

CITY OF PALMETTO
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
October 16, 2017
4:30 PM

Elected Officials Present:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Brian Williams, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, Ward 3
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2 – (Entered the meeting at 4:57 p.m.)
Jonathan Davis, Commissioner-at-Large 1
Harold Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward 2

Staff Present:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Jeff Burton, CRA Director
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Karla Owens, City Planner
Karen Simpson, Finance Director
Scott Tyler, Chief of Police
Penny Johnston, Executive Assistant

Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

1. CAFR AWARD FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING ACHIEVEMENT

Mr. Freeman presented the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) Award for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. Mr. Freeman stated this is the 12th consecutive year the City has received the Certificate of Achievement award for financial reporting, and that the CAFR is printed in the spirit of full disclosure to clearly communicate the financial story and to motivate potential users and user groups to read. Finance Director, Mrs. Karen Simpson accepted the CAFR Award on behalf of the finance department.

2. PRESENTATION TO COMMISSION

Mr. Lawrence Massey from the District 1 Assistant's Planning Office talked about the attitude shift for safer, more walkable communities while balancing needs for additional capacity. Commission on the Central Manatee Network Alternatives Analysis Project (CMNAA) stated in the fullness of time, the area will be much more congested than it is today. CMNAA has short term and long term solutions for relief on US 301/ US41. Short-term improvements in downtown Bradenton will help relieve traffic delays on the Green and Desoto Bridge corridors. Long range solutions may take at least 10-15 years.

Patty Hurd, Assistant Project Manager on this study project stated origin and destination of traffic is often outside of Palmetto. Mayor Bryant asked if legislature could be asked to expedite a solution. Ms. Hurd commented it is not a funding issue as much as a planning and engineering issue. Commissioner Williams restated Desoto Bridge has reached its life expectancy and asked about subsidizing school buses to encourage parents not to drive individually. Ms. Hurd remarked FDOT goal is to relieve congestion and to help communities grow. FDOT is considering historic, environmental, social and economic impact. She stated building up is often easier than building out. The upper level could carry regional traffic, while lower levels could carry local and multimodal travel.

Greg Moore, Project Manager, offered short term solutions including one-way pairs of streets on Manatee Avenue. Phase I improvements are low impact, easy to implement, and involve signage and minor rerouting. Desoto corridor travel time would be reduced 30-50% by making minor changes and extending turn lane storage. Short term improvements make a big difference with a relatively small investment.

Mr. Moore stated the stand-alone improvement of a left turn lane for Green Bridge south bound traffic would make a huge difference. FDOT is still modeling traffic flow. Mr. Moore stated short term solutions will alleviate part of the problem while long term solutions are being developed. CMNAA will provide fact sheets to help Commissioners interact with their constituents. The next public meeting is scheduled for 12/12/17.

Mr. Tusing asked about video program for traffic regarding the hotel. Mr. Moore said he could have traffic model available at 6:00 p.m. this evening.

3. ORDINANCE 2016-09 NOISE (M. Barnebey/S. Tyler)

Mark Barnebey stated tonal noise will stay on the workshop agenda, but Commission can move forward to address the Noise Ordinance. Noise ordinance for night time construction for public infrastructure improvements will have provision "unless modified by the Commission or the Mayor".

Commissioner Varnadore discussed item 2B1A, clarifying time limits. Conversation continued, but the following parameters will be presented for the first public reading:

Categories will be for residential or non-residential.

Non-residential- 75 dba from 7:00 a.m. – 10:00p.m. Sun - Thurs/ 60 dba after hours

75 dba from 7:00 a.m. – Midnight Fri, Sat, Holidays/ 60 after hours

Residential- 60 dba all the time

City Clerk Mr. Freeman asked for clarification for special function permits, which are not required for non-alcoholic City sponsored events (i.e.- Movies in the Park, 4th of July). Commissioner Varnadore suggested the City should treat all special events equally and establish noise level caps at time of event approval.

Staff attempted to download file for video model of changes in traffic, but installation was unsuccessful. Mayor Bryant left at 6:05 p.m.

Vice Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 6:08 p.m.

Minutes approved: November 6, 2017

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman
City Clerk