

**CITY OF PALMETTO
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
September 23, 2013
4:30 PM**

Elected Officials Present:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Tambra Varnadore, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, Ward 2
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2
Jonathan Davis, Commissioner-at-Large 1
Charles Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1
Brian Williams, Commissioner, Ward 3

Staff Present:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney—(Arrived at 4:38 p.m.)
Jeff Burton, CRA Director
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Rick Wells, Chief of Police
Amber Foley, Assistant City Clerk

Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

1. DISCUSSION: HERNANDO DESOTO HISTORICAL SOCIETY SEAFOOD FESTIVAL

Mayor Bryant introduced Gary Kortzendorf, Chair of the Hernando Desoto Historical Society Seafood Festival, and Joe Finton, President of the Hernando Desoto Historical Society, who approached her about relocating the Seafood Festival to the City of Palmetto. They would like to utilize Lamb and Sutton Park for the event.

Mr. Kortzendorf explained that the Society feels that the parks would be a great venue for their popular event. He stated that over the three-day event last year, there were approximately 30,000 attendees. There is a charge of \$2.00 for adults to attend the festival and it is free for children. He plans on gating the event as done last year, to prevent coolers being brought in and alcohol leaving the area. The Bradenton Police Department has always complimented the Society about their event, stating there have been few drunk and disorderly complaints. Mr. Kortzendorf provides training to the volunteers regarding the sale of alcohol; they are trained on how to read drivers licenses and they are not to sell to anyone who appears overly intoxicated. There is a two-drink limit per visit per person. Also, glass bottles are not allowed at the event, only aluminum bottles are sold as well as plastic cups.

In regard to a fee for vendors, Mr. Kortzendorf said that there is a fee for the vendors to have their booth at the event; local vendors will be given a discounted rate.

Commissioner Williams asked about crews cleaning up after the event. Mr. Kortzendorf explained that he has over 300 volunteers that work the event. They are sent out throughout the event and after it closes to clean up the surrounding areas. The Society will also pay City employees overtime if they are willing to work and are needed to clean-up during and after the festival.

Mayor Bryant stated that this event would need to close off 10th Avenue. She suggested the Society talk with the businesses along 10th so that they can be aware and able to take advantage of this event. She opined that several local businesses could benefit from the Seafood Festival coming to Palmetto. She also suggested to Mr. Kortzendorf that the Society should meet with the Historical Park to notify them that they are proposing to bring the Seafood Festival to Sutton Park. They may want to tie into the event and make something for children there as well.

Commissioner Smith requested that local charities from the City of Palmetto be considered for the Hernando Desoto Historical Society Scholarships and Grants that are awarded annually. He is in support of the Seafood Festival being relocated to the City of Palmetto, opining that it would be great for local businesses.

Mr. Kortzendorf stated that the dates for the Seafood Festival are April 4-6, 2014. Commissioner Varnadore expressed concerns regarding the time for the event on Sunday April 6th. She stated that because of several churches in that area, parking and pedestrians could be an issue. She asked that the Society consider starting the event on April 6th at 1:00 p.m. to allow for the churches to let out.

Commissioner Varnadore would like the Society to consider having a taxi service provided during the Seafood Festival for people who are overly intoxicated and unable to drive home. Mr. Kortzendorf stated that the Society has never utilized a taxi service for the event, but will look into her concern. Commissioner Varnadore also asked Chief to give her a report regarding any concerns he has regarding the event.

Mayor Bryant explained that in order to move forward with this event, Mr. Barnebey will need consensus from Commission to ask him to make changes to the current ordinance to allow for the sale of alcohol on City owned property. Mr. Kortzendorf explained that the sale and consumption of alcohol is only allowed in the area that is barricaded off. There is a children's play area where alcohol is not allowed. He places one main bar by the stage and there are a couple of beer stations throughout the festival.

Commissioner Smith opined that there should not be extra limitations put on this event that has not previously been asked of them. He stated this event is a great event for the community and the Society does a lot to help out non-profit businesses. He has attended the event in previous years and has been pleased with how the Seafood Festival is put on.

Commissioner Cornwell asked about traffic control around the area of the event. She suggested a few streets become one-way streets during the event. She also inquired about parking for the event. She opined that Palmetto High and Lincoln Middle schools could be utilized. Mr. Kortzendorf stated that he is looking to use the fairgrounds for parking and he will be providing a shuttle service. Commissioner Cornwell requested that the surrounding neighborhood be made aware about the event so that they will know about the traffic and parking issues ahead of time.

Attorney Barnebey stated that the Hernando Desoto Historical Society will need to submit a Special Function Permit for the event that will have to be approved by Commission. The City will need to change their ordinance to allow alcohol to be served on City owned property. There would be two sections of the City Code that would need to be modified, Special Function Permits and Alcohol Sales. He stated that if an event is going to have alcohol sales, they will need to indicate that on their Special Function Permit, this way Commission can approve the event and the sale of alcohol at the same time.

Commissioner Cornwell requested that staff talk with the City of Bradenton and get feedback about the Seafood Festival from the prior years it was held there.

The consensus of the Commission was to direct legal to make modifications to the ordinance regarding alcohol sales. There will be a workshop on October 7th and a first reading that same night at the 7:00 p.m. meeting. On October 21st, a public hearing will be held regarding the proposed alcohol sales ordinance.

Commissioner Varnadore is open to consider the alcohol sales on City property during adult related events. She will not support alcohol being sold during the July 4th event because it is a family event.

2. DISCUSSION: SOLID WASTE SERVICES

Mr. Tusing informed Commission that the current contract with Waste Management expires in April of 2014. He recently received feedback from Commission to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the City's solid waste services. The current contract with Waste Management can be renewed for one additional five (5) year period. Mr. Tusing recently met with Waste Management who said that they are willing to renegotiate their current contract with the City. He would like to talk with Waste Management to renegotiate and bring that information back to Commission. If Commission would still like to go to bid, he will issue an RFP.

Discussion ensued on issuing an RFP for solid waste services. Commissioner Smith stated that if renegotiated, he would like something in writing about the use of a long-arm picking up garbage cans. He has had several complaints of garbage not being picked up because it exceeded the weight limit that two people could pick up. Mr. Tusing stated that there is a City ordinance regarding weight limit for garbage, he will find that information and email it to Commission.

Commissioner Varnadore stated that she would prefer an RFP be issued. She stated that, if renegotiated, she does not see how the City can know they are getting the best price if they are not comparing the current vendor to other vendors for the same service. She would like to see a provision written in the agreement to include single stream recycling. Mr. Tusing stated he would like to renegotiate and will ask that part of the renewal include single stream recycling.

The consensus of Commission was to issue an RFP for solid waste services. Mr. Tusing is recommending renegotiating with Waste Management.

Commissioner Smith complimented Waste Management for their community involvement. He stated that they have been a great vendor and appreciates all the support and donations they have provided for the City.

Commissioner Cornwell departed the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Bryant stated that this item will be added to the 7:00 p.m. agenda for a vote on staff's recommendation.

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Minutes approved: October 7, 2013

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman
City Clerk