

**CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
January 27, 2004
7:00 p.m.**

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Maloof

B. ROLL CALL:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|---------|
| Mayor Mary Maloof | | Present |
| Commissioner Phil Collins | | Present |
| Commissioner Irving S. Ellsworth | | Present |
| Commissioner Richard Kraus | | Present |
| Commissioner Barbara Blush | Vice-Mayor | Present |

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Clara Lee Selby stated that she would report on a project she has been working on to obtain a zip code for Treasure Island at the next meeting.

Mr. Leonard Hall asked if Mr. Amico's proposed land swap deal will be placed on a workshop agenda for discussion. Mayor Maloof indicated that the land swap deal will be placed on a workshop agenda.

Mr. Ken Brown congratulated City Manager Chuck Coward and the Commission for their efforts in securing the funding for the Causeway Bridge project.

Mayor Maloof stated that the Omnibus Transportation Bill was signed by President Bush on Friday, January 30th.

D. MINUTES:

Motion was made by Commissioner Blush and seconded by Commissioner Ellsworth to approve the minutes from the meetings of January 6th and January 13th as written.

Commissioner Kraus made corrections to the minutes of January 6th and January 13th.

Upon roll call, the vote to approve the amended minutes was unanimous.

E. ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

1. Ord. – Amending LDR’s to Provide for a Five Feet Building Height Increase – (First Reading & Public Hearing) –

After hearing the first reading of the ordinance pertaining to land development; amending Chapter 68; of said land development regulations to modify schedule of lot and bulk regulations pertaining to height regulations; providing for a height increase of five (5) feet for all buildings in all land use districts in the City of Treasure Island; providing for repeal of inconsistent ordinances or resolutions; providing for amendment(s) to the land development regulations of Treasure Island, Florida; providing for severability; providing for an effective date, motion was made by Commissioner Blush and seconded by Commissioner Collins to approve the ordinance as read.

Commissioner Ellsworth abstained from voting due to his connections to one of the largest owner’s of commercial general property in Treasure Island.

Upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

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| Commissioner Collins | Aye |
| Commissioner Kraus | Aye |
| Commissioner Blush | Aye |
| Mayor Maloof | Aye |

2. Res. – Authorizing Purchase of Two New Replacement Vehicles for Public Works –

After hearing the reading of the resolution authorizing the Public Works Department to purchase two replacement vehicles budgeted for in the FY 2003-2004 budget, motion was made by Commissioner Blush and seconded by Commissioner Collins to approve the resolution as read.

Commissioner Collins stated that he observed the damage to the frame and body of the truck and said that he concurs with the City’s decision to purchase a new vehicle.

Commissioner Blush stated that the City came in some \$2,500 under budget for the purchase of these vehicles.

Upon roll call, the vote to approve was unanimous.

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3. Res. – Adoption of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps –

After hearing the reading of the resolution authorizing the adoption of FEMA flood insurance rate maps, motion was made by Commissioner Kraus and seconded by Commissioner Ellsworth to approve the resolution as read. Upon roll call, the vote to approve was unanimous.

4. Res. – Authorizing Agreement for Venetian Motel Landscaping –

After hearing the reading of the resolution authorizing an agreement for Venetian Condominium landscaping, motion was made by Commissioner Collins and seconded by Commissioner Kraus to approve the resolution as read. Upon roll call the vote to approve was unanimous.

5. Res. – Authorizing Expenditures for Sand Sharing Project –

After hearing the reading of the resolution authorizing the expenditure for the Sand Sharing Project requested by the Beach Stewardship Committee in the amount of \$20,000, motion was made by Commissioner Blush and seconded by Commissioner Collins to approve the resolution as read. Upon roll call, the vote to approve was unanimous.

6. Res. – Authorizing Revised Beach Pavilion Rental Rates and Rules –

After hearing the reading of the resolution authorizing revised rental rates and rules For the Beach Pavilion on Sunset Beach, motion was made by Commissioner Blush and seconded by Commissioner Kraus to approve the resolution as read.

Commissioner Collins asked if the City is too restrictive regarding the use of amplified music at the beach Pavilion. The City Manager stated that the resolution is relaxing the policy by allowing the use of boom boxes and radios at the beach Pavilion while staff is present.

