

**CITY OF BELLE ISLE
REGULAR WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 25, 2009
8:30 A.M.**

The Belle Isle City Council met in Regular Workshop on Wednesday, February 25th, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. in the Belle Isle City Hall Council Chambers, 1600 Nela Avenue, Belle Isle, Fl 32809.

The following members were present:

William G. Brooks	Mayor
Trudy Prince	District 2
Charles Scott	District 3
Harvey Readey	District 5
Lydia Pisano	District 6

Not present were Vice Mayor Ady, District 4, Commissioner Spaulding, District 7 and Commissioner Petruzzi, District 1

Also present were City Manager Be Bateman, City Attorney John Bennett, City Clerk Miriam Rodriguez, and others

Mayor Brooks turned the floor to Kelly Leary of McDirmit-Davis presenting audited financials.

Mrs. Bateman said the organizational chart needs to be changed.

Mrs. Leary presented the audited financials page by page. After several questions from Council, Mayor Brooks thanked Mrs. Leary for her presentation.

Mayor Brooks called forward Chief Tegg to administer Oath of Office.

After being sworn in, Chief Tegg gave his progress report on the Belle Isle Police Department. He said we are still waiting for the septic tank to be inspected.

Mrs. Bateman said we have received a letter from Ed Mills asking to be the police department's attorney.

Chief Tegg said Ed Mills is the police attorney for the City of Oakland. The letter is a sole solicitation.

Mayor Brooks asked if we needed to advertise the position.

Attorney Bennett said he will research it further and see if it needed to be advertised.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Brooks spoke on code compliance, he said if we took off a load from the code compliance officer, why are there still problems at Barby Lane, on Island, it looks like dogs got into the garbage, there is a Pro-Haul dumpster, in general the litter along Hoffner and Gondola, maybe we should get Larry to make a frequent run. Winn Dixie, one of the lights on the poles is not working. The code says it has to be lit in the night time, is on the Hoffner driveway. There are overnight semi trucks parking at Winn Dixie. Can we ask City of Orlando to clean Conway Road South of Hoffner, I know that their contractor is bound for that stretch of road maintenance, it is overgrown, there are leaves, sand, debris in gutters. We should let the County know the street sweeper is not going into certain streets as I followed him through the city. Along Indian again, there is a boat and a trailer on the driveway. Along the city there is a problem with the reflectors. Probably 90% of the reflectors are gone and need to be replaced. On Hoffner there are large holes in the pavement between Gran Lac and Belleville and between Alsace and Montmart. There is a problem with the edge of pavement on St Michael or St Germaine.

Mayor Brooks spoke on the school situation in Belle Isle. We all know what our problem in Belle Isle is and that is Oakridge High School, we need to have a quality High School for our school children to go to. He mentioned ideas about getting a charter High School. We generally have a good elementary and middle school. I have had three meetings with Dwight Saathoff and Taylor Smith, what we have discussed is that a charter school is something we can do in Belle Isle. I have asked Dwight and Taylor to give us a ballpark figure to put together how this would be funded, what it would cost the city, and the residents. I would like for the Council to consider authorizing the City Manager to spend up to \$20,000 to evaluate whether it is feasible for the City of Belle Isle to have a charter school. I would like to ask Dwight and Taylor to do a presentation.

Commissioner Prince moved to authorize Mrs. Bateman to spend up to \$20,000 to have Dwight Saathoff and Taylor Smith do an evaluation to see whether it is feasible for the City of Belle Isle to start a charter school.

Commissioner Pisano seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mrs. Bateman asked Jeff Hewitt if he had a chance to talk to neighbors about the annexation.

Mr. Hewitt said there are fifteen pieces of properties, out of the fifteen, we have ten that have verbally voted yes.

Mayor Brooks asked if that was the majority of the acreage.

Mr. Hewitt responded yes.

Mr. Bennett said we are ready to move forward on this annexation.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Bennett said he has submitted Ordinance 09-04 on the portable units. It was agreed to change from 24 hours to 72 hours.

Regarding the Joyce Davis case, he thinks it will be dismissed.

Mr. Bennett also advised Council about adding an excerpt on the bottom of every email that states the public records law. He recommended that we use the wording used by the County.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mrs. Bateman said that we received a letter from DCA regarding our closeout on the Regal Boat Grant. We have proof that we have send them all of the documents and for some reason in Tallahassee it has disappeared. We have sent the information via fax, mail and certified mail. We are working with them to see what is still missing.

There is a status report from HDR in your packet

Mrs. Bateman said she met with Rep. Eisnagle and discussed the COPS grant monies. It was posted yesterday afternoon that the grant will be available in March for cops funding. They will pay their salary for three years, we are going to ask for five positions to be funded for new hires. This covers base salary and not benefits.

Mrs. Bateman presented the John and Nikki Wise situation, she said she went personally to see the status of the complaint and advised Mrs. Wise she will take care of the problem.

NO COUNCIL REPORTS

There being no further items to come before the Council, meeting was adjourned.

Miriam Rodriguez
City Clerk