

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY COUNCIL
BOCA RATON, FLORIDA
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2003
1:00 PM

The regular workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of Boca Raton, Florida was called to order by Mayor Abrams at 1:00 p.m.

ATTENDING THE MEETING WERE:

Mayor Steven Abrams
Deputy Mayor Susan Whelchel
Council Member Dave Freudenberg
Council Member Bill Hager
Council Member Susan Haynie

Also attending the meeting were:

City Manager Leif J. Ahnell
City Attorney Diana Grub Frieser
City Clerk Sharma Carannante

1. BOARD INTERVIEWS:

- a. Code Enforcement Board – one (1) vacancy, due to the resignation of Alfred Gladstone (contractor), whose term expires 09/25/04.

Donald Freedland interviewed for the position.

- b. Education Advisory Board – four (4) vacancies: one (1) due to the resignation of Linda St. John-Hunter, whose term expires 07/28/03; and three (3) due to student “ex officio” vacancies.

Cleveland Peoples, Linda Gaines, and McKenzie Hager expressed interest in obtaining positions on the Board.

2. PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Claudette Morency commented on recent controversy regarding a council member’s suggestion that the City donate two lots on Spanish River Boulevard to Habitat for Humanity. She stated that she felt the residents of Boca Square would welcome a Habitat house and suggested one could be built on the site of Fire Station #7, which is going to be demolished once a new station is constructed across the street at NW 9th Avenue.

Carl Jacobs referred to Item 3.e. (Resolution No. 98-2003) on the agenda. He had numerous questions related to cleaning the filters used for reclaimed water; he voiced concern over the cost and the ability of the City to ensure that any pathogens are eradicated. Mr. Jacobs asked for an update on replacement of IRIS signs, which had faded over time. He then referenced another item on the agenda (Ordinance No. 4710) and urged Council not to make an exception for Florida Power & Light in regard to the utility poles.

John Martin expressed that the homeowners who spoke at a prior meeting against introducing Habitat for Humanity homes into their neighborhood were unfair and intolerant. He felt that this was a worthwhile endeavor and that the City should continue to consider providing lots for use by Habitat for Humanity.

3. REVIEW OF REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

a. Questions relating to the agenda.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.a.1. – Independence Day Fireworks) Council Member Haynie questioned whether there were any homeland security issues related to the proposed firework displays. Mr. Ahnell responded affirmatively but assured Ms. Haynie that those issues were taken into consideration and that the police would be present in full force.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.e. – Resolution No. 98-2003 / Work Order No. 4 with Eckler Engineering to provide professional services related to the reclaimed water filtration system) Council Member Haynie reiterated Mr. Jacobs' concern over the reclaimed water filtration process and questioned whether these measures would remove giardia and cryptosporidium. Mr. Ahnell explained that these particular filters would not address those pathogens. However, once this first step was taken and these initial changes were made, the City could then address those pathogens. He also mentioned that new IRIS signs had been ordered to replace those within the City that are no longer readable.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.b.2. – Weatherproofing requested by Recreation Services) In response to Deputy Mayor Whelchel's question regarding weatherproofing, Mr. Ahnell explained that even if something has already been treated with weatherproofing, it must be done again on a regular basis for maintenance purposes. He stated that, as the older structures wear out, they would be replaced with newer woods that have been treated to withstand the elements.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.d.1. – Communications Center Voice Call Logging System) Council Member Freudenberg questioned what type of system the City was currently using, since it appeared that the system had failed in May. Mr. Ahnell replied that as soon as the emergency system went down, it was replaced. This "emergency" bid item constituted the official request to Council for the replacement, which had already been accomplished.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.a.1. – Independence Day Fireworks) Mayor Abrams questioned whether the cost for the fireworks was the same as it was last year. Mr. Ahnell responded affirmatively.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.a.2. – Uniform Rental Service) Mayor Abrams noted that the police department was not included in this request and asked why. Mr. Ahnell explained that the City prepares a separate bid for police uniforms. He is to provide additional information tomorrow night.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.b.1. – Tree Trimming/Pruning Services and Tree Removal/Stump Grinding Services) Mayor Abrams questioned whether the services being requested would be conducted according to arborists' standards. Mr. Ahnell answered affirmatively.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.c.1 - Vacuum Filter Parts) Mayor Abrams questioned in what capacity these parts were used. Mr. Ahnell is to provide that information tomorrow night.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.e. – Resolution No. 98-2003 / Work Order No. 4 with Eckler Engineering to provide professional services related to the reclaimed water filtration system) Mayor Abrams questioned whether the City would be testing this filtration system in the same way as was done for the reverse osmosis system. Mr. Ahnell is to provide that information tomorrow night.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.g. – Resolution No. 100-2003 / Related to the Central Beach Renourishment Project and establishment of an erosion control line) Mayor Abrams mentioned that state funding for these types of projects are being cut and asked for the status of renourishment funding for this particular project. He suggested that the City Manager might wish to contact Senator Atwater's office in regard to same. Mr. Ahnell is to provide an update tomorrow night.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.h. – Resolution No. 101-2003 / Grant application for a Community Oriented Policing Services {COPS} Homeland Security Overtime Program {HSOP}) Mayor Abrams questioned how much money the grant would provide and whether it would be retroactive to cover past costs. Mr. Ahnell explained that the grant was for \$45,700. Of that, \$34,000 would come from federal funds and the City would provide an \$11,000 match; the grant would cover this fiscal year. Mr. Ahnell then gave an overview as to how the police department responds to upgrading and downgrading of the national alert system.

