

TAB 2

**DRAFT
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
January 3, 2011
7:00 PM**

Elected Officials Present

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Tamara Cornwell, Vice Mayor, Commissioner-at-Large 2
Mary Lancaster, Commissioner, Ward 1
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward 2
Brian Williams, Commissioner, Ward 3

Elected Officials Absent

Alan Zirkelbach, Commissioner-at-Large 1

Staff Present:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Jeff Burton, CRA Director
Jim Freeman, City Attorney
Lorraine Lyn, City Planner
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Rick Wells, Chief of Police
Diane Ponder, Deputy Clerk-Administration

Call to order, followed by a Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Andy Hanson, Florida League of Cities representing the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust, presented a check for \$35,361, a return of premium paid by the City for property, Worker's Compensation and automobile and casualty insurance.

Swearing-in of all persons intending to address City Commission.

Public Comment (non-agenda items): None

1. CITY COMMISSION AGENDA APPROVAL

MOTION: Commissioner Varnadore moved, Commissioner Williams seconded and motion carried 4-0 to approve the January 3, 2011 7:00 PM Agenda.

2. CITY COMMISSION CONSENT AGENDA

MAYOR'S OFFICE

A) **2011 Appointments**

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

- A) **Minutes:** December 13, 2010
- B) **Special Function Permit** – Klingbiel Wedding
- C) **Verizon Application for Service** – Authorize Mayor to execute application for installation of a FIOS 35Mbps fiber Internet connection
- D) **Windstream Government Telecom Services** - Proposal to install a T-1 circuit at City Hall and at the Police Department, with Public Works receiving service from both circuits and the City's fiber optic network
- E) **Budget Resolution 2011-01** – Adopt Resolution to establish budget for the capital lease/purchase of the new phone system approved by City Commission December 13, 2010

- F) **Budget Resolution 2011-02** – Adopt Resolution to transfer of funds from Parks to Code Enforcement for an independent law service vendor to address issues relating to abandoned properties
- G) **TECO Peoples Gas Service Application** – Authorize Mayor to execute application and acknowledge as a sole source provider for the installation of a natural gas line for the new City Hall generator
- H) **Capital Purchase of a new generator for City Hall Price Revision** – Approve increase in purchase price of \$2,830; total purchase price from TAW Power Systems not to exceed \$40,239
- I) **Budget Resolution 2011-03** – Adopt Resolution to establish budget for the revised price increase of \$2,830 for the City Hall generator purchase
- J) **Legal Billings** – Approval of special litigation billings for Kirk Pinkerton, Bryant Miller Olive (Labor & Employment) and Persson and Cohen (Manatee Fruit Company)

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Special Fence Permit – Approve Lone Oak Mobile Home Park application for a six-foot white tongue and groove PVC fence along the eastern property

City Clerk items C, D, E and H were removed for discussion.

MOTION: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Williams seconded and motion carried 4-0 to approve Mayor's Office 2A and City Clerk's Office items 2B, F, G, I and J.

Item C: The Verizon application for service is for Internet connectivity, and will result in a monthly savings of approximately \$170.

Item D: As recommended by MiTel, the provider for the City's new phone system, Windstream Government Telecom Services will install T1 circuits to provide 24 lines under one single line. The installation will be under budget by approximately \$3,000, with anticipated savings of \$200 per month.

Item E: The additional information supplied in the agenda was extra communications between the vendor and the government services representative prior to the contract being finalized.

Item H: Mr. Freeman explained the reason for the increase in the quote, stating the vendor still remains the lowest of three, and still within budget. The electrical contractor is the only remaining vendor in the installation of the generator.

Mr. Freeman informed the Commission the cell tower installation may begin in May.

MOTION: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Williams seconded and motion carried 4-0 to approve items 2C, D, E and H.

