

**CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND, FLORIDA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES
October 21, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Maloof at 6:02 p.m.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Maloof

B. ROLL CALL:

Mayor Mary Maloof		Present
Commissioner Phil Collins	District 1	Present
Commissioner Ed Gayton	District 2	Present
Commissioner Bob Minning – Vice Mayor	District 3	Present
Commissioner Alan Bildz	District 4	Present

Mayor Maloof read a proclamation declaring November 1, 2008 Rotary International Day. Gulf Beaches Rotary Club President, Chuck Coward, gave a brief presentation on the local club and the programs that they provide to the local community, and the international project to eradicate polio in the world.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A.J. Audet, Commander of the American Legion Post, invited everyone to the annual Veteran's Day services to be held at noon in the park. There will be an open house at the Post immediately following.

Midge Gilman stated that she recently found out about the situation at the library. She suggested that we start a lending library, and asked the Commission for a place to put donated books and suggested that it be staffed by volunteers. She stated that both Indian Rocks Beach and Indian Shores have libraries that started out as volunteer staffed lending libraries. She suggested that the Garden Room might be a good place to do this. Mayor Maloof thanked her for the suggested and said she would speak with the City Manager and Cathy Hayduke about it.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the October 7, 2008 Meeting and Workshop and the Executive Session of October 10, 2008 are available for approval. It was moved by Commissioner Minning and seconded by Commissioner Bildz to accept the minutes as printed. Upon roll call the vote to approve was unanimous.

E. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Consideration of Ord. 08-04, Sunset Beach Parking District, 2nd Reading Continued from 09/17/08

It was moved by Commissioner Bildz and seconded by Commissioner Gayton to accept the Ordinance as read.

Police Chief Casey gave a brief history of this issue to date. After numerous citizen complaints it was assigned to the Police Department to study this issue. Residents working in conjunction with the Police Department compiled a survey of residents. The conclusion was that the best method to address the parking problems was to implement a parking by permit only program. Once that was approved they moved into the phase of determining the cost of implementation. Later we were notified by Dr. Nicole Elko from Pinellas County Environmental Management that if we were to implement the permit parking as propose that would disqualify the City of Treasure Island from approximately one million dollars of beach renourishment money for Sunset Beach. We looked at other alternatives and received input from the residents. We have come to the conclusion that there are really only two viable choices. One is to leave things as they are. That really isn't a choice due to the problems that are there. The alternative is to implement alternating one side of the street parking. According to Dr. Elko we must make 47 parking spaces available between 99th Avenue and the Sunset Chateau. These spaces must be within ¼ mile of the water. In considering the alternating one side only parking we had to ensure that there would be 47 parking spaces available on each side of the street. There is no definition by the state that requires a certain length, so we have the ability to consider both large and small parking spaces, as well as motorcycle parking. The Commission has been provided with a chart of his suggested parking layout. They did not consider what was available in the cul-de-sac at the end of Bay Plaza, or the short streets that have limited parking available at the end of those streets. Staff does not recommend the use of private property for parking spaces as we have no control over it and it can change. He doesn't think there would be much interest from the property owners in requiring spaces for public parking.

A second recommendation was to allow parking on West Gulf Boulevard between Gulf Boulevard and Sunset Chateau. One problem there is the sidewalk that runs along the west side. There is not sufficient shoulder on the east side. The second problem is that it is not an asphalt surface, which will cause a problem during the wet season. There may be very limited parking available on the public roadway next to Caddy's. It is heavily used by pedestrians, so staff does not recommend that it be used for parking.

With his recommendation he doesn't see anything that will bring us legal problems in the future. He feels that the only way to address this is to recommend the alternating one side of the street parking. According to the surveys, 60% of the residents did not want this, but they didn't consider alternating sides. There are concerns for residents that can be addressed that will make this a more acceptable option. The times can be altered to accommodate some of the concerns. There is no way around there being one side of the street getting one more day than the other. The signage will cost approximately the same as the signs would have cost for the permit parking. He sees no other alternative.

Commissioner Bildz stated that this ordinance, as we know it, is dead. He suggested that we bring up alternating one side parking at the next workshop for discussion. He would like to here from Robbie Wellborn and Katie Mattice as they worked hard with the Police Department on this. Commissioner Minning stated that he'd like to hear from the Civic Association on this. Commission Collins asked what would happen with people that were going to be away. Would they have to move their cars? Mr. Silverboard stated that they would either have to park off the street on their property or have someone move their car. Residents stated that there is not sufficient off street parking to do that. Commissioner Collins asked about holiday and weekend parking. Chief Casey

stated that it was a local regulation that they would be implementing, so they could set the terms that they chose for the parking. He has asked Dr. Elko many questions about exemptions, and was told that there are none.

