

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF BELLEAIR, FLORIDA HELD AT TOWN HALL ON NOVEMBER 17, 2009 AT 7:30 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Gary Katica
Commissioners
Stephen Fowler
Tom Shelly
Karla Rettstatt
Stephanie Oddo

Town Manager Micah Maxwell
Town Attorney David Ottinger

Mayor Katica lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Quorum present on roll call with Mayor Katica presiding; the meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

MOWING RESOLUTION

There was no mowing resolution.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Brenda Whitehead, 230 Pine Road, stated that she was making a request of the commission on behalf of UPARC and their annual omelet party; that were requesting the use of Thompson Park for the event to be held on April 16, 2010; that arrangements had been made regarding parking; that attendees would be shuttled form an off site parking location; that a nearby home would provide bathroom facilities; that a tent would be installed at the location.

Mr. Maxwell stated that the matter had been discussed with staff regarding the tent and placement on the property; that a home located across the bridge was to be used for a major portion of the event; that parking was discussed for residents living on North Pine Circle and would be issued a special parking permit on the evening of the event; that parking for participants would be provided by the Belleview Biltmore Country Club and shuttled to the event; that police officers would be on location the evening of the event as well.

It was the consensus of the commission to allow the use of Thompson Park on April 16, 2010 for the annual UPARC Omelet Fund Raising Party.

CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Katica stated that the commission had for consideration approval of Minutes for the October commission meetings.

Commissioner Oddo moved approval of the Minutes of Special Meeting and Work Session held on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 and Regular Meeting held on October 20, 2009. Motion seconded by Commissioner Rettstatt and carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF BELLEAIR/PINELLAS COUNTY CONSISTENCY

Mr. Maxwell introduced Chris Mettler from Pinellas Planning Council.

Mr. Mettler spoke about the development of a countywide comprehensive plan and consistency; stated that he had attended the planning and zoning board meeting and discussed the matter with the board members; that if the commission was in favor of the proposed changes he would ask that a resolution stating the approval be sent to the county; that Pinellas Planning Council would assist the town in developing the amendments in order to be consistent with the countywide plan.

Mr. Maxwell stated that he was confident with the proposed changes; that the consultant with the Hotel had no problem with the amendments.

Commissioner Fowler moved to approve the proposed update to the comprehensive plan. Motion seconded by Commissioner Oddo and carried unanimously.

AWARD OF BID - PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING/PLANNING SERVICES

Mr. Maxwell provided background information; stated that staff had completed the evaluation of the submitted proposals and had identified three firms that they would like to consider as engineer of record for the town; that the three firms were Tampa Bay Engineering, PBS&J, and Deuel and Associates; that if the firms were to be confirmed by the commission staff would individually engage the firms to determine the fees associated with the consulting engineering work; that if no agreement could be reached on fees staff would engage one or more of the alternate staff selections where were; Wade Trim, Florida Design Consultants, and Advanced Engineering.

Commissioner Fowler recused himself from voting on the award of bid and he dealt with some of the firms selected.

Commissioner Shelly moved approval of the award of bid to the three firms selected by staff contingent upon their fee schedule. Motion seconded by Commissioner Rettstatt and carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZATION OF PAYMENT OF TAXES FOR AHLF PROPERTY

Mr. Maxwell stated that the total amount for taxes for the Ahlf property was \$29,354.00; that the funds had been budgeted.

Commissioner Fowler moved approval of the payment of taxes for all of the Ahlf properties in the amount of \$29,354.00. Motion seconded by Commissioner Shelly and carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZATION OF PAYMENT OF TAXES FOR THOMPSON PROPERTY

Mr. Maxwell stated that in June the town received the rights to 8 North Pine Circle; that tax bill represented the remaining taxes on the property; that in the future there would not be taxes issues on the property; that the total tax bill was \$8,869.81.

Commissioner Oddo moved approval of the payment of taxes in the amount of \$8,869.81 for property located at 8 North Pine Circle known as Thompson Park. Motion seconded by Commissioner Shelly and carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF TOWN TRAFFIC ISSUES

Mr. Maxwell provided a brief background information regarding traffic issues throughout town.

Upik Suwarno the traffic engineer from TBE was present to further discuss the traffic issue and 25 mph speed limits on certain streets in town; spoke about FS 316.183 regarding maximum speed limits; stated that a study would be required to justify reduction of speed limits; that FDOT manual provided guidelines for collection of data to determine reasonable speed limits; discussed criteria for speed limit reduction.