Planning Dept. Special Fence Permit

Lorraine Lyn stated the proposed 6' vinyl tongue and groove fence will replace the existing chain link fence on the eastern border of the property. She stated the installation of the fence must comply with the vision site triangle David Bailey, Cherokee, stated the installation will only replace the existing fence, and 100' on the west side of the property on 10th Street to conceal the abutting commercial property. The fence will be at least 48' feet from the highway

MOTION: Commissioner Varnadore moved, Commissioner Williams seconded and motion carried 4-0 to approve the Special Fence Permit for Lone Oak Trailer Park.

3. PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO. 2010-20

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; ANNEXING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, GENERALLY LOCATED IN THE FORMER RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR 8TH AVENUE WEST, SOUTH OF 23RD STREET WEST AND NORTH OF U.S. 41, INTO THE CITY OF PALMETTO; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF CITY BOUNDARIES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Bryant opened the public hearing. Mayor Bryant closed the public hearing after no public comment.

MOTION: Commissioner Lancaster moved, Commissioner Cornwell seconded and motion carried 4-0 to adopt Ordinance No. 2010-20.

4. PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO. 2010-21

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 08-976 TO APPROVE AN AMENDED GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE PROPERTIES DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A", LOCATED IN THE PD ZONING DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (GDP 2010-21, Perle Fine LLC, 1102 Riverside Dr., approx. 0.64 acres).

Mayor Bryant opened the public hearing.

Mary Marsh Lassiter, Architect for the project and representing the property owner, appealed the stipulations placed on the amended general development plan by the P&Z Board. She explained that the concept of the project had changed by reducing the guest rooms to six to nine and the parking spaces from twelve to seven. The proposed plan was reviewed by Ms. Lassiter. The proposed parking spaces will have a 3.5 foot grade change for vehicles backing out onto 11th Avenue and will have two plant medians to allow an island of safety for pedestrians. Curb stops will be against the building.

Mr. Tusing and Ms. Lyn confirmed that staff approved the plan as presented as the seven parking spaces meet; Code requirements; and this property being more like many residential structures than commercial, sidewalks are located so that vehicles back across them to gain street access. Ms. Lyn also confirmed that the Bed & Breakfast has made alternate parking arrangements for activities that will create more traffic.

Palmetto Bed & Breakfast Innkeeper Wim Lippens confirmed that all landscaping placed in the parking medians will be low and maintained by the B&B.

Ms. Lassiter reviewed the dimensions of the handicapped, compact and regular parking spaces contained in the plan. Attorney Barnebey opined that seven spaces can be approved by Commission but they must be at least 10'x20' or angled as suggested by Commissioner Williams, which would therefore eliminate stipulations #2 and #3 for plan approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Varnadore moved, Commissioner Williams seconded and motion carried 4-0 to approved GDP08-01 revision 2 and Ordinance 2010-21 with Section 2 being that the proposed amended General Development Plan is hereby approved with the following stipulation: 1) The project shall have a minimum of seven parking places which shall be at least 9'x20' in size located on the subject property.

Mayor Bryant recognized School Board Chair Bob Gause.

5. PUBLIC HEARING: CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT #2010-05

Application for approval for a commercial apartment at 702 9th St. W.

Mayor Bryant opened the public hearing.

Ms. Lyn stated that the applicant should have been aware the item was on the agenda, but was not in attendance.

Mayor Bryant closed the public hearing after no public comment.

MOTION: Commissioner Varnadore moved, Commissioner Lancaster seconded and motion carried 3-1 to approve Conditional Use Permit (CU2010-05) for a commercial apartment at 702 9th St. W. Commissioner Williams voted no.

6. PUBLIC HEARING: CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT #CU2010-06

Application for approval for video amusements/computer slots/games space at Palm Plaza I, 1035 Hasko Road.

Mayor Bryant opened the public hearing. Mayor Bryant closed the public hearing after no public comment.

MOTION: Commissioner Lancaster moved and Commissioner Cornwell seconded to approve Conditional Use Permit (CU2010-06) for video amusements/computer slots/games space at Palm Plaza 1, 1035 Hasko Road.