The City Manager stated that staff would be with the DeBiase's on Wednesday, January 28th to discuss the specifications for concessionaires at the facility.

Upon roll call, the vote to approve was unanimous.

7. Res. – Authorizing Rotary Use of Community Center –

After hearing the reading of the resolution authorizing the Gulf Beaches Rotary Club to use the Treasure Island Community Center free of charge on Friday night, February 20, 2004 to hold a spaghetti dinner for a fundraiser event, motion was

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

8. Res. – Expressing Opposition to SB696 and HB409 –

After hearing the reading of the resolution opposing HB409/SB686 titled “The Coastal Redevelopment Hazard Mitigation Demonstration Project Act”, motion was made by Commissioner Kraus and seconded by Commissioner Collins to approve the resolution as read.

Commissioner Kraus stated that the bill favors developers and would have a negative impact on the barrier islands. He said that the citizens do not want increased height and density or the resulting increases in taxes and fees. He reviewed a critical analysis prepared by Mr. Bill Ockunzzi, previous Executive Director of Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council addressing the potential negative impacts on the environment, infrastructure, public safety and the quality of life on our island.

Commissioner Collins stated that people move to a community because they like the way it is now, not after development has taken place. He said that he felt the bill would seriously jeopardize the safeguards of our infrastructure and coastal environment by encouraging greater density and building height.

Ms. Rosette Walsh, Mr. Sid Appel and Mr. Walter Herring expressed opposition to the bills.

Mr. Alan Bildz suggested that the Commission pass a resolution opposing the bills And then go before the BIG-C to get Treasure Island’s original vote in support of the bills changed.

Ms. Heidi Horak indicated that our quality of life and ecology are at stake with the passing of these bills.

Mr. Jeff Warner stated that the citizens have already expressed their opposition to increasing density and that the Commission is here to represent the citizens.

Mr. Billy White stated that the Commission appointed two people to represent Treasure Island on the BIG-C and make decisions. He said that while the citizens in Treasure Island are not in support of tall buildings, other cities may want to be able to do that. Mr. White stated that the community needs to work together as a team.

Mr. Chris Hearn stated that the bill does not seem to have the safeguards built into

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it that he thought it did. He said that he thought the only place it would be applicable in Treasure Island was in the downtown area but that appears not to be the case.

Commissioner Blush stated that she spoke to Senator Dennis Jones on January 20th regarding the bill. She said that he gave her a history on the bill and explained that a team of experts with Masters degrees and PhD's compiled the data and facts contained in the document. He also indicated that that participation among the municipalities would be voluntary and that the bill supports the home rule concept.

Upon roll call, the vote to approve was unanimous.

9. Motion – Accepting Donations –

Motion was made by Commissioner Ellsworth and seconded by Commissioner Kraus to accept the generous donations of videotapes from an anonymous donor, \$300 from the Sunshine Beach Homeowners' Association for use by the Recreation Department as well as two donations in the amount of \$30 and \$75 for use by the Police Department made by Virginia England and Kazimieras Stasiukevicius respectively. Commissioner Ellsworth requested that the Mayor send thank you letters for these donations. Upon roll call, the vote to accept these donations was unanimous.

F. CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS:

The City Manager stated that TITV is back on the air with the new digital equipment and he asked Information Technology Coordinator Mark Santos to report on it.

The Information Technology Coordinator stated that the new equipment will greatly improve our audio capabilities. He reported that TITV will be offline for intervals during the next two weeks and that the City would be completely digital within the next 3 months.

The Information Technology Coordinator reported that Verizon changed an IP address which affected the Mayor and Commissioners e-mail. He asked anyone that sent e-mails to the Mayor and Commissioners between Friday, January 23rd and Monday, January 26th to re-send them as the e-mails were not received.

Commissioner Ellsworth stated that staff did an excellent job in getting the digital equipment up and running for the Commission meeting.

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1. Drawbridge Design and Funding Activities –

The City Manager provided the Commission with a progress report on the construction of the east and west fixed bridges as well as the timeline and funding activities for the construction of the bascule bridge.

