

CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORKSHOP MEETING
January 21, 2003
7:00 p.m.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Atkinson

B. ROLL CALL:

Mayor Leon G. Atkinson	Present
Commissioner Stephanie Lavino	Absent
Commissioner Irving S. Ellsworth Vice-Mayor	Present
Commissioner Mary Maloof	Present
Commissioner Barbara Blush	Present

C. MINUTES:

Motion was made by Commissioner Ellsworth and seconded by Commissioner Maloof to approve the minutes from the meeting of January 7th as written. Upon roll call, the vote was unanimous.

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. George Makrauer, 740 126th Avenue, thanked the Commission for removing the changes to the Rules of Procedure from the agenda. He asked that the Commission now rescind the LDR Ordinance. Mr. Makrauer stated that the Sunshine Law applies to any board or commission.

Ms. Ruthie Starkey, 12404 Lagoon Lane, thanked Commissioners' Blush and Maloof for supporting the parking variance request by the American Legion Post #158.

Mr. Michael Daughtry, 130 95th Avenue, spoke regarding the initiative to recall Barbara Blush. He said that it relates to her actions only and that it is not personal. Mr. Daughtry announced that there is a benefit at Nick's Seabreeze on January 30th at 5:30 pm to raise money for medical treatment for David Wright "Hollywood Dave". Mr. Daughtry thanked Bill Edwards for donating gifts for the raffle. He also said that anyone wishing to make a donation should contact him.

E. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Variance – Parking for American Legion Post #158 – Public Hearing Continuation –

The motion on the floor from the previous meeting was made by Commissioner Blush and seconded by Commissioner Maloof in support of granting the parking

01/21/03

variance.

Mayor Atkinson and Commissioners' Ellsworth and Blush stated that they received phone calls regarding this matter prior to this meeting but they directed the callers to present their comments at the public hearing.

Ms. Starkey urged the Commission to do what they could to keep the American Legion in Treasure Island since their organization would lose its charter if they were forced go to another city.

Mr. A.J. Audet, 501 Plaza Seville Court, stated that the Planning and Zoning Board unanimously passed the Special Exception use. He further stated that the Legion has supplied the Commission with letters from neighboring property owners that would allow the Legion the use of a total of 36 parking spaces.

Ms. Sheila Appling, 12140 Capri Circle South, expressed her support for granting the parking variance to the Legion

Ms. Susan Givens, 1 Key Capri, unit 210 E, stated that she is the Treasurer for the Women's Auxiliary. She said that the Legion needs a post home here in Treasure Island.

Mr. Leo Young, 117 108th Avenue, expressed his support for granting the parking variance to the Legion.

Mr. Bob Ellison, 10365 Paradise Boulevard, stated that he is a Canadian veteran and that his wife is a member of the Post #158 and that he is in favor of the parking variance for the Legion.

Mr. Bob Dowling stated that he is opposed to the Legion being granted the parking variance due to the negative impact it would have on abutting property owners. He asked that the Commission deny the request for a parking variance because it would set a precedence for other property owners requesting parking variances.

Mr. Daughtry urged the Commission and the City Manager to find ways to overcome the problems with parking in order to grant the variance.

Mayor Atkinson asked what would happen if the offers from abutting property owners were rescinded.

Mayor Atkinson asked how the Planning and Zoning's decision regarding the Special Exception was worded.

01/21/03

Attorney Jim Denhardt stated that the Planning and Zoning Board's approval of the Special Exception Use was contingent on the Legion working out parking issues with the Commission.

Commissioner Maloof asked if the Legion could be provided with a list of parking spaces they should not use and request that they do not park in these spaces.

Commissioner Blush asked whether the placement of dumpsters and propane tanks was approved by the Planning and Zoning Board.

Mr. Chuck Coward, the City Manager, stated that due to the zero lot line the dumpsters and propane tanks would be located in the alley.

Commissioner Blush asked if there are dumpsters in the alley for other properties in that location.

The City Manager said that there are dumpsters in the alley and that it is a grandfathered situation.

Commissioner Blush stated that she did not feel that granting the parking variance would set a precedence because the requests are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Commissioner Ellsworth stated that the signed petitions grant the use of neighboring parking spaces after 5:00 pm. He asked if the Legion is going to limit their activities until after 5:00 pm.

Ms. Lynn Rosetti, the City Planner, indicated that with shared parking the parking provider usually allows use of parking spaces during off-times.

Commissioner Ellsworth stated that although the Commission is charged with mandating ordinances, he does have empathy for the Legion's situation. He suggested that the Legion put up parking signs (at their own expense) explaining that the neighboring parking spaces can be used only after 5:00 pm on weekdays.