Discussion: Jim Amerson, managing partner for the project, stated patrons will be able to rent computer space on terminals that will be on site to sign up for sweepstakes, check email, and play games, with prizes and possible cash prizes being awarded. He presumes patrons will have to be 18 years of age or older to enter the premises.

Attorney Barnebey stated there were no conditions listed by the P&Z Board in its approval, but the venue would have to abide by State laws.

The motion on the floor failed as the result of a 2-2 vote. Commissioners Cornwell and Lancaster voted yes; Commissioners Varnadore and Williams voted no.

Commissioner Lancaster inquired if the absent Commission could ask that the item be reconsidered. Attorney Barnebey advised that the prevailing side would have to make a motion to reconsider and continue the item until the next meeting, or it could be brought back up for reconsideration at the next meeting after re-advertisement.

MOTION: Commissioner Williams moved, Commissioner Cornwell seconded and motion carried 3-1 to reconsider the Conditional Use Permit, CU2010-06. Commissioner Varnadore voted no.

MOTION: Commissioner Williams moved, Commissioner Lancaster seconded and motion carried 3-1 to continue this item to the next regularly scheduled meeting on January 24, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the item can be heard in these chambers. Commissioner Varnadore voted no.

7. ELECTION OF VICE MAYOR

Mayor Bryant informed Commission that Commissioner Zirkelbach has indicated he would be interested in serving as Vice Mayor.

MOTION: Commissioner Lancaster moved, Commission Cornwell seconded and motion carried 4-0 to elect Alan Zirkelbach as Vice Mayor.

Mayor Bryant recessed the City Commission meeting at 8:05 to open the CRA Board meeting.

Mayor Bryant reconvened the City Commission meeting at 8:25 p.m.

8. 23rd STREET REALIGNMENT UPDATE/BASEBALL FIELD UPDATE

None

9. DEBORAH GESTNER UPDATE

Deborah Gestner, Capital Philanthropy Group, narrated a presentation on the Blackstone Park Project [23rd Street realignment and ball field complex project], a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

Ms. Gestner discussed the CDBG-ED grant of \$750,000 and Road Trust Fund grant of \$2 million she is pursuing. She also discussed the participation of YMCA of Manatee in the project and the impact on the project if the Y does not build on the site.

Mr. Freeman and Attorney Barnebey discussed the \$4.8 million estimated cost of the ball field project and the shortfall of \$1.25 to \$4 million, depending on the award from the Road Trust Fund and CDBG-ED grants. If the YMCA is located at Blackstone and if both grants are awarded for approximately \$2.75 million, the City faces a \$1.25 million shortfall. Should the YMCA not located at Blackstone, a funding shortfall of \$2.2 - \$2.7 million is possible. The City has \$800,000 available in funding for either scenario; therefore, formal commitments from Manatee County and the School Board would be necessary for either shortfall amount.

In addition, the inspection period with Manatee Fruit [properties involved in the land swap for the project] will expire January 7, 2011, and the additional environmental study is not yet complete. Commission was asked to either authorize Attorney Barnebey to request an extension or to authorize the Mayor to terminate the agreement if the extension cannot be reached.

MOTION: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Lancaster seconded and motion carried 4-0 to authorize the City Attorney, through special counsel, to request an additional extension of the inspection period with Manatee Fruit and authorize the Mayor to terminate the agreement if the extension cannot be reached.

The update provided Commission will also be presented at the Council of Governments tomorrow. Immediately following that meeting, a workshop will be also held to discuss the pool at Blackstone Park.

Mr. Tusing updated Commission on the county's scheduling of fields at Blackstone Park between the Little League and adult leagues. Mr. Gause also confirmed that the Little League declined use of the field at Lincoln Middle, citing the lack of lights as the issue. Mr. Tusing also confirmed that Sutton Park and the 14th Avenue fields had been offered the Little League for T-ball.

