

CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND, FLORIDA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORKSHOP MINUTES
July 20, 2010

The workshop was called to order by Mayor Minning at 8:36 p.m.

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Consideration of Res. 10-57, Accepting a Traffic Signal Warrant Study at the Intersection Of 104th, 107th, and 108th Avenues (St. James Intersection)

Mr. Murphy gave a brief explanation of the item. He recommends that they approve the traffic warrant study for this intersection. This intersection was the subject of a study conducted in 2004 which also recommended a traffic signal at the intersection. He gave an overview of what had been done in the past regarding the design, and the results of the most recent traffic warrant study.

Commissioner Collins asked what intersection has more traffic – 107th and Gulf Blvd., or this intersection. Mr. Noriega stated that it was 107th and Gulf Blvd. Commissioner Collins asked about the types of accidents that had occurred. Mr. Noriega explained that most of the accidents could have been prevented by the installation of a traffic signal.

Commissioner Collins stated that he is opposed to putting a light there because there is currently a 25 mph speed limit and speed bumps. The light at 107th and Gulf Blvd. has not decreased the amount of crashes, so he doesn't see how this could help. Mr. Noriega stated that there will still be accidents, but the majority of the accidents that they see at that intersection could be prevented by a light. The safety warrant is only one of four warrants. Mr. Noriega explained that there are sustained volumes that justify that signal for eight hours a day. Commissioner Collins stated that the traffic light at 107th and Gulf Blvd. is not eliminating crashes, and he is against adding another deterrent to people getting on and off the island.

Commissioner Coward stated that she goes by that intersection several times a day. It looks to her like the number of crashes has decreased. She doesn't feel like a light will stop it. She feels that people will run the red light. She is not in favor of it. Mr. Murphy stated that it is a very dangerous intersection, particularly when turning left from 108th Avenue.

Commissioner Bildz asked what the referenced level was. Mr. Noriega explained that it has to be 105 cars coming from the minor streets per hour. The count was above that for eight hours. His professional opinion is that the intersection meets the needs for a traffic signal. Commissioner Bildz commented on the types of turns that are made in that area. He feels that the intersection should be redone to force cars onto 1st Street to make a 90 degree turn.

Commissioner Caldwell stated that she doesn't make that turn because it is dangerous. Commissioner Bildz stated that he doesn't either. Commissioner Collins stated that there are already things slowing down the traffic and he doesn't want to add anything else.

Mr. Murphy reminded the Commission that they have dedicated 108th and 104th as truck routes. He also commented on the bike trail discussions that they have had in the past. It is difficult to negotiate that area on a bicycle.

Mayor Minning corrected Commissioner Collins' statement regarding the higher traffic at 107th and Gulf. If there are more cars and fewer accidents the ratio is lower.

Mr. Noriega suggested that if they don't put a traffic light in they should change it so that you can only make a right hand turn from 108th. Mr. Silverboard suggested that they consider a four way stop at that intersection.

Commissioner Coward asked about the crosswalk that was mentioned in the report. She stated that it sounds like they have more to think about than just a stop light.

It was decided by consensus not to move this forward.

Mr. Silverboard stated that there is money in next year's budget to install a traffic signal. He will discuss this with Mr. Murphy to get an idea of how much it would cost to make other arrangements for that intersection.

2. Consideration of Res. 10-59, Request From Harry Black to Hold "TI Vision & All That Jazz" special event at the Community Center on August 14, 2010

Mr. Black gave a brief explanation of this item. They are trying to raise money for the visioning process. They currently have about one third of the money that they need pledged. Mr. Amico was the first one to donate. He gave an overview of the types of activities that they intend to have.

Commissioner Collins stated that he thinks that it is a great idea.

Commissioner Bildz asked about the band and where they would be playing. Mr. Black stated that they would be playing in the park in the band stand. Commissioner Bildz stated that it sounded good and asked if they needed free use of the Community Center. Mr. Black stated that they didn't need the Community Center except for the restrooms. Mr. Silverboard stated that they will have all the details worked out by the next meeting.

Mr. Amico volunteered to help in any way that he can.

It was the consensus of the Commission that they have full support. This item will move forward to the next meeting agenda.

3. Consideration of Res. 10-58, Request From Christine Wolfe for a License Agreement to Operate a Hotdog Vending Vehicle on the Public Beach

Ms. Wolfe gave a brief overview of her request. She stated that she has everything in place. She just needs approval to sell hot dogs on the beach. She is requesting a wide area to be able to sell. She would choose a different location along the beach each day.

