

Palmetto City Commission
July 25, 2005 4:00 PM

Elected Officials present:

Larry Bustle, Mayor
Brian Williams, Vice Mayor
Eric Ball, Commissioner
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner (entered at 4:10 pm)
Mary Lancaster, Commissioner
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner

Staff and others present:

Michele Hall, Attorney
Chief Garry Lowe
Chris Lukowiak, Public Works Director
Frank Woodard, Deputy Public Works Director
Diane Ponder, Deputy Clerk-Administration

Mayor Bustle called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.

A moment of silence for overseas military personnel and retired employee Miriam Burnett was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

1. APPROVAL OF WORKSHOP AGENDA

MOTION: Mr. Williams moved, Mrs. Lancaster seconded and motion carried 5-0 to approve the July 25, 2005 4:00 workshop agenda.

2. PRESENTATION – HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

Mike TownS, Gulf Coast Benefit Solutions, briefly discussed his role as the City's insurance broker in the Gulf Coast Provider Network. He explained the City's medical insurance is a limited self funded plan that provides the employees benefits not offered in present day plans. Mr. TownS informed Commission he will periodically meet with employees at their locations to review the plan's coverage or address problems they may be having.

3. PRESENTATION – STREET ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

Mike Fox of Paveway Construction narrated a presentation on street enhancements for crosswalks, raised intersections and low traffic streets. The street print process heats asphalt, imprints a pattern and then a different color is applied. The company guarantees a bond to new or old asphalt. The dura tHerm process melts the asphalt, cuts the template into the surface and then secures a thermo plastic just below the surface of the asphalt. Street print is typically used for driveway and low traffic streets. The dura therm process is used for crosswalks and high traffic streets. Both processes have been approved by DOT. Mr. Fox assured Commission repairs can be made the same day.

4. PRESENTATION – VENETIAN VILLAS

Bob Schmidt, Land Planning Associates, informed Commission this is a pre-presentation on a Comp Plan and rezone application that will soon come before Commission. The project is planned for the old Captain's Point property, which currently houses a motel containing 16 substandard residential units. The developers will apply for a PD-H zoning at the time a Comp Plan amendment is requested. Mr. Dennis Bradford reviewed a conceptual drawing of the plan, stating it will be designed in the Mediterranean style of Venice. The project proposes 14 luxury condominium units of approximately 2,500 square feet on 1.7 acres. The Planning Department has issued preliminary approval for the proposed density. The building will be four stories over parking; a height of 58 feet. The building will be located on the site without any impact to existing streets rights-of-way; the developer will improve the existing street.

5. DISCUSSION – UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK REMOVAL CONTRACT

Mr. Woodard informed the Commission there is a state mandate to remove single-wall underground gas storage tanks by 2009. The approved CIP contains a budget to complete the project this year. Mr. Woodard suggested the longer the City waits to comply with the mandate the more expensive the project and qualified contractors to complete the project will be less available. Mr. Woodard stated staff proposes to locate the tank on the Public Works Department site in an aboveground tank. Commission discussed the project and requested staff to bring more information regarding the state mandate and how the visual impact of the aboveground tank will be lessened.

6. DISCUSSION – DRAFT COMMERCIAL VEHICLE ORDINANCE

Code Enforcement Director Bill Strollo discussed the difficulty in enforcing the City's commercial vehicle ordinance. He suggested the City should rewrite the ordinance to more closely follow Florida Statutes' definition of a commercial vehicle. Commission accepted the proposed ordinance as written. The ordinance's first reading and advertising approval will be scheduled for a subsequent meeting.

7. DISCUSSION – DRAFT OATH RESOLUTION

Attorney Hall explained anyone speaking to Commission from the podium would be sworn in. If a speaker is not sworn in it would be noted in the record and in the event anything happens in the future, the comments would not be considered sworn testimony. Commission moved the item to the 7:00 pm agenda for action.

8. DISCUSSION – DERELICT BOAT ORDINANCE

Attorney Hall informed Commission Bradenton and Manatee County has passed an ordinance to address derelict boats. The proposed ordinance is intended to control derelict boats that are abandoned in the City's jurisdiction and the time limits boats are moored. Mayor Bustle stated a companion ordinance designating mooring grounds will be forthcoming. Discussion ensued on the following topics:

- How the city's jurisdiction is defined.
- How a boat owner is identified through a vessel's registration number.
- Definition of a live aboard boat (Attorney Hall suggested deleting the last sentence of Sec. 10-79(a)).
- Define boundaries of mooring grounds.
- Define the property lines for waterfront property. (This may require surveys.)
- Define mooring areas along the City's canals.
- Define an emergency situation to the boat owner.
- Identify the individual who will administratively determine criteria to allow a vessel to moor in a public waterway more than 72 hours. The same individual will be charged with serving written notice regarding removal or disposal of the vessel.
- Define an approved business activity contained (g)

Commissioner Ball cautioned the City may find it difficult to find a business that will impound a derelict boat. He also suggested 72 hours should be reconsidered due to mariners that may anchor and spend a week in the City. Mayor Bustle suggested the City should consider developing a permit for this type of anchorage.

A new draft will be presented to Commission at a subsequent meeting.

9. DISCUSSION – ELECTRONIC PAYMENT SYSTEM

Deputy Clerk of Finance Karen Simpson informed Commission the City has received numerous requests to be able to pay utility bills by phone, credit card and via the internet. The proposed system will allow all three types of payment, the customers choosing to utilize these types of payment will pay a convenience fee. Commission discussed their concerns with the proposed system and the accompanying contract. Staff was instructed to more thoroughly research companies that can provide the same type of service and to survey the surrounding municipalities to determine what systems are used and any problems that have been identified.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Minutes approved: August 15, 2005

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James R. Freeman".

James R. Freeman
City Clerk