10. DEPARTMENT HEADS' COMMENTS

Mr. Tusing

No report.

Mayor Bryant commented on the directional sign for Woman's Club.

Mr. Freeman

Thanked the Public Works staff who assisted in the remodel of the chambers.

Informed Commission that staff had applied for a matching Florida League of Cities safety grant to fund the exterior lighting at City Hall. The quote for the lighting is \$9,800, of which the City will fund \$4,800, if the grant is award. Commission concurred with the application.

The second energy grant of \$150,000 has been awarded and will be on the next agenda for acceptance. The funds will purchase an alternate fuel vehicle and replace HVAC systems in City buildings.

Chief Wells

The Police Department will be supplying information on techniques they will to employ in keeping up with crime in the city, and how they will fund any purchases of necessary equipment.

Reported his department is still working with Publix to improve crime prevention by correcting an existing hedge at the site.

Extra staff will be on site for the new Palmetto Elementary opening and someone will be stationed at the old school. It was suggested that the electronic sign be used at the old location.

Attorney Barnebey

No report.

11. MAYOR'S REPORT

Reported she had requested that the School Board issue a press release regarding the old Palmetto Elementary site and the fencing.

Thanked staff for the chambers new configuration stating it was "public friendly".

12. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Mrs. Lancaster

No report.

Ms. Cornwell

Thanked Commissioner Cornwell for attending the Historic Board meeting.

Chief Wells confirmed he met with security team to discuss any issues with traffic for the opening day of the new school.

Mr. Tusing confirmed that two lanes in the construction area on 17th St. will be open.

Ms. Varnadore

No report.

Commended the department heads for answering all of her question very well.

Mr. Williams

Reported he has received positive calls regarding the police presence in the community.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Minutes approved:

James R. Freeman
City Clerk

CITY COMMISSION MEETING
January 4, 2011
4:00 PM

Elected Officials Present

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Tamara Cornwell, Vice Mayor, Commissioner-at-Large 2
Mary Lancaster, Commissioner, Ward 1
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward 2
Brian Williams, Commissioner, Ward 3

Elected Officials Absent

Alan Zirkelbach, Commissioner-at-Large 1

Staff Present

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director

On January 4, 2011 the City Commissioners participated in the Council of Governments meeting held at the Manatee Civic Center, beginning at 4:00 p.m.

There were presentations on the issues outlined on the attached agenda.

Minutes approved:

James R. Freeman
City Clerk

Council of Governments Meeting

MINUTES

JAN. 4, 2011

4:00 PM - 5:20 PM

MANATEE CIVIC CENTER, PALMETTO, FLORIDA

Attendees:

Manatee County: Carol Whitmore, Joe McClash, John Chappie, Larry Bustle, Donna Hayes, Michael Gallen, Robin DiSabatino, County Administrator Ed Hunzeker, Chief Deputy County Attorney Jim Minix, and other county staff;

School Board: Harry Kinnan, Bob Gause, Barbara Harvey, Julie Aranibar, Karen Carpenter, Superintendent Tim McGonegal

City of Bradenton: City Clerk Carl Callahan, Patrick Roff

City of Bradenton Beach: Mayor Robert Bartelt, Edward Straight

City of Anna Maria: Mayor Michael Selby, John Quam

City of Palmetto: Mary Lancaster, Mayor Shirley Bryant, Tamara Cornwell, Brian Williams, Tandra Varnadore

Town of Longboat Key: Bob Siekmann, Jim Brown, David Brenner, Mayor George Spoll

City of Holmes Beach: David Zaccagnino, Al Robinson

Fire Districts: Tom Flynn (Cedar Hammock), Garry Lawson and Byron Teates (East Manatee), John McInnis (North River)

Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority: CEO Rick Piccolo

Agenda topics

WELCOME

COMMISSIONER CAROL WHITMORE

Commissioner Whitmore welcomed new county and city commissioners and School Board members who were elected to office in 2010.

