

**CITY OF PALMETTO  
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING  
June 18, 2018  
4:30 PM**

Elected Officials Present:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor  
Jonathan Davis, Vice Mayor, Commissioner-at-Large 1  
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2—(entered the meeting at 4:39 p.m.)  
Harold Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1  
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward 2  
Brian Williams, Commissioner Ward 3

Staff Present:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney  
Jeff Burton, CRA Director  
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director  
Scott Tyler, Chief of Police  
Amber LaRowe, Assistant City Clerk

Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

1. HYDRANT PARK PLAYGROUND DISCUSSION

Jon Moore made a presentation to the Commission regarding playground equipment selection for Hydrant Park. A copy of the presentation was included in the agenda. Mr. Moore informed the Commission about the Florida Power and Light (FPL) grant to fund all the LED lights for the Park; they will be similar to those in Sutton Park that are along the road. There will be a total of five lights and it will take approximately six months to be installed; in the interim, the City has plans for temporary lighting. FPL does not allow security cameras to be attached to their light poles; an alternate solution will be developed for the security cameras at the Park.

The Parks Department has plans to re-sod the Park with the ground under the actual playground equipment will be rubber matting, similar to that at the playground at the City of Bradenton Riverwalk. Four vendors were reviewed with two of the finalists attached in the Agenda presentation. Both vendors provided a quote for less than \$100,000 for the playground equipment, rubber matting, and swings; \$100K was what was budgeted to be used for Hydrant Park from the half-cent sales tax funds. Mr. Moore reviewed two options for waste cans in the Park; Option A is a fire hydrant that is made into a waste can, and Option B is the current waste cans used in the City with a red top instead of the current copper shade. Option A and Option B are both approximately the same price. Mr. Moore then displayed a design for the benches to be installed at the Park to be four feet in length, no bum bar, beige color with red trim and the seals of both the City of Palmetto and the North River Fire Department on the sides.

All of the Commissioners were pleased with the presentation and appreciated the play equipment that had the shade structure over top.

Commissioner Williams would like to see a rock climbing feature at a City park playground in the near future as the City orders new playground equipment.

Commissioner Varnadore questioned if a vote was going to be taken at a future meeting regarding the equipment and other amenities. Mayor Bryant stated that this is a budgeted item, approved via resolution for the

use of half-cent sales tax funds. She asked for the presentation today to gather a consensus on which playground equipment the Commission desired as well as which option for the waste cans.

The consensus of the Commission was to incorporate the fire hydrant waste can, to install the four foot benches with the logos on the sides and to repair the fence that separates the playground from the parking lot. The cost of the repairs for the fencing will be provided to the Commission. The Commission also gave consensus on installing a few water fountains at the Park and directed staff to proceed with ordering the playground equipment as provided by Miracle.

## 2. DISCUSSION: 17<sup>TH</sup> STREET PLAYGROUND AND 14<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE DOG PARK

Mayor Bryant discussed the open lot on 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue West being utilized for a dog park. Mr. Tusing indicated it is approximately 2 acres and has the capability to have two separate dog parks; one for large dogs and one for small dogs. City staff could develop angled parking along 8<sup>th</sup> Street and 9<sup>th</sup> Street and install shade structures and/or mature trees to provide shade for the dogs and visitors.

Commissioner Varnadore is good with the location being on 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue and agrees with two separate dog parks within the park; she would like assurance that the size of the lot is appropriate for dogs. Staff is working with Bishop Animal Shelter and some other entities to get better educated on the needs for dogs and how to accommodate that at this location.

Commissioner Smith asked staff to contact the County to see when they will be building a dog park at Blackstone Park.

The consensus of the Commission was for staff to do some further research on the needs of a dog park and the size requirements to have it at this location.

Mayor Bryant asked the Commission to consider renaming 17<sup>th</sup> Street Park like has been done with other parks in the City. She reminded Commission how often this Park is rented for celebratory events.

Mr. Moore informed the Commission that a local Jeep Club has expressed an interest in donating some money to the City for a park so that they can have their Jeep Club shows at a City park.

Commissioner Davis agreed with the Mayor that this Park should be the next Park the City should consider for revitalization.

Commissioner Varnadore expressed her opinions regarding having the Park be all Jeep themed, indicating that girls may not find this as appealing. Mr. Moore indicated that is not the direction staff intended to take; however, a few Jeep pieces for the kids to climb on would be a nice addition.

Mr. Tusing discussed the Celebration Center and the decking the surrounds it. Funds have been budgeted this year to repair the decking and he would like to go ahead and have staff begin that. He informed the Commission that, in order to do this, Celebration will have to be shut down for a period of time. The Commission agreed that repairing the decking needs to occur as soon as possible.

Mayor Bryant indicated that Mr. Burton will be bringing forth plans shortly regarding Sutton and Lamb Parks. In the interim; however, the decking needs to be replaced. If the plans for Lamb Park indicate the Celebration

Center should be moved, then Celebration can be moved at a later time. The decking should be replaced regardless of what is going to occur at Lamb Park.

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes approved: July 16, 2018

*James R. Freeman*

James R. Freeman  
City Clerk