

**CITY OF BELLE ISLE
SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 15, 2007
10:00 A.M.**

The Belle Isle City Council met in special session on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in the Belle Isle City Hall Council Chambers, 1600 Nela Avenue, Belle Isle, Florida 32809.

The following members were in attendance:

Commissioner Trudy Prince
Commissioner Charles R. Scott
Commissioner Larry Ady
Commissioner Harvey Readey
Commissioner Lydia Pisano

Absent were Commissioners Spaulding and Petruzzi.

ADVANCED ORDINANCE 07-08 TO SECOND READING

Mayor Brooks asked City Clerk Bateman to read the ordinance by title only. The ordinance was read by title as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA, RELATING TO HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS; REVISING THE AMOUNT OF THE ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION FOR LOW INCOME SENIORS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMENDMENT TO SECTION 6(f), ARTICLE VII OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION ADOPTED AT THE 2006 STATE GENERAL ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR ADJUSTMENT OF THE 2007 TAX ROLL FOR THE CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Ady moved to advance the ordinance to second reading. Commissioner Pisano seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mayor Brooks advised the ordinance is scheduled for second reading on May 30, 2007 at a special called meeting in order to meet the June 1, 2007 adoption deadline.

Commissioner Prince stated she would like to move forward with hiring a firm to do a comprehensive survey of city employees.

She also asked that Council consider making changes to the grievance process for employees to provide an appeal process for employees.

She stated she has information from a firm she has used and has been very satisfied with. She advised she was not promoting the firm, it is just one she has had experience with.

General discussion ensued.

It was the consensus of Council that Commissioner Prince bring a cost estimate back to Council for consideration.

Mayor Brooks brought Council up to date on the proposed island designs for the Nela Bridge intersections. He advised that a 25" island would still allow a 40" turning radius for fire trucks.

Commissioner Readey stated that the proposal for the west end of the Bridge is approximately \$35,000.

Commissioner Ady asked about irrigation.

Mayor Brooks responded irrigation is included in the bridge project and could also be used for the islands.

Commissioner Readey advised the wrong type curbing was being installed and is being hand made. He stated the appearance isn't great because it is not being machine milled.

Mayor Brooks responded that the City Manager and Engineer need to be out there to determine if it is acceptable. If it doesn't meet the standard it should be redone.

Commissioner Readey stated the old curb was 4" wide at the top and 5" wide at the base. The newly installed curbing is 6" at the top and 8" at the base.

Discussion regarding the traffic islands continued. It was stated there has only been one objection so far to the island by the George's. They are concerned it will limit their ability to get their boat in and out.

Commissioner Readey stated the proposed island will enhance the bridge and calm traffic without reducing the capacity of the road. He told Mr. Bennett he is certain traffic will be maintained at least at a 90% level.

Attorney Bennett asked if a traffic study has been done.

Mayor Brooks stated there is a DRMP study which was done for the speed tables.

Commissioner Pisano reported vehicles for sale being parked on the right-of-way at Conway and Judge Roads.

Mayor Brooks said residents in Lake Conway Estates are interested in lowering the speed limit to 15 MPH on interior streets.

The sign with the enforcement times for the school crossing at Windsor Place on Hoffner is missing.

Mayor Brooks asked what is the status of the request from Mr. Jerry Edge?

City Clerk Bateman stated she did not know.

Mayor Brooks related incidents which were reported to have occurred at the home on Belleville next to Commissioner Petruzzi's home.

Mayor Brooks stated it is time to revisit the proposed rental licensing ordinance. He stated a number of cities have adopted a property management standard.

Mayor Scott said there is no indication that this is a significant problem in the city.

Commissioner Pisano exited the meeting at 10:45 a.m. and the meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Belinda L. Bateman, MMC
City Clerk