

**CITY OF BELLE ISLE
SPECIAL SESSION
JUNE 27, 2007
8:30 A. M.**

The Belle Isle City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, June 27, 2007, 8:30 a.m. in the Belle Isle City Hall Council Chambers, 1600 Nela Avenue, Belle Isle, Florida 32809.

Mayor Brooks called the meeting to order and noted a full Council was present.

Also present was Matthew West of the Ivey Planning Group, LLC.

AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENTS WITH HDR ENGINEERING, INC. FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES AND IVEY PLANNING GROUP, LLC FOR GENERAL PLANNING SERVICES.

City Manager Larry Williams advised the agreements were similar to those we have entered in the past with other firms.

Commissioner Prince moved to authorize entering professional service agreements with HDR, Inc. and Ivey Planning Group, LLC. Commissioner Readey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Larry Williams advised the City has received an Interlocal Agreement with Orange County, Lake Conway Water and Navigation Control District to allow the temporary storage of spoil materials to be deposited in Venetian Park during the Venetian Canal Dredging Project.

Commissioner Prince stated this project needs to move forward.

Commissioner Scott asked that a time limit be placed on completion of the project.

Mayor Brooks advised it could be approved and a cover letter requesting the contractor's agreement specify the number of days for the project and including liquidated damages.

Commissioner Petruzzi moved to approve entering the Interlocal Agreement with additional language which fixes a completion date and

provides for liquidated damages as appropriate. Commissioner Petruzzi seconded the motion which passed without objection.

City Manager Williams advised the Nela Bridge Project should be completed by the end of July. Discussion ensued regarding the completion of the detail work and a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Commissioner Petruzzi asked what a reasonable expectation would be for the traffic calming islands to be completed. He also asked that all residents be notified of the date.

Mayor Brooks responded that the price on the bid specifies July 28th as the completion date.

Mayor Brooks reported several driveways on Hoffner east of Cullen Lake Shore Drive that do not have mitered ends.

Commissioner Spaulding advised there are two dead oaks across Hoffner from Windsor Place.

Mr. Williams stated the Conway East water project should be going out to bid very soon.

He stated that he, Mayor Brooks and Commissioner Petruzzi attended a meeting with Orange County Utility Engineering regarding the Lake Conway Estates utility improvement project.

Commissioner Petruzzi stated the project was designed as a phased project, but the project will be done all at one time. The Cullen Lake Shore Drive lift station will be handling about 1/3 of the waste water it is currently handling. The project will take two years to complete and they will be slip lining the existing sanitary sewer pipes.

Commissioner Petruzzi voiced concerns over a paper based material that was used originally in Lake Conway Estates for the sewer hook-ups. He stated the material is called "Orangeburg" and if it is disturbed it will fall apart. He asked how this will be dealt with.

Mr. Williams advised it is a County Project, but typically anything that is beyond the connection point towards the resident is the owner's responsibility.

Commissioner Prince asked about the tax impact a \$350,000 shortfall in our budget will have.

City Manager Williams stated his fear is not now, but for next year. He stated we are at a point where we need to back garbage out of our budget. In FY 2008-09 we will have a short-fall.

Mayor Brooks responded that extracting garbage and recycling from our budget and placing those costs as fees on the tax bill is an option we should keep open.

Discussion ensued regarding budget and projected revenue decreases.

City Manager Williams advised a special budget workshop will be held as soon as more information is available.

City Manager William advised that many forms he receives from various State agencies and departments ask for the elected official's signature.

Mayor Brooks stated the Council could appoint the City Manager as the designee to sign state forms.

Commissioner Ady moved to appoint the City Manager as the City's designated signer of documents from various agencies and departments of the State of Florida. Commissioner Petruzzi seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

City Manger Williams advised the TRIM should be ready by July 10th and as stated there will be a workshop on the budget prior to the first public hearing. He stated he will draft more than one budget scenario for Council to consider.

Mr. Williams advised that he has had five interviews for the Finance position and of those three chose not to show and the best candidate to date is looking for \$70,000 annual salary.

There is still a vacancy in the Maintenance crew. The open position pays about \$10.00 per hour. Currently temps are being used.

Commissioner Prince asked if Mr. Williams had considered outsourcing the finance position and provided a contact for a local firm. She asked him to email the position ad to all the Commissioners.

City Manager Williams advised he would be out of town on vacation for a week.

Commissioner Prince asked how the four/ten hour day plan is working.

Mr. Williams responded it is working well.

Mayor Brooks advised a request for tree trimming has been made by Mr. Evertsen.

Commissioner Prince asked if the sawed off light pole at her driveway was going to be there forever.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Bennett reported the Judge in the McCrory property issue has scheduled two trials for Mr. McCrory to present his case. One trial will deal only with the \$1,000.00 clean up fee.

Mayor Brooks stated to Mr. Bennett he wanted to make sure the City's acceptance of the check from McCrory does not imply we endorse any action he is taking.