Discussions ensued regarding data options for establishing lower speed limits; regarding the time period for collection of the necessary data within the parameter outlined by FDOT; regarding reducing minimum number of streets in town and what options would apply.

It was the consensus of the commission to wait for the presentation of the necessary data before going forward with discussion of the traffic issue.

DISCUSSION OF TOWN LOGO

Mr. Maxwell stated that staff was looking for direction from the commission regarding the town logo; that it was time to revisit the discussion as new vehicles were being purchase and new business cards were needed; that currently two logos were being used.

Discussions ensued regarding the two logos; regarding the change in logo after all supplies with the older logo were used up.

It was the consensus of the commission that the logo to be used was the one with the two birds and the multi-colored background.

DISCUSSION OF REVIEW FORMAT FOR TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Maxwell stated that a template was provided for the town attorney's review; that the format was developed by merging several other review formats to have one that was appropriate.

DISCUSSION OF REVIEW FORMAT FOR TOWN ATTORNEY (Continued)

Mayor Katica stated that he was not in favor of reviews; that as the town commission they had the ability to hire and fire the town attorney or town manager; that if they were doing their job they would stay and if they weren't doing their job they would have to go.

Commissioner Shelly stated that he felt that everyone deserves an annual review to see where everyone stands on individual issues; that he was happy with the appraisal system.

Commissioner Fowler and Commissioner Rettstatt concurred with Commissioner Shelly.

Commissioner Oddo stated that she would like to add an item to Section B; that she would like to add #7 to say "asserts legal opinions when needed."

It was the consensus of the commission to add the language to the review format.

DISCUSSION OF SIDEWALKS AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Mr. Maxwell stated that a map was provided identifying all the sidewalks in town; that the purpose was to assist the commission in future discussions of the sidewalk program; that he had also asked Upik to stay for the discussion as she did have experience dealing with sidewalks; that in looking at the map the center of Belleair did have most of the sidewalks; that there were several areas that did not have any sidewalks.

Commissioner Oddo stated that she had brought the issue forward for a number of reasons; that it was her thought that the town could provide a family friendly as stated in the town's comprehensive plan; that it was her thought that the sidewalks would also increase property values; that she had received correspondence from some residents who were in favor of the sidewalk program.

Mayor Katica stated that there were more complaints received regarding the condition of the streets in town than about the lack of sidewalks; asked how the town would pay for the sidewalk program.

Commissioner Oddo stated that she would like to set aside \$30,000 per year from the infrastructure funds.

Commissioner Shelly stated that the streets were always a priority; commented on the upcoming street improvement projects.

Discussions ensued regarding the possibility of grant funds to pay for sidewalks; regarding adding the sidewalks in the street improvement projects; regarding the economic impact on the town by providing the sidewalks.

DISCUSSION OF SIDEWALKS AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Mr. Maxwell stated that the discussion could be continued at the time the budget process started for the next fiscal year.

ANNUAL EVALUATION FOR TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Maxwell stated that not all of the evaluations had been returned and suggested that the evaluation be continued until the December 1, 2009 special meeting.

Commissioner Shelly moved to continued the discussion of the town manager's annual evaluation until the December 1, 2009 special meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Fowler and carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Katica commented on the lack of street lights at the entrance to the RPD in the area of the Hotel.

Mr. Maxwell stated that the lights were provided and paid for by the Hotel; that he had talked with Mr. Reynolds and he was to provided an answer by the end of the week.

Commissioner Oddo commented on a service project that she would like everyone to participate in; that she would like to serve lunch for Pinellas Hope, a homeless facility; that the available dates were January 7, 12 and 14; asked that everyone let her know what date would best work for them.

Mayor Katica commented on the scheduled Mayor's Council Holiday Luncheon on December 11th at Safety Harbor Spa and asked that the commissioners and department heads plan to attend.

Commissioner Oddo commented on a tower she saw in the park at Ponce de Leon Blvd and Rosery Road; stated that she did not think the park was the appropriate location for such equipment; that she would like the commission to consider adopting a resolution to prohibit things in the parks that were not park related.

It was the consensus of the commission to add the item to the December work session agenda for discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the commission the regular meeting was adjourned in due form at 8:35 pm.

Town Clerk

APPROVED:

Mayor