abrams explained that when this sewer installation project was previously considered, there were objections from affected residents and it was, therefore, suspended. He added that perhaps this would again be the outcome, after all factors are reviewed and considered, when the assessment comes before Council for approval.

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

#### **a. Questions relating to the agenda.**

(Consent Agenda Item 3.d.2. / Lamp Fixtures) Council Member Haynie referred to replacement of 200 lamp fixtures in the downtown and asked how many fixtures, in total, there are and whether now would be a good time to phase in something more cost effective. Mr. Ahnell advised that he would follow up on the total number of fixtures; he stated that they are very expensive and the City would be seeking a 75% reimbursement since the fixtures were damaged in the hurricane. Deputy Mayor Whelchel referred to lights that are currently out in the Mizner Park area and asked that they be replaced as soon as possible.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.a.1. / 80 KW Standby Generator) Council Member Hager questioned how this generator would be used. The City Manager explained that it would power Fire Station No. 6, located at the corner of Clint Moore Road and Military Trail, and replaces a 15-yr-old generator.

(Consent Agenda Items 3.e, 3.j., and 3.k. – Resolution Nos. 18-2006, 23-2006, and 24-2006, regarding grant applications for the G.R.E.A.T program, the Citizens Corp Program, and the CERT Program, respectively) Council Member Hager asked for assurance that the City is seeking out appropriate grants and making articulate application for same. Mr. Ahnell explained that the City has retained a fulltime consultant, and employs a fulltime employee, to work on grants.

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

There were no items for consideration.

### **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:**

Deputy Mayor Whelchel asked for an update on the tree trimming issue, which was brought forward at an earlier meeting. She also questioned whether the Beautification Committee had been contacted in regard to same. Mr. Ahnell advised that staff would hold public meetings regarding the tree trimming issue; they had met with various homeowner associations and planned to meet with the Beautification Committee.

Council Member Hager questioned whether the City had a way to monitor necessary repairs, due to hurricane damage, to areas adjacent to City property. Mr. Ahnell advised that this was handled on a case-by-case basis.

Council Member Baronoff questioned whether the Boca Raton Resort & Club is platted as a single-use entity, i.e. for hotel use only. Development Services Director Jorge Camejo explained that the resort is a Planned Unit Development (PUD) and includes some single family or residential, as well as hotel. He added that he believes the master plan provides a formula for conversion of hotel to residential and vice-versa. Mr. Baronoff asked that additional information be provided to Council.

Council Member Haynie stated that she was glad to hear that dredging of the Boca Raton Inlet would commence tomorrow.

The regular workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of Boca Raton, Florida, adjourned at approximately 2:33 p.m. on Monday, February 13, 2006.

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Vanessa Hines, Assistant City Clerk