- b. Ordinance No. 4712 (*Regular Agenda Item No. 7*), which would authorize the sale of City-owned property at 201 N.W. Spanish River Boulevard.

Mr. Ahnell clarified that, while one of the newspapers had indicated that discussion would take place today regarding the possibility of placing a Habitat for Humanity home on two City-owned lots on Spanish River Boulevard, this item had nothing to do with that issue.

Development Services Property Specialist/Appraiser Lynn Bodor gave the presentation. She provided the precise location of the property and a brief history of its acquisition by the City; acreage and current zoning was also reviewed. Ms. Bodor explained that the western abutting property owner had filed an application with the City to purchase the subject property. The application was put on hold until the widening of Spanish River Boulevard was completed. The remaining property, excluding the square footage to be used for a turn lane, was surveyed by the City and an independent third-party appraiser. It was determined that the site, comprised of 7,418.04 square feet, was not buildable under the current zoning of R1D. A variance could be sought, however ingress and egress would be hindered by the proximity of Spanish River Boulevard. The third-party appraisal resulted in a figure of \$18,900.

Ms. Bodor explained that, if this ordinance was approved, the deed transferring the property to the petitioner would contain restrictive covenants requiring a Unity of Title and would not allow the property to be used as a single building site but only in conjunction with the petitioner's property.

All appropriate City departments were contacted and there were no objections to the sale. The Planning & Zoning Board unanimously approved the petition, as did staff, with the restrictive covenants recorded with the deed. Ms. Bodor then concluded her presentation and answered questions from Council.

4. FUTURE AGENDA MATTERS/ITEMS OF COUNCIL/PUBLIC CONCERN:

There were no items for consideration.

5. CITY MANAGER REPORTS:

The City Manager had nothing to report at this time.

6. CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS:

The City Attorney had nothing to report at this time.

7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER REQUESTS AND REPORTS:

Council Member Haynie mentioned timed bridge openings. She questioned whether staff had collected any data. Mr. Ahnell stated that staff had not done any reports; however, he would follow up on this issue.

Council Member Hager explained that he had received a call from a constituent in regard to a disputed bill whereby the retailer had called the police department to intervene in the dispute. Mr. Hager advised that he wished to discuss this further with the city manager, his concern being that the police department was being inappropriately used as an enforcement tool in this type of situation.

Deputy Mayor Whelchel commented on her observance of activity in Mizner Park last Saturday night. She then directed a question to the City Attorney, asking whether any difference existed, for the purpose of determining

fault or issuing a citation, if a car accident occurred in a private community where the roads are privately owned, as opposed to the accident occurring on a public road. Ms. Frieser is to follow up. Council Member Hager commented positively on the concert held Saturday night at Mizner Park. He then complimented those visionaries who had the foresight to know that Mizner Park would be a success.

The regular workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of Boca Raton, Florida, adjourned at approximately 1:40 p.m. on Monday, June 9, 2003.

Vanessa Hines, Assistant City Clerk