

Palmetto City Commission
April 16, 2007 4:00 p.m.

Elected Officials Present:

Larry Bustle, Mayor
Eric Ball, Vice Mayor (entered at 5:00 pm)
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner
Mary Lancaster, Commissioner
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner
Brian Williams, Commissioner

Staff and Others Present:

James R. Freeman, City Clerk
Michele Hall, Attorney
Chief Garry Lowe
Chris Lukowiak, Public Works Director
Tanya Lukowiak, CRA Executive Director
Diane Ponder, Deputy Clerk-Administration

Mayor Bustle called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m., followed by a moment of silence for overseas military personnel and a prayer of condolences for the students, faculty and families affected by the Virginia Tech tragedy.

1. AGENDA APPROVAL

MOTION: Mrs. Lancaster moved, Mr. Williams seconded and motion carried 4-0 to approve the April 16, 2007, 4:00 pm agenda.

2. CAFR PRESENTATION

City Clerk Jim Freeman narrated a synopsis of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report with Commission. In addition to reviewing the major initiatives for the year and for the future, Mr. Freeman reported City total net assets increased by \$2,004,188 and exceed liabilities by \$38,631,986, of which \$4,773,511 may be used to meet obligations. Governmental Fund revenues increased \$1.3 million, a 14% increase, while expenditures decreased \$462,000 or 4% over the prior year. The unreserved fund balance for the General Fund at fiscal year-end was \$4.5 million. Mr. Freeman reported that in the event of a catastrophic events, the City could operate for approximately six months with the General Fund unreserved fund balance. Of the four Proprietary Funds, only stormwater reported an operating loss. New stormwater rates were implemented in January, 2007. Concluding the presentation, Mr. Freeman discussed the challenges the City faces and actions the Commission, Mayor and staff will have to consider for the future.

Tommye Barie, representing CPA Associates, Inc., complimented Mr. Freeman on his overview. She commented on the Certificate of Achievement for excellence in financial reporting the City received for FYE05, and stated her belief the City will once again obtain the award for 2006. Ms. Barie stated her firm had issued an unqualified report, the highest that can be given. She stated no matter was noted as material, there were no instances of non-compliance and a single audit was not required. Ms. Barie referred to the SAS61 letter and asked the Commissioners contact her should they have any questions. Lastly, she complimented the City staff that participated in the audit.

Ms. Barie discussed the addendum that was issued, and the reasons for the Auditor General's opinion concerning deficit balance accounts. Mr. Freeman explained corrective actions that are being implemented to address comments in the management letter.

3. DISCUSSION: BOAT DOCK ORDINANCE

Commission continued the review of the proposed boat dock ordinance. As the Commission raised items for discussion, Attorney Hall, Mr. Lukowiak and Building Official Roger Titus offered explanations and suggested amendments.

The major item of discussion at the meeting was the definition of a boathouse. Attorney Hall opined the best way to clarify the issue was for Commission to decide what constitutes a boathouse and where a boathouse will be permitted. Mr. Lukowiak reported the Dock Committee's consensus was that a boathouse would not have walls. A poll concerning the definition of a boathouse was taken, as follows:

Ms. Cornwell: Structure used just for the purpose of storing a boat; an ancillary use; no objection to walls

Mr. Ball: No walls on boathouse on canals; houses boat only, no people; not opposed to no walls anywhere

Mrs. Lancaster: Boat covering; houses only a boat; no people; no walls anywhere

Mr. Williams: Boat covering with roof and walls, no floor; out over water, no residential, no walls canals

Ms. Varnadore: No walls anywhere, applies to everyone

Mr. Williams requested the DEP definition be obtained. Ms. Varnadore also requested the environmental impact on sea grasses also be obtained. Mr. Randy Howrigan, a member of the Boat Dock Committee, reported the original intent of a boathouse was to provide only a shaded structure.

Discussion ensued on *Residential Docks*. The definition was amended to eliminate "slips". Language will also be added to define common docks.

Commission will continue review of the ordinance at Section 10-109 at the May 7, 2007 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Minutes approved: May 7, 2007



James R. Freeman
City Clerk