The Post Commander stated that the Legion would be agreeable to put up parking signs as specified by Commissioner Ellsworth at the expense of the Legion.

Commissioner Blush asked if the Dowling family would be agreeable to the Legion posting parking signs for neighboring properties that do allow after hours parking for the Legion's use.

Mr. Dowling stated that he felt the parking signs would not resolve the parking

01/21/03

issues that would be created by the Legion if the variance is granted. He said that he would tow unauthorized cars that are using the parking spaces he and his family own.

Commissioner Ellsworth asked if the Legion would consider limiting their hours of operation until after 5:00 pm.

Mr. Audet said that it would be very difficult to limit their hours of operation and he further stated that he doubted any other legion operates under such restrictions.

Mr. Doug Gurge, the Finance Officer for the Legion, stated that the percent of business conducted before 5:00 pm is miniscule.

A motion was made by Commissioner Blush to amend the main motion to restrict the parking variance to the American Legion Post #158 and require the posting of parking signs on abutting neighbors' property at the expense on the Legion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maloof. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Commissioner Ellsworth	Nay
Commissioner Blush	Aye
Commissioner Maloof	Aye
Mayor Atkinson	Aye

A motion was made by Commissioner Blush to amend the amended motion to require the posting of parking signs on abutting neighbors' property "only at the request of abutting neighbors" and at the expense on the Legion. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Commissioner Ellsworth	Nay
Commissioner Blush	Aye
Commissioner Maloof	Aye
Mayor Atkinson	Aye

Upon roll call, the vote for the original motion as amended to approve the parking variance made by Commissioner Blush and seconded by Commissioner Maloof was as follows:

Commissioner Ellsworth	Nay
Commissioner Blush	Aye
Commissioner Maloof	Aye
Mayor Atkinson	Aye

01/21/03

2. Ordinance 03-01- Election Runoff Date – 2nd Reading & Public Hearing –

After hearing the reading of Ordinance 03-01 - Election Runoff Date, the Commission noted that the 2nd reading and public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28th.

3. Ordinance 03-02 – LDR- dock Regulations – 1st Reading & Public Hearing -

After hearing the reading of Ordinance 03-02 – LDR – Dock Regulations, the Commission noted that the 1st reading and public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28th.

F. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. PICA Donation of Memorial Landscaping –

The Commission noted a letter from Ruth Bartlett of the Paradise Island Civic Association regarding a Celebration/Dedication Ceremony planned for February 15th.

Ruth Bartlett stated that she would like to donate 5 one-gallon Birds of Paradise plants for the Paradise Island Civic Association's Celebration/Dedication Ceremony in memory of Darci Crist.

The City Manager stated that it is within his authority to approve a parade for the ceremony.

2. Presentation of Proceeds from Rotary Tennis Challenge –

Mr. Richard Valmain, President-Elect of the Gulf Beaches Rotary, presented Mayor Atkinson with the City's share of the proceeds from the Rotary Tennis Challenge in the amount of \$2,263. Mayor Atkinson thanked the Rotary for their generous donation.

Mr. Phil Girardi, Director of Treasure Bay Golf and Recreation Center, thanked the Gulf Beaches Rotary and stated that the proceeds will be split between the Recreation Department and Treasure Bay Golf and Recreation center to fund tennis camps and provide tennis scholarships to children.

01/21/03

3. Contract Award for Causeway Fixed Bridges –

Mr. Don Hambidge, Director of Public Works, stated that negotiations with Johnson Brothers, Inc. are ongoing. The final figures have not yet been determined. The City Manager stated that the goal of these negotiations is to get the agreement as close to the \$7.5 million mark as is possible.

Mr. Carl Ystrom stated that he is concerned about how the park by the Community Center will be affected by this project. He suggested that the contractors park and keep equipment behind the Allied Building away from the residents on 104th Avenue.

The City Manager stated that the City plans to allow the contractors to use a fenced off portion of the park by the Community Center but nothing outside that area. He further stated that the City is open to residents' suggestions on how to ease any discomfort during the construction project.

Charles Schreffler commented that he was surprised that the park was torn up so much during the reclaimed water project. He asked why the park is being used for construction purposes rather than the street behind Allied.

Sid Appel thanked Commissioner Blush and the City Manager for dealing with the issues regarding the reclaimed water project. He stated that residents dealt with hot tar and dirt left in driveways as well as staging equipment and vehicles beeping when backing up early in the morning. He proposed making an entrance for construction vehicles on the west side of the park to alleviate some of the issues.

