

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WORKSHOP MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL  
BOCA RATON, FLORIDA  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2008  
1:30 PM

The 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 L. Abrams  
Deputy Mayor Susan Whelchel  
Council Member M. J. Mike Arts  
Council Member Peter R. Baronoff (arrived 1:37)  
Council Member Bill Hager (absent – excused)

Also attending the meeting were:

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

**1. BOARD INTERVIEWS:**

- a. Citizens' Pedestrian and Bikeway Advisory Board – two (2) vacancies.

There were no applicants.

- b. Code Enforcement Board – one (1) vacancy.

There were no applicants.

- c. Elder Affairs Advisory Board – one (1) vacancy.

There were no applicants.

- d. Marine Advisory Board – three (3) vacancies.

Larry Gabriel, Gary O'Donnell, Blaine Dickenson, and Gene Folden interviewed for the positions.

- e. Pearl City Blue Ribbon Committee – one (1) vacancy.

There were no applicants.

- f. Special Master – two (2) vacancies.

Cormac Conahan expressed interest in reappointment.

**2. PUBLIC REQUESTS:**

John Stetz opined on multiuse development and water conservation, again advocating the use of desalinization plants and windfarm generators.

Tom Thayer, representing the Kiwanis Club, referred to an upcoming annual Kiwanis event, Easter Sunrise at Red Reef Park, advising that City staff informed him a \$511 fee was now required. Mr. Peter noted that a special event permit, costing approximately \$34, had already been obtained; he asked that the \$511 fee be waived. Responding to Council, Mr. Ahnell explained that the \$511 represented the City's cost to provide park rangers as well as personnel to clean up after the event; there was no profit to the City. In addition, these fees have been in effect since October 1, 2007. Council agreed that the fee should not be waived, since other organizations/groups were also being charged accordingly.

Robert Wilson, a citizen residing along the southern alley behind the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Shops, advised that a tremendous amount of noisy truck traffic regularly comes through that alley, often at approximately 5:00 a.m.. He stated that a petition was filed with the City in an effort to resolve the problem; in addition, residents have contacted Code Enforcement and the police, as well as the commercial property owners. Mr. Wilson suggested that the delivery trucks could use the northern exits, as there are no residential homes in that area. He concluded his remarks by asking that Council do something to eliminate the traffic. Mr. Ahnell is to follow up and report back to Council.

**3. REVIEW OF REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:**

- a. Questions relating to the agenda.

There were no questions.

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

- a. Quarterly Goals Update

Deputy City Manager George Brown gave an update on the strategic objectives, as outlined by Council in the goal setting session last spring. Details were provided on the following: 1) workforce housing policy, 2) downtown vision and plan, 3) FAU Master Plan and Campus Development Agreement, 4) FAU hospital project, 5) LIRP interim guidelines, 6) FAU/I-95 Interchange, 7) retirement/pension cost containment study, 8) Wildflower property, 9) employee recruitment, retention, and career planning, 10) Multi-Modal Transportation District (MMTD), 11) North Federal Highway Development Project and Beautification, 12) Comprehensive Environmental Report, 13) traffic issues, 14) annexation, 15) integrated technology strategy, and 16) branding. Mr. Brown and Mr. Ahnell provided additional information in response to questions tendered by Council at various times throughout the presentation.

**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:**

Mayor Abrams reported on a Tri-Rail Board meeting he attended last Friday related to proposals for a Yamato Road station, which Council supported. At the meeting, he explained to the Board that the City's zoning for the site was 50,000 square feet of office space and 15,000 square feet of retail for Tri-Rail customers; this was negotiated at the time the City tendered \$750,000 to Tri-Rail. He advised Council that the Board was sensitive to the City's zoning issues; however, the developer from Jacksonville, who advocated a 1.1 million square-foot proposal, did not appear to share that concern. The Board gave the Jacksonville developer seven months to obtain a conceptual approval of his plan from the City; a Boca Raton developer submitted a proposal that was compatible with the zoning. Consequently, Mayor Abrams proposed that the City Attorney draft a resolution, for consideration tomorrow night, reaffirming the City's zoning on the site and reminding Tri-Rail that this zoning was negotiated and is compatible with transit-oriented development. Responding to Council, Ms. Frieser stated that, while it would not be appropriate to weigh in on any approval, there was nothing inappropriate about ensuring that the Tri-Rail Board and all other entities are aware of the local zoning that is in place. Discussion ensued.

The regular workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of Boca Raton, Florida, adjourned at approximately 2:17 p.m. on Monday, February 25, 2008.

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Vanessa Hines, Assistant City Clerk