

**CITY OF BELLE ISLE  
SPECIAL CALLED SESSION  
WORKSHOP AGENDA  
JUNE 23rd, 2009  
11:00 A.M.**

The Belle Isle City Council met in a Special Called Workshop on Wednesday, June 23rd, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. in the Belle Isle City Hall Council Chambers, 1600 Nela Avenue, Belle Isle, FL 32809.

The following members were present:

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|-------------------|------------|
| William G. Brooks | Mayor      |
| Keith Severns     | District 2 |
| Charles Scott     | District 3 |
| Larry Ady         | District 4 |
| Harvey Readey     | District 5 |
| Lydia Pisano      | District 6 |
| Eric Spaulding    | District 7 |

Not present was Commissioner Petruzzi, District 1

Also present were City Manager Be Bateman, City Attorneys John Bennett and Gayle Owens, Police Chief Tegg, City Clerk Miriam Rodriguez, and others

Mayor Brooks said we will start our agenda with the presentation by Dwight Saathoff and Taylor Smith of Project Finance and Development LLC. He said before they give their presentation I want to say this has been very positive, it's just an exciting time and it's been a pleasure to be part of this. With that, I will turn it over to Dwight and Taylor.

Taylor Smith said we will go through Phase 2, if you have any questions we can go back to Phase 1 as well. About a week ago Edgewood voted to move forward with Phase 2. Losing Pine Castle Elementary would be detrimental to the community and having that alternative would enhance the community. The only way to preserve PCE is to prepare and submit an application to the Orange County School District. You would have an agreement with the school board as a charter school and retain its existing faculty. It is a good thing for the teachers and the parents. August 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline to apply for the conversion. When a public school becomes a charter school, there is a federal grant for start up funds. The law says you can't do this unless you have 50% or more of the parents and the teachers' votes. We are going to have a meeting in July with the parents and the teachers. There will be a vote of the teachers and there will be a vote of the parents. In the case of this conversion, we are going to present the curriculum presently used.

Commissioner Readey asked, the kids that are now going to Pine Castle, some might come from another county, will they be allowed to go to this charter school?

Taylor Smith responded yes, it's called an interlocal agreement between the counties.

Commissioner Readey asked what is the school mission.

Dwight Saathoff said we do identify the vision in our scope of work, we will add the mission into a fact sheet as well.

Commissioner Readey said we should adopt the vision. I would hate to spend money that we don't have. I know you are looking at the future. We just need to know if there is going to be a Phase 3, a Phase 4 out of pocket expenses before the grant comes up.

Mayor Brooks said the Phase 2 money is something that the operator will pay us back.

Dwight Saathoff said you will always have the decision to advance funds for some aspects of the school.

Commissioner Pisano said I don't think we can put a price in enhancing our education for the city.

Commissioner Readey said a mission statement should make it clear we are not attempting to segregate. I would not want the ACLU, etc to come down on us.

Taylor Smith said all residents of Belle Isle and Edgewood will have equal access, whatever ethnic group will have equal access. No one is treated based on race or creed, we could not get it into the school system otherwise. We have to demonstrate the cities cannot discriminate.

Vice Mayor Ady moved to approve \$12,500.00 for Phase 2 services regarding the Charter School.

Commissioner Spaulding seconded the motion which passed 5:1 as Commissioner Readey voted nay.

A small break was taken. Mayor Brooks reconvened the meeting at 11:10 AM

Authorization by Council to pursue solar electric system for City Hall Annex (BIPD) not to exceed \$35,000 with anticipated state rebate of \$20,000.00

Mrs. Bateman said we had a bid from one company that advised us that there is a \$20,000 rebate which would reduce the cost to the City. We do not have any other quotes at this time. This is just an example of what a solar system will cost. We would still need to seek at least two other cost estimates before we select a vendor. Does the Council want to pursue solar electric at a cost not to exceed \$35,000; there is a 25 year warranty on the panels.

Commissioner Readey said I have learned from experience they deteriorate with time. They will still be working twenty five years from now, the return investment just might not be there.

Commissioner Spaulding said I would like to get more information on the warranty.

Commissioner Readey said I am not against the idea.

Commissioner Scott said I have a problem spending this amount of money; we have a budget situation next year.

Mayor Brooks said we took some solar off the roof, we put energy saving windows in. In theory if it didn't deteriorate, it would pay for itself, it would be mounted front roof portion. I think it is as much symbolic as functional.

Commissioner Readey said, I think it would be a good thing. I don't think we need to jump at it right away.

Mrs. Bateman said this is this year's rebate.

Commissioner Spaulding said I would not be opposed to seeing other bids.