UPDATE ON DERELICT VESSEL REMOVAL

PRESENTER: CHARLIE HUNSICKER AND ALAN LAIHIPP,
NATURAL RESOURCES, MANATEE COUNTY

Alan LaiHipp gave a review of the history of the program and update on Manatee County's abandoned vessel program that began in 2005. Abandoned vessels turn up in a variety of places – such as the Hwy 64 boat ramp, Palma Sola Causeway, under Green Bridge – and present a safety concern for boaters in all jurisdictions. He reviewed the procedure for notifying owners and if no owner is found, the eventual disposal of derelict vessels in the county landfill. There is no response from the registered owner 99% of the time, so responsibility falls to the county for the cost of removal. If the owner responds there are no regulations requiring them to remove the vessel. Mr. LaiHipp reviewed the portions of F.S. 327 that restrict local governments from regulating non live-aboard vessels outside of mooring fields and which present challenges to the removal of derelict boats. Currently, local governments are unable to enforce where, or for how long a vessel can anchor outside of mooring fields. In addition, mooring fields have a lengthy permitting process. 2009 legislative changes still prohibit local government regulation and changed the definition of a live-aboard vessel to make it difficult to prove that the vessel is used as a residence.

DISCUSSION

The state has begun a pilot program study and five geographic test areas will be chosen by 7/1/2011 (Sarasota is a candidate). Cities in the program will be allowed to regulate by ordinance the anchoring of all vessels outside of mooring fields during the study time period. However, the program will expire in 2014 and all ordinances enacted as part of the study will expire at that time. Mr. LaiHipp noted the achievements of the last few months: the county has initiated a Marine Resource Officer program in partnership with the Manatee Sheriff's Office; a full-time marine officer has been 100% funded by a grant from WCIND; law enforcement presence has increased with a corresponding increase in citations for expired registrations and other violations; a real-time database has been created to help track vessels. All future removals will be 100% WCIND grant funded. Boat owners will be invoiced and the state notified of non-payment, which will prevent registration renewals for vessels and vehicles until reimbursement is made to the county. The Coast Guard plans future nighttime enforcement operations to write citations and identify abandoned vessels.

CONCLUSIONS

Questions: Commissioner John Chappie thanked Alan LaiHipp for the achievements of the last few months in removing derelict vessels. He also thanked the MSO for their partnership with us in addressing a countywide safety issue that affects all the cities. School Board Member Karen Carpenter asked if there are any insurance requirements that would provide monetary recovery. Alan LaiHipp noted that many of these boats are old and probably uninsured. Commissioner Joe McClash responded that the state does not require insurance and he is thankful that our county has fewer problems than many others because of our enforcement efforts. He proposed enacting a regulation to identify any boats within our waters for 30 days or more. He has observed a good number with no navigational lights, which is a safety violation. Commissioner Donna Hayes responded that no insurance company will insure a boat over 12 years old. Commissioner Chappie noted that abandoned vessels came up during county emergency planning meetings – what would we do about them a storm approached? Charlie Hunsicker responded that Manatee County has contracts with four statewide firms for storm clean-up that we hope will cover our needs.

Mr. Hunsicker expressed his thanks to Sheriff Brad Steube, Captain Ron Couch, and the new marine control officer for their assistance to the county and to boaters on the water.