Commissioner Collins asked how she would be moving up and down the beach. Ms. Wolfe stated that she has been looking at commercial stands similar to what they use in downtown St. Pete. She would have to move it onto the sand with a truck, but would be in one spot for the day.

Commissioner Bildz stated that we have approved someone to deliver food on the beach. Now we have a request for a hot dog stand. He doesn't feel that Sunset Beach is wide enough to accommodate something like this. It would be more appropriate behind the hotels.

Mayor Minning asked Ms. Hayduke if she had an opinion on this request. She stated that she does not.

Ms. Wolfe stated that she would not go to Sunset Beach if that would bother anyone.

Mr. Silverboard stated that up to now the Commission has approved vendors that either have a permanent business location in the community, or they have approved beach chairs and umbrella vendors who are in a specific location and have a place to store their equipment. They are not driving to different locations on the beach each day. This is getting into a whole different type of vendor that the Commission has not considered before. She would be changing locations each day, and driving a truck on the beach. There may be some concern with that. The Commission may want to think a little more about what types of vendors they want on the beach before approving this license agreement that would be required in order for Ms. Wolfe to operate her hot dog stand. There are concerns about trash, the disposal of the waste products, and how she will be cooking her product. If they are interested in staff pursuing this we will meet with her in the next week or so to get further information from her. He doesn't think that it is a great idea to have the ability to drive all over the beach, and it will not be appreciated by residents that live on the beach to have her set up in their back yards. If it is to be considered it should probably be considered in the central beach area.

Commissioner Coward stated that her concern was how she was going to get a truck on the beach. Also, there will be beach renourishment going on in several areas of the beach going on for a while. Some of the areas are not wide enough.

Mayor Minning stated that they discussed this when they were discussing the agreement with Mr. Barquet. We have to decide whether we are prepared to do this for everyone if we are going to do this for one. His personal feeling is that it is not appropriate for Treasure Island.

Commissioner Bildz stated that he agrees with Mayor Minning.

Commissioner Collins stated that he felt that they should listen to Mr. Silverboard's recommendation and have further discussion before they consider this request.

Commissioner Caldwell stated that they needed an overview of the issue.

Mr. Silverboard stated that staff will report back at a later time on the issue.

Mr. Amico stated that it might be a good way for the city to make some money. They could charge a small amount per day to have vendors selling hot dogs, ice cream, or water and soda.

4. Consideration of Res. 10-56, Awarding a Bid for Hardening of the Police and Fire Departments Building

Chief Fant gave a brief explanation of the item. They are at a point that they can act on the grant that was approved by FEMA and the state to harden the building. With Mr. Bruce's help he was able to put out a request for bids. They received two bids. After evaluating the bids they recommend the low bid of \$72,000 from Eland Brothers. They are a local contractor. He gave an explanation of the scope of work.

Commissioner Collins asked about the 60 foot antenna. Chief Fant explained that it was part of the original project, but they no longer have the antenna.

This item will move forward to the next meeting agenda.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Bildz asked that the Commission reconsider the license agreement with Mr. Barquet. If the Commission doesn't reconsider, he asked that staff be asked to ask our insurance carrier how much it will cost to allow the vehicle to drive on the beach. Mr. Silverboard stated that we will ask the insurance company that question. He doesn't believe that it will have an impact.

Commissioner Bildz stated that a member left in the middle of a Planning and Zoning meeting. He doesn't feel that that is right. He suggested that the Commission send the member a letter. Commissioner Collins stated that there may have been a medical or personal reason for him to leave. Commissioner Bildz stated that he should have told someone. Mr. Silverboard suggested that the City Clerk give the Commissioner who's district he is from a call, and the Commissioner can call the member and discuss it.

III. CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Ms. Kiefer stated that in 2008 the Commission appointed Tom Reynolds as their Special Magistrate. He died last week from cancer. She feels that they should appoint another Special Magistrate. She would like to put an item on the next agenda to appoint Attorney John Thomas. Commissioner Collins asked if Mr. Thomas worked at the same firm, and if there would be any advantage to staying with the same firm. Ms. Kiefer stated that he does not and there would be no advantage. She spoke highly of Mr. Thomas' experience. At this point there is nothing that we have to put before a Special Magistrate, but it is wise to have one in case one is needed. This will be placed on the next meeting agenda.

IV. REPORTS & COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS:

None

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 pm by Mayor Minning.