Commissioner Pisano moved to authorize City Manager to pursue solar electric system by getting two additional bids

Commissioner Readey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Brooks said I sent emails and received an unfortunate response about the trucks parking in the ROW on Hoffner. Their staff never made a visit, there has not been any accidents so is not a problem, we will continue to pursue.

This past weekend we had an individual run over by the flotilla location. I made an inquiry to the National League of Cities and the Florida League of Cities dealing with large flotillas in the middle of the lake.

The lake bottom is getting a lot of litter especially in the construction zone, it is just getting more dangerous.

Sidewalk parking, maybe we can put a warning out, I am starting to see a lot more of it in areas where there is only one sidewalk.

Grass intrusion on curb on Gondola, please ask the maintenance guys to keep that on check.

At the last meeting we discussed CIP, we asked HDR to look at where we could install another device if we had the money.

Commissioner Spaulding said they need the street sweeper in his neighborhood.

Deliah Beach (Gene Polk Park) we had the problem with the pumps, has that been addressed?

Mrs. Bateman responded yes.

Mayor Brooks asked for an update on the annexation that includes Pine Castle Methodist Church.

Attorney Owens said Pine Castle Elementary has been added and Matchett Road down to Nela in the description. I don't have a timeline for you. There are four parcels that have a homestead exemption, based on that you can assume they are voters which would require our referendum, the two part consent, you have to have a majority vote and consent of the 40% of the land area. If we assume all of the property belongs to the church that is 13 parcels and 58% of the land area. You would have enough consent on that area. If we don't have any voters, then you would need the 58% yes votes and 13 parcels.

### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Boats on the lake – Attorney Bennett said the police officers can enforce the laws on boats, they would have to be certified for the boat and enforcement.

### **CHIEF TEGG'S REPORT**

Chief Tegg said he has hired a new female patrol officer her name is Norma Budnik, and we have hired a detective, Steve Strickland.

Next position for hire would be marine patrol officers, a Sergeant and one more police officer. Right now we are doing pretty good with the budget for this year.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mrs. Bateman said we have had a number of trees down due to the violent storms, we have a small sinkhole at Lake Conway Estates and the weather has taken its toll on us. We have had Lonny's Tree Service come in to remove trees and our crew also working on a limb on Overlook.

Mayor Brooks said he had mentioned to Chief Tegg about Waste Management training their employees to be extra eyes in the community. I would like Chief Tegg and Jim Swan to get together and discuss this.

Mrs. Bateman said the only other item I have is the consideration by Council to increase the purchase authorization from \$10,000 to \$25,000, if the Council wishes to entertain that.

Mayor Brooks asked Mrs. Bateman would you still get competitive bids

Mrs. Bateman responded absolutely.

Commissioner Readey said the \$10,000 is making it hard for you to get things done quickly.

Mrs. Bateman said I think it is a little low for these times, whatever you prefer I would work with. On some issues, it is a hardship. We have things like lake maintenance, emergency tree service, some things I can't wait five – seven days for a Council meeting to get authorization.

Mayor Brooks said you can research it and if we need an ordinance, you would like to have a motion authorizing to increase the purchase limit, at which time, if it is a resolution or an ordinance we can begin the process.

Commissioner Scott moved to start the process.

Commissioner Readey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

## **CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Vice Mayor Ady said** I have an issue with the city credit card without a tax exempt certificate. I think we need to have a policy or add a disclaimer to the travel form that if the exempt certificate is not accepted, it is up to the city hall staff to go after the venue.

Mrs. Bateman said if you are not using the city credit card you cannot get the exemption.

Vice Mayor Ady moved to add a disclaimer on the travel expense report to state that if the hotel does not accept the tax exempt certificate, when the bill comes city staff will make the necessary phone calls to get the tax money returned.

Commissioner Pisano asked is that a financial policy?

Commissioner Pisano seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER SCOTT** said I was playing with my GPS the other day, for safety you can call the closest police department, Belle Isle still doesn't show up. Maybe we can look into that.

**COMMISSIONER PISANO** asked if we were going to plan a lake Conway or parks clean up day.

Mayor Brooks said I thought we were going to wait for the waters to cool down because of the amoeba.

**COMMISSIONER SEVERNS** said I was approached at the BBQ about Deliah Park not being taken care of.

Have we heard on the Lombardi's request?

Mrs. Bateman said we have not been contacted.

**COMMISSIONER READEY:** said, I am working with Chief Tegg, we are still going to do Citizens On Patrol with the County until we figure out what we are going to do.

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

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Miriam Rodriguez  
City Clerk