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

Regular updates to the COG were requested

Charlie Hunsicker/Alan LaiHipp

None

PUBLIC SEATING PROGRAM

PRESENTER: ED HUNZEKER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Hunzeker discussed a county initiative to provide more covered bus shelters and better customer service to transit riders by protecting them from the sun and rain overhead. This should encourage ridership of the transit system. The additional costs will be borne by the vendor in exchange for advertising on the end panels. The county is in the process of preparing two RFQs – one for shelters and one for benches. Smaller benches will be placed where the larger shelters are unable to fit on the roadside. Because some of the shelters will be placed inside the municipalities the cities are invited to participate in the process and provide input into the details of the RFQ. County staff will be available to meet with staff from the cities or make a presentation to city commissions.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Whitmore noted that three cities already have specific designs for their bus shelters. Commissioner David Zaccagnino (Holmes Beach) asked about using a design similar to the island along the Palma Sola causeway. Mayor Shirley Bryant (Palmetto) asked to be included and that she is currently involved in designing a bus shelter for Palmetto. Barbara Harvey said she would welcome the increased overhead coverage for riders, but requested a sign be placed indicating their use for bus riders only to prohibit loitering and sleeping in the shelters. Commissioner McClash noted the need to review each city's sign ordinances and policies for advertising, expressed concern about providing a place for criminals to hide, and encouraged the cities to be involved.

CONCLUSIONS Representatives from the cities should contact Mr. Hunzeker's office to be included in the RFQ design process.

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

None

FILM COMMISSION UPDATE

PRESENTER: ELLIOTT FALCIONE, CVB DIRECTOR

DISCUSSION This item is deferred until the next COG meeting on April 5, 2011.

SARASOTA-BRADENTON AIRPORT AUTHORITY

PRESENTER: ED HUNZEKER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

DISCUSSION

Mr. Rick Piccolo, Exec. Dir. for the Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority, presented a request from the Airport Authority Board to be included as a participant in the Council of Governments. Because the Airport Authority operates in Manatee and Sarasota counties the Board would like to be included to increase dialogue with local governments in Manatee County. If approved, one of the Airport Authority Board members will be appointed (Jack Rynerson or Carlos Beruff) to serve as the liaison. No objections were noted. Commissioner Whitmore encouraged approval of their request for inclusion.

CONCLUSIONS The Airport Authority will be included in future meetings and will designate a Board member as their liaison.

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority to designate a liaison and notify Manatee County Administrator's Office

Rick Piccolo

Prior to 4-5-11 (next COG)

PALMETTO BALL FIELDS

PRESENTERS: MAYOR SHIRLEY GROOVER BRYANT, PALMETTO, DEBORAH GESTNER (GRANT CONSULTANT), MARK BARNEBEY (CITY ATTORNEY)

Mayor Bryant spoke about the partnership between the School Board, City of Palmetto & Manatee County with an update on the status of the ball field project and the opportunity for further partnership in building new recreational facilities for the residents of Palmetto. Deborah Gestner reviewed the project timeline from 2006 and all the parties that have been involved. Phase 1 included finding a new location for Palmetto Elementary School and was completed with the opening of the new school this week. The City of Palmetto plans to use the proceeds of the land sale to the School Board to partially fund the ball fields. The City has now begun Phase 2 involving the replacement and construction of the ball fields lost to the elementary school site. The complicated number of land swaps involved 1800 pages of emails and legal documents and won't be final until later this year. Credit was given to all who worked in partnership to make the land swap possible: Manatee Fruit Company, the City, School Board, and Manatee County YMCA.

DISCUSSION

The YMCA is now interested in possibly relocating their headquarters to the Blackstone Park site and is undertaking a marketing and design study to study the recreational needs of the community, design of the ball field site and the best location for the YMCA. A \$2 million road trust fund grant and a \$750,000 CDBG grant for economic development have been applied for, but receipt of those grants is contingent upon the YMCA relocation. Ms. Gestner explained that the site plan can be expanded to include the ball fields, the YMCA and a swimming pool that will meet the recreational needs of the city. The YMCA has proposed to hire at least 50 employees. Palmetto has \$750,000 available to cover the costs of extension of 10th Street, and the city hopes to start construction in the summer of 2011. She thanked the group for their involvement and participation in this project. Goals that could be reached would be improved parks, public facilities, Boys and Girls Club, enhanced traffic flow, economic enhancement, and job creation at the new YMCA for 50 people (minimum of 22 people required).

