

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY COUNCIL
BOCA RATON, FLORIDA
MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2004
1:30 PM

The regular workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of Boca Raton, Florida was called to order by Mayor Abrams at 1:30 p.m.

ATTENDING THE MEETING WERE:

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

Also attending the meeting were:

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

PROCLAMATION: National Recreation and Parks Month – July 2004

Recreation Superintendent J.D. Varney, Community Resources/Affairs Specialist Emily Lilly, and Special Events Coordinator Jose Schmidt accepted the proclamation. Mr. Varney outlined different youth programs available this summer; Ms. Lilly spoke to upcoming special events, which included the First Annual Citywide Read-a-thon. A book entitled, "Seedfolks," was distributed to Council, along with information regarding the upcoming 4th of July celebration.

1. BOARD INTERVIEWS:

- a. Historic Preservation Board – (4) vacancies. Four vacancies due to term expirations of Howard E. McCall (member of A.I.A), and Merle Haber, Donald W. Curl, and Kathleen Altizer (at-large members), whose terms expire 07/01/04.

Howard McCall expressed interest in retaining his position, as an architect, on the Board. Donald Curl and Kathleen Altizer also relayed interest in retaining their positions on the Board.

2. PUBLIC REQUESTS:

No one came forward to speak.

3. REVIEW OF REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. Questions relating to the agenda.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.m. - Resolution No. 114-2004 / Withdrawal from the Palm Beach Countywide Beaches and Shores Council and creation of the Palm Beach Countywide Coastal Council) Council Member Freudenberg asked for clarification on this item. Mr. Ahnell explained that the City would withdraw from one entity and join another, which would act in the same capacity; this was primarily a name change.

(Consent Agenda Item 3.g. – Resolution No. 107-2004 / Tentative plat approval for the proposed Boca Centre subdivision plat) Council Member Haynie stated that the existing plat provided for limited access and questioned why a new plat was being proposed. She also questioned whether the same access provision would be included in this plan. The City Manager is to follow up.

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

There were no items for consideration.

5. CITY MANAGER REPORTS:

Mr. Ahnell reported on the County's request that the City bring forward a fire-rescue level-of-service resolution; he stated that the resolution should be ready tomorrow night in time for Council's consideration.

6. CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS:

Ms. Frieser referred to the citrus canker case in which the City joined with other plaintiffs in opposition to the Department of Agriculture (DOA) and mentioned that one of the stipulations originally agreed to in the resolution that was passed required that the City join on a pro rata basis with any fees and/or costs incurred. She reported that the plaintiffs and defendants had reached a settlement whereby the plaintiffs and defendants would each, respectively, be responsible for paying their own costs and fees. Since she found this action to be consistent with the aforementioned resolution, Ms. Frieser advised that she would be signing an agreement to that effect on behalf of the City, barring any objections from Council. Council had no objections or questions.

7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER REQUESTS AND REPORTS:

Council Member Freudenberg asked that the City Manager provide information regarding the status of the fire inspection program. He then referred to the City's advisory boards and suggested that the boards be reminded that their responsibility is to answer to Council – not to adopt resolutions that they take to other bodies. He reported that at the last Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) meeting, the issue of bicycle paths/lanes was discussed, and a member of the Citizens' Pedestrian and Bikeway Advisory Board brought forward a resolution in support of same. While the City's representatives on the MPO, Council Members Haynie and Freudenberg, agreed with the stated position, this resolution should have been brought to Council. The City Manager is to follow up.

Council Member Haynie advised that tomorrow at 2:00 p.m., the County Commission would conduct a workshop to discuss an annexation policy. The League of Cities had asked that as many representatives as possible appear before the Commission in order to support the League's opposition to this proposed legislation, which would give the County the final word over voluntary annexation. Council noted that the Commission's focus appeared to be more on the western cities. Ms. Frieser noted that Assistant City Attorney Jeffery Lynn would be in attendance to represent the City.

Council Member Whelchel asked the City Manager for the status of a request made by the subdivision of Town Place Club Villas for annexation into the City. Mr. Ahnell explained that he had received a letter from that neighborhood and was reviewing same. He indicated that additional annexation requests had also been received from other neighborhoods as well and were currently under review. Ms. Whelchel concluded her comments by reminding those present that Krispy Kreme's grand opening was scheduled for tomorrow.

Council Member Haynie referred to an article published in the Miami Herald, which explained that a wildlife care center in Ft. Lauderdale was beginning a "spay and neuter" program for iguanas, in an effort to diminish the population; she explained that iguanas have no natural enemies here and they are prolific.

Deputy Mayor Hager questioned whether the Mayor had the authority to cancel a workshop meeting if it was determined that no substantive business would be conducted. The City Attorney is to follow up.

Mayor Abrams referred to the selection of The Rouse Company's proposal at the last CRA meeting, saying he wished to expand on his quote printed in an area newspaper. He stated if the reporter "had more space," the article could have reflected that he had also stated that all in Council were in support of LEAH's mission. Mayor Abrams then mentioned the recent power outages; the east side of town has been continually affected. He reported that he prepared a letter, asking Florida Power & Light (FPL) for the status of the situation. Mayor Abrams also stated that the City's cooperation with FPL was meant to ensure that power/service would continue running uninterrupted.

The regular workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of Boca Raton, Florida, adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m. on Monday, June 21, 2004.

Vanessa Hines, Assistant City Clerk