Public Works Director Don Hambidge reported that he would be presenting staff's recommendation for a qualifications based contract selection process for the construction of the bascule bridge at next week's meeting.

The City Manager stated that because a qualifications based process is being recommended because the City needs to make sure that the construction costs stay within \$50 million.

The Public Works Director reported that emergency repairs to the trunnions on the west side of the bridge are necessary. He stated that the bridge will need to be lifted enough so that the weight is taken off the trunnions in order to make the repairs.

The City Manager stated that the repairs to the trunnions will cost approximately \$200,000 to \$250,000 and that the bridge will remain open to traffic but be half-closed to boaters.

Commissioner Ellsworth asked if it is possible to institute weight restrictions for vehicles traveling on the bridge due to the rapid deterioration that is taking place. The Public Works Director stated that he plans to conduct an inspection with Jim Phillips of E.C. Driver of the underneath of the bridge and that he would then recommend whether to put the weight restrictions in place.

The City Manager stated that the Public Works Director would be prepared to make further recommendations regarding speed limit and weight limit restrictions to the Commission in February after traffic has been moved over to the new halves of the fixed bridges and the inspection of the underneath of the bascule bridge been completed.

Commissioner Ellsworth asked how long the repairs to the trunnions would take and the Public Works Director responded that it would take approximately 3 to 4 weeks.

Commissioner Collins asked if it would be prudent at this time to revisit the issue of less bridge openings with the Coast Guard. The Public Works Director indicated that so far the Coast Guard has required a one year study before limiting bridge openings but he said he would follow up with the Coast Guard to see if the process could be expedited.

2. Sewer Rates – Six (6) Month Report –

The City Manager reported that no further rate adjustment is necessary to maintain a revenue neutral sewer rate at this time. He recommended maintaining the existing formula and reviewing it again in 6 months.

The City Manager reported that the work on the mast arm traffic signals at the Isle of Palms and the Isle of Capri will begin next Tuesday or Wednesday.

G. REPORTS BY COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Collins asked to have temporary banners for new businesses placed on the workshop agenda for Tuesday, February 3rd.

Commissioner Blush reported that the Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of commerce Board met last week. She said that the board decided to continue its alliance with the St. Petersburg Chamber.

Commissioner Blush reported that a BIG-C meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 28th.

Commissioner Blush thanked staff for addressing Public Works and Code Enforcement related complaints that she received.

Commissioner Blush stated that she received a call from Mr. Bob Dowling regarding the recent Elnor Island cleanup expedition. She said that he reported that 20 bags of debris were removed from the island. Commissioner Blush stated that Mr. Dowling wanted to extend his thanks to all the volunteers who participated in the cleanup and that he would submit a written report in the near future.

Mayor Maloof stated that she would be speaking at the Pinellas County Commission meeting on Thursday, January 29th regarding the beautification of Gulf Boulevard and intermodal transportation.

Mayor Maloof stated that Commissioner John Morroni is hosting an annual dinner to honor police, EMS and fire personnel on Friday evening. She said that Sheriff Rice, a Treasure Island resident, will be among those that are honored at the dinner.

H. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Chris Hearn commented on the use of crosswalks with flashers across the roadway.

Mr. Hearn indicated that Mayor Maloof is a member of the Rotary Club and therefore

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had a conflict of interest in voting on the resolution granting free use of the Community Center. Mayor Maloof stated that she has no financial interest in the Rotary Club.

Mr. Tim Ferguson stated that he represents former Mayor Leon Atkinson and Ms. Roseanne Petit who have recently been exonerated of ethics violations. He said that he would be submitting legal bills to the City for Mr. Atkinson and Ms. Petit.

Ms. Mary Daughtry stated that there is a construction sign that needs to be removed on Harrell Avenue between 91st and 92nd Avenues.

Ms. Daughtry expressed her opposition to SB686 and HB409.

Ms. Clara Lee Selby stated that she would be withdrawing her request to have the zip code issue placed on next weeks' agenda. She asked Treasure Island residents to work together as a team.

I. ADJOURNMENT:

Mary Maloof, Mayor

Phil Collins - District 1

Irving S. Ellsworth - District 2

Richard Kraus - District 3

Barbara Blush - District 4

ATTEST:

Charles S. Coward, City Clerk