Mark Barnebey (Palmetto City Attorney) spoke about the breakdown of project costs. The total cost is \$4.8 million for the ball field project, and if all grant funds are awarded there is still a shortfall of \$1.25 million to be raised to complete the project.

There are 3 possible scenarios depending on the results of the market study, with varying costs:

- Scenario 1: Ball fields and the YMCA at Blackstone Park - \$1.25 million still needed
- Scenario 2: Ball fields at Blackstone but the YMCA at a site other than Blackstone - \$3.2M shortfall
- Scenario 3: If another site is chosen for the ball fields, the cost could be approx. \$3M, with a funding shortfall of \$2.2 M

All entities have worked very hard, met their commitments, and the School Board has provided additional funding. The County has agreed to maintain the fields once they are built. There's just not enough money to build the ball fields at this time. At this point the focus is on funding the shortfall and formal commitments from all organizations to eliminate funding gap so the project can continue to move forward. Construction could begin in Spring 2011 if funding needs are met.

Mayor Bryant said that the goal is to provide a safer environment for the children for sports. The kids have been displaced from their ball fields and the City needs a commitment to gain the funding in order to proceed. City staff believes the best site to be at the new 23rd street. Many obstacles have been overcome already and could be a shining star of community cooperation. The money could be borrowed or an agreement be reached for repayment. Adding the YMCA and swimming pool would be a great addition so that children could learn how to swim safely. These 3 options provide the way to accomplish the project.

Commissioner Whitmore thanked Mayor Bryant and noted that further discussion would take place following the COG meeting at the joint special meeting between the City, School Board and Manatee County. Because the meeting was not publicly noticed 48-hours prior (as required by the School Board) only a discussion will take place today. No formal action will be taken.

CONCLUSIONS None – meeting with the City of Palmetto, Manatee County School Board and Manatee County will immediately follow.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
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None

COMPETITIVE ROWING PROGRAM PRESENTER: DAVE GUSTAFSON, PLANNING DEPT.

Mr. Gustafson announced a ribbon cutting has been scheduled for the Ft. Hamer Park rowing facilities on Friday, Jan. 14. This is the result of a partnership that began with Sarasota County at Nathan Benderson Park in Sarasota. The economic development potential for this project is in the millions of dollars including possible scholarships for our local youth. Since May 18 last year the county decided to build the facility. Northeastern college's rowing team arrived last week. Harvard's rowing team will be there next week. The excitement has continued to build with various school teams and regattas scheduled at Ft. Hamer and Nathan Benderson. The School Board donated some equipment and Harvard is bringing over \$1 million of equipment with them next week. The level of excitement just keeps growing and the sky is the limit of the ideas being generated for growth and development. Mr. Gustafson provided copies of the 2011 rowing team training schedule with dates and locations of upcoming events.

Commissioner Chappie thanked Mr. Gustafson for his involvement and noted that the opportunities will be tremendous for scholarship opportunities for our local kids, encouraging them to interact with the visiting teams and learn about educational opportunities. Commissioner Whitmore said she visited with Northeastern College team who were very appreciative of the facility. The visiting teams, parents and coaches will bring revenues to local businesses. School Board Member Julie Aranibar mentioned that she interacted with some parents of the Northeastern College team last week who were asking questions about local real estate and condo availability.

CONCLUSIONS The competitive rowing facilities will be a significant economic boon to our two-county area.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
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The ribbon cutting/grand opening is scheduled for January 14 at 10:30 a.m. at Fort Hamer Park

OPEN COMMENTS/OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Whitmore encouraged the cities to send in discussion items for the next agenda.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Bob Siekmann (Longboat Key) asked for an update on the Marine Rescue building project at Coquina Beach and the facilities available. He requested that a tour for local officials be scheduled. Discussion took place about the deepwater dock construction, storage for MSO vessels and boat slips for emergency vessels, and equipment storage. Commissioner Joe McClash requested an update on any agreements with MSO and City of Bradenton Beach at an upcoming BCC meeting. If the Town of Longboat Key desires the use of the building, please contact county staff.