Heidi Horak stated that she didn't think that enough creative thinking has been applied to this problem yet. She hasn't heard anything about the problem of people just driving around looking for parking. There is a congestion problem that goes beyond parking. If you limit the parking spaces that will just add to the problem. When people come down her street she shows people where they can park. She feels that there are more people with good intentions than bad intentions. If you engage them you get better results. She feels there is more thinking they could do on this, and feels that workshopping this again is the right thing to do.

Katy Mattice stated that she and Robbie Wellborn and few other residents have come up with another suggestion. It would be possible to designate and mark the 31 to 36 public parking spaces that we need to meet the requirements of the beach nourishment program. We would outline those spaces on our streets. They would be designated by painting a parking place on the street, along with signage indicating public parking in designated spots only, and the rest would be by resident permit only. This would eliminate the alternating one sided parking issues. She feels that it is a simpler solution than making all of Sunset Beach one sided parking. Robbie Wellborn stated that they have had a lot of discussion with everyone in the area. It would meet our objective of getting a solution to the parking problem. They have looked at the area, and there are sufficient areas to allow public parking as well as be considerate of the residents' needs and safety. There is more than enough area to accommodate the required parking. We should not be worried about the funding loss at this point. Mayor Maloof asked what would keep Sunset Beach residents from parking in those spaces. Ms. Mattice stated that if they do one side parking residents are going to pull their cars out of their driveways and on the streets. She suggested that Mr. Amico offer a shuttle service to and from the City lot to help with some of the congestion in the streets. Commissioner Minning asked for clarification as to whether they thought they could forego a portion of beach renourishment. Ms. Mattice stated that if we only designated 30 parking spaces we would only lose the portion equal to one parking space. Commissioner Minning stated that from a practical standpoint that just won't work. Ms. Mattice stated that we understand that the beach is a resource, and we are trying to come up with a compromise. Ms. Wellborn stated that they just wanted people to know that they are not losing millions of dollars. Commissioner Minning asked how they would designate which area of the beach would get funding. Ms. Wellborn again stated that we wouldn't lose all the money, and that the city could pay a portion of the renourishment. Ms. Mattice stated that they could also ask the businesses to earmark a portion of their parking as public parking spaces. Everybody benefits from this. Mayor Maloof commented that she thought that was a great idea.

Marie Barba stated that she doesn't think there has been a good enough effort in distributing this information to all Sunset Beach property owners. She thinks it is a good suggestion about the Civic Association. We don't have to rush this forward. We have been through this so many times. Nobody wants this in front of their house. The owners need to have a say-so in this. It doesn't seem practical not to renourish the whole beach.

Mayor Maloof stated that we will put this on the workshop agenda for November 18th.

Commissioner Gayton withdrew his second on the motion to approve the ordinance. The ordinance does not pass.

Commissioner Minning suggested that Chief Casey attend the Civic Association meeting to discuss the legal aspects with the members. Commissioner Gayton stated that this was brought forward by the residents of Sunset Beach, and we want their input. If we don't have it we will not be able to pass anything. We cannot renourish only a part of the beach.

Katy Mattice asked why they have to eliminate the permit parking. It was explained that they need to find the necessary spots, and the ordinance will have to be redone. Mr. Silverboard stated that we will find out from Ms. Elko exactly how many spots we will need. We will determine that before the November 18th meeting. He also pointed out that it was not millions of dollars. The cost to renourish was about a million dollars, which is the amount that we would have to come up with. Commissioner Bildz stated that the parking is a state issue, and it affects the state money. Mr. Silverboard stated that if we eliminate the spaces we will have to cancel the program. If we sell permits we have to sell them to everybody. It is not as simple as we thought it was.

Mayor Maloof thanked everyone who is trying to help figure this out.

2. Consideration of Res. 08-98, Planning & Zoning Board Appointment

It was moved by Commissioner Bildz and seconded by Commissioner Collins to approve the resolution as read. Mayor Maloof stated that she spoke with Mr. Ferguson and he is eager to serve the community. Commissioner Collins stated that he knows him and feels that he is an excellent choice.

Upon roll call the vote to approve was unanimous.

3. Consideration of Res. 08-94, City Manager Salary Adjustment

It was moved by Commissioner Bildz and seconded by Commissioner Gayton to approve the resolution as read. Commissioner Collins wanted to make it clear that Mr. Silverboard has been with the City for 18 months now and he has never received a raise.

Upon roll call the vote to approve was unanimous.

G. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m. by Mayor Maloof.