The City Manager stated that he appreciated the comments and that he and the Public Works Director would meet with the residents to work out residents concerns and problems with Park Place.

4. NPDES Interlocal Agreement with Pinellas County –

The NPDES Interlocal Agreement and the accompanying memo from the Public Works Director were noted and discussed by the Commission. The Commission will consider the resolution on Tuesday, January 28th.

5. Purchase of New Trash Truck Packer –

The Public Works Director stated that the City options are to purchase the recommended Freightliner/Heil body combination for a total of \$126,000 or to "piggy-back" off the City of Naples bid for \$132,131. He asked the Commission to approve \$126,000 instead of \$139,000 for the purchase of the Freightliner/Heil body

01/21/03

combination. The Commission will consider the resolution on Tuesday, February 28th.

Commissioner Blush commended Hal Bruce, Transportation Director, and CJ Holloway, Foreman of Sanitation, for their research that amounted to a total savings of \$13,000.

6. Resolution Appointment – Election board -

The Commission noted the memo regarding the appointment of the Election Board for the Municipal Election on March 4, 2003. The Commission will consider the resolution on Tuesday, February 28th.

G. CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

1. Calendar of 2003 Events –

The City Manager provided the Commission with a list of the City's major events scheduled for 2003.

2. Gulf Boulevard Traffic Signals –

The City Manager reported that many residents have noticed the change in the timing of the traffic signals. He stated that he is working closely with Jerry Dabkowski, the Traffic Engineer, to change the wait times to actuated rather than Fixed times. The traffic signals at 107th Avenue, 112th Avenue and 117th Avenue have been actuated and the wait times have decreased to 44 seconds. The City Manager and the Traffic Engineer have been working with Pinellas County and consulting with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to make these changes as quickly as possible.

Commissioner Ellsworth commented that he has noticed a much shorter waiting period for the traffic signals and thanked the City Manager for getting the changes in place so quickly.

3. Selection of Causeway Bond Council -

The City Manager advised that he and the City Attorney have sent out a request for proposals for bond council related to the issuance of revenue bonds for the Causeway Bridge replacement project. Proposals are due back on February 6th. The City Manager and the City Attorney will make a recommendation to the City Commission thereafter.

01/21/03

In Other Discussion:

The City Manager reported on an agreement with Paradigm Learning, Inc. for the future use of a board game that teaches the benefits of beach vegetation. He stated that negotiations will focus on a license to use the board game and he may need the assistance of special legal counsel in this matter.

The City Attorney proposed that the City enact a resolution proclaiming Friday, January 24th "Tampa Bay Buccaneers Day" to honor the team's accomplishments in making it to the Superbowl.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Commissioner Ellsworth and seconded by Commissioner Blush. Upon roll call, the vote was unanimous.

H. REPORTS & COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Blush commented that the recent kite festival held in Treasure Island was beautiful.

Commissioner Maloof commented that the Schaller's son's funeral was this past Sunday. She said that he was a part of the summer program with the Recreation Department and his sister was a counselor.

Commissioner Maloof stated that she has in no way violated the Sunshine Law and that her telephone calls were for clarification purposes only. She also stated that she has been asked why she is not commenting on some of the issues that have come up. She said that she has been advised by her attorney not to comment on some issues.

Commissioner Ellsworth commented that Ruby Mann had passed away. He stated that her husband built the Surf and Sands Hotels. He gave his condolences to her family.

Commissioner Ellsworth stated that he would like to charge the new Commission with establishing a Junior Council to get young people involved in government and active in city affairs.

Mayor Atkinson commented that Mayor Yates said that Gulfport has a similar type of youth group.

Mayor Atkinson said that he was very sorry to hear that Ruby Mann had passed away and also gave his condolences to her family.

01/21/03


I. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Ystrom proposed installing a master traffic signal station with slave stations at other lights to ease some of the traffic congestion and allow pedestrians to cross busy roads in a safer manner.

Mayor Atkinson stated that the City Manager is currently testing traffic signals and will consider suggestions from residents.

J. ADJOURNMENT:

Stephanie Lavino - District 1



Mary Maloof - District 3



Leon G. Atkinson, Mayor

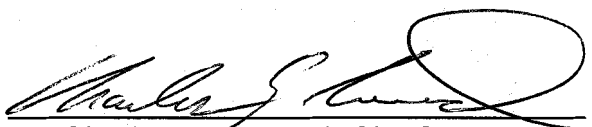


Irving S. Ellsworth - District 2



Barbara Blush - District 4

ATTEST:



Charles S. Coward, City Clerk