Mr. Hunzeker said that a report will be provided at the next County Commission meeting about the schedule of events, ribbon cutting and facilities at the new Marine Rescue building. Staff will provide that information to the cities about the ribbon cutting and the facilities. He noted that it would be advisable to wait until the building is occupied by the County and operations have begun before signing usage agreements with other entities.

Commissioner Brian Williams (Palmetto) reminded everyone about the Manatee County Fair, Jan. 13-21.

School Board Member Barbara Harvey invited everyone to the ribbon cutting on Feb. 5 at 2:30 p.m. at the new Kelly Brown Career Development Center across the street from Lincoln Middle School that will address the career needs of students.

CONCLUSIONS

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

County staff to provide a report at a future BCC regular meeting about the schedule of events for the new Marine Rescue building on Coquina Beach and its facilities.

Ed Hunzeker

**CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
DECEMBER 11, 2006
2:00 PM**

Elected Officials Present

Larry Bustle, Mayor

Eric Ball, Commissioner

Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner

Mary Lancaster, Commissioner

Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner

Brian Williams, Commissioner

On Monday, December 11, 2006 the City Commissioners met with the Manatee County School Board regarding the Palmetto Elementary School.

There was discussion on the topic as stated in the attached minutes.

Minutes approved:

James R. Freeman
City Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MANATEE COUNTY
JOINT WORKSHOP
MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2006**

The School Board of Manatee County met in a joint workshop with the Palmetto City Commissioners at the School Support Center, 215 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, on Monday, December 11, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. Members present: Harry G. Kinnan, Chairman; Barbara A. Harvey, Vice Chairwoman; Robert C. Gause, Walter E. Miller, and Jane R. Pfeilsticker. Palmetto City Commissioners present: Eric Ball, Tamara K. Cornwell, Mary Lancaster, Tandra Varnadore, and Brian T. Williams. Also present: Dr. Roger Dearing, Superintendent; Larry Bustle, Mayor; John Bowen, School Board Attorney, William Horton, Assistant Superintendent for School Support Services, Sherry Dowling, Director, Department of Construction Services; and Mike Pendley, Executive Planner.

JOINT WORKSHOP WITH PALMETTO CITY COMMISSIONERS RE PALMETTO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Chairman Kinnan led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Dearing reviewed the directions to staff from the February 8, 2006 Joint Workshop, which was to move toward building a new school on the current Palmetto Elementary School property.

Mayor Bustle read a statement outlining the concerns of the Palmetto City Commissioners regarding the purchase of additional land for a site for Palmetto Elementary School.

Mike Pendley, Executive Planner for Manatee County School District, reviewed with the Boards the presentation from the February 8, 2006 Joint Workshop regarding Palmetto Elementary School.

Dr. Roger Dearing reviewed the options for acquiring additional land for the school site.

The Boards and staff had discussion regarding the options outlined in the February 8, 2006 presentation.

Three current options were presented by Dr. Dearing. The options are as follows: abide by the Sales Tax Promise and rebuild the school on the existing site, or the Boards work together to acquire the additional land needed for existing school site, or build the school on an altogether different site.

Mr. Gause introduced another option which would allow building on the existing site without the necessity of purchasing a portion of the land that is currently under consideration. He also suggested considering accelerating the construction of an already planned elementary school so that Palmetto Elementary School students can attend there until the new Palmetto Elementary School is completed on the existing site.

The Boards and staff had discussion regarding the various options for Palmetto Elementary School.

Staff was directed to convene the project team to review all options, including Mr. Gause's; Dr. Dearing and Mayor Bustle are to continue their conversations about this project; and a Joint Workshop is to be scheduled to review the options and to come to final agreement about the level of participation of each Board in this project.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Kinnan adjourned the meeting at 3:24 p.m.

Roger Dearing, Ex Officio Secretary
and Superintendent of Schools

Harry G. Kinnan, Chairman