Mr. Bennett stated the Judge witnessed the check being received and made no comments that indicated it implied anything other than the debt being paid.

Any conflict over the sale of the property is between Mr. McCrory and the bidder.

The Judge extended the redemption period for McCrory. Mr. Bennett stated he disagreed with the time extension.

Mr. Bennett advised the City should adopt the proposed Election Day Ordinance based on the recommendation from the Supervisor of Elections. It does not impact the term of office, only the election date and qualifying period for the 2008 election.

Attorney Bennett discussed the proposed Vegetable Garden ordinance which has a provision to allow the current crop to be harvested, but the garden would not be replanted.

Discussion ensued and it was brought to the City Council's attention that advertising for this ordinance is very expensive because it requires two large display advertisements. \$1,500 is a conservative estimate of the advertising.

Commissioner Spaulding suggested that was a poor use of tax payer's money and suggested we try to deal with the issue by another approach instead of adopting the ordinance.

Commissioner Spaulding moved to table consideration of the ordinance and stated objection to the cost and impact on the residents. Commissioner Scott seconded the motion which passed without objection.

Discussion ensued regarding nuisance abatement and it was requested by Council that City Manager Williams bring back the nuisance abatement information he had provided Council some time ago.

Discussion then turned to the Livestock and Poultry prohibition ordinance. It was the consensus of Council that this is an issue that has occurred with enough frequency that it is worthy of adopting.

Commissioner Scott asked that the word "domestic" be removed from the ordinance to make it clearer.

It was the consensus of Council for the ordinance to be advanced for first reading.

Mr. Bennett advised he would prepare the final Poultry/Livestock ordinance for Council's action.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Commissioner Ady asked when the shopping cart ordinance would be enforced.

Mr. Williams responded on July 1, 2007 the City can begin issuing violation notices.

Commissioner Ady also asked when the upgrade to the water system in Daetwyler Shores and Conway Gardens will begin.

Mr. Williams responded it has been delayed another year, so maybe 2008-09.

Mr. Ady asked about the water drainage issue at the west end of Trentwood Blvd. where the new berms were installed.

City Manager Williams advised Mr. Ady it would be inspected.

Commissioner Prince advised the Deltona Sexual Predator Ordinance is being challenged.

She also provided a draft agreement from Landrum for the scope of work for employee interviews.

City Manager Williams advised the Council took action on the matter at the July 10, 2007 meeting so it is already awarded to Landrum.

Commissioner Petruzzi – no report.

Commissioner Scott – asked about appointing a committee to review the results. He stated in the past the Personnel Committee would have been the review entity.

City Manager Williams stated he thought it should go to an independent committee made up of one Commissioner and two city residents.

Mayor Brooks stated it can go directly to the City Council as they approved the agreement for the work.

Mayor Brooks asked that a Certificate of Appreciation be prepared for Ralph Winterhoff in recognition of all the time he puts in on our website.

Commissioner Scott – no report.

Commissioner Pisano – asked that the rental ordinance be considered again with the onerous items removed.

She also stated there were too many very big trucks on Hoffner.

Mayor Brooks thanked Commissioner Pisano for her efforts in working on issues in our community and extended his thanks to Commissioner Readey for his efforts also.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Brooks advised the LaBelle Beach park needs more frequent mowing and garbage removal. He stated we need to raise the bar on park amenities.

Mayor Brooks asked about the status of the Delia Beach/Gene Polk Park project.

City Manager Williams stated he has had no reply from Miller-Legg and the plans are going through permitting review at Orange County. The utility meter requests are also pending review.

Mayor Brooks stated he would like to see information signage on the back side of exiting stop signs. The location would provide additional signage without additional sign poles. He also asked that we use better paint or stop bar material as what we are using is not holding up to the wear.

We need additional maintenance of our signs and better enforcement to prevent graffiti.

Mayor Brooks advised speed enforcement on Lake Conway is non-existent. He said on Sunday afternoons around 4 – 4:30 pm a large “Donzi” type boat is running wild on the lake can cutting in too close to docks, shorelines and other boats and jet skiers. He said he is beginning to agree with Commissioner Ady that Belle Isle needs to opt out of the LCNAB funding and use that money for additional enforcement on our lakes. He stated the worst time is between 2 and 5 pm on Sundays for the middle lake. He reported a small “checkmate” race boat in out on Sunday afternoons also running full open.

Mayor Brooks asked about the possibility of getting a flashing school crossing signal installed at the school crossing on Hoffner in Lake Conway Estates/Windsor Place to draw attention to the crossing. Traffic is not slowing down when children are present.

Mayor Brooks recommended Belle Isle work with Orange County to get the warranted traffic signal installed at Gondola and McCoy. He stated FDOT is to work it into their work schedule as the HNTB report documents the intersection warrants the installation.

Mayor Brooks asked about the decision of the Planning and Zoning Board on the variance to front setback request for 5000 St. Denis Court.

Suzanne O’Shea responded the board approved the variance.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Belinda Lathem Bateman, MMC
City Clerk