

PALMETTO CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MINUTES
MAY 12, 2003

Elected Officials Present:

Larry Bustle, Mayor
Shirley Bryant, Vice Mayor
Tamara Cornwell, Council Member
Charlie Grace, Council Member
Mary Lancaster, Council Member
Brian Williams, Council Member

Staff and others present:

Jim Free, City Clerk
Chief Garry Lowe
Mike Hickey, Public Works Director
Allen Tusing, Public Works Superintendent
Butch David, Sanitation Supervisor
Whitney Ewing, Customer Service Supervisor
Diane Ponder, Administrative Assistant

Mayor Bustle called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Diane Ponder gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Ms. Bryant moved, Mr. Grace seconded and motion carried 5-0 to approve the May 12, 2003 agenda.

Mayor Bustle read a proclamation declaring May 15, 2003 Police Officers' Memorial Day and May 11 - 17, 2003 as Police Week. In honor of the Memorial Day, the flags of the City will be flown at half mast on May 15, 2003.

2. MANATEE REUSE NETWORK PRESENTATION

Public Works Director Mike Hickey presented Council regional interconnect options for reclaimed water as developed by the staffs of the City, City of Bradenton and Manatee County. The presentation briefly touched on a regional program's potential benefits, preliminary geographic alignments and preliminary cost estimates of three alternate distribution systems.

Ms. Bryant acknowledged the advantages of a regional system, especially in securing funding. Mr. Williams agreed but, stated the City wanted its reuse system established first and he didn't want that to change.

John Cummings, City of Bradenton public works director stated the City of Bradenton serviced large customers and had no firm plan to provide reuse to residents. Dan Gray of Manatee County stated the County is trying to balance distribution and the engineering study that must be performed would show how to accomplish a balance of all excess water between the three governments.

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Manatee County Administrator Ernie Padgett stated the County would pay for the engineering study, which could take nine months to perform and cost approximately \$100,000, if all three governmental units express interest in the program. It was consensus of Council to authorize Mayor Bustle to write a letter of interest in proceeding with the study.

3. SANITATION ORDINANCE

The ordinance was revised by the following additions:

Individual definition for "industrial processing"
Individual definition for "construction/demolitions"
Language addressing scrap metal
Language giving authority to Supervisor to request an annual physician's report, if needed, for customers unable to place cans at curbside

Cleaning dumpsters was discussed. Sanitation Supervisor Butch David informed Council the City has no facilities available to clean dumpsters. He also discussed the current ordinance requiring a pad and drain which forces the wash water from the dumpsters into the sanitary sewer system. (Mr. Hickey stated new construction is looked at on a case by case basis.) Council suggested a cleaning facility be built into the budget.

Discussion ensued on empowering the Sanitation Supervisor with the ability to require customers keep the dumpsters clean as well as utilizing the Code Enforcement Officer to also enforce the outer cleanliness of the dumpsters, otherwise a fee could be developed for the cleaning service and the customer charged accordingly. Language will be added to Section 15-16 giving the supervisor the authority to require customers to clean dumpsters. Mr. David was instructed to advise customers of the new standard.

Mr. Free stated that when sending the final revision to counsel he would remove the fees and they would be presented to Council at a future date as a resolution. He also recommended reviewing the fees on an annual basis.

Mr. Free also stated a procedure would be established attempting to make the landlords responsible for their customers.

Mr. David further suggested eliminating privately owned dumpsters - revenue would increase; the City would be empowered to determine when dumpsters have to be replaced. Language will be added giving the supervisor authority over privately-owned dumpsters.

Mrs. Lancaster requested research be done to determine how the City can accomplish requiring dumpster enclosures.

4. MASTER UTILITY ORDINANCE

Mr. Free advised Council the only significant addition to the proposed ordinance was the owner's responsibility for the tenant. Mr. Free advised Council that as with the solid waste ordinance, he would like to separate out the fees and bring them back for approval in the form of a resolution.

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Discussion ensued on the owner's responsibility for their tenants. Whitney Ewing, customer service supervisor, advised Council the landlords don't believe they are responsible for their tenants. She further discussed the inability of tracking an individual's credit history, referring to a system available to the City that can accomplish a credit report. Mr. Free stated the City would require the owner that does not want to be the customer sign a form consenting to the City placing on a lien on their property.

Council discussed implementing a credit history system vs. the success to date enjoyed by the increased deposit. Ms. Ewing was instructed to copy Council with information regarding the credit history system.

Allen Tusing, public works superintendent, stated that if all multi-unit complexes were on a master meter the City would not be facing the owner/tenant dilemma. He discussed the fact that no new construction permits single meters on multi-unit complexes. The possibility of implementing a formula to phase in master meters was discussed. It was also suggested that when property is sold it would be mandatory that master meters replace single meters. Staff will develop a program implementing the discussed alternatives, leaving the owner responsibility tied to the issue.

The accrued interest on deposits was discussed. It was consensus of Council to delete the language in the ordinance regarding deposit interest from the ordinance. Council also concurred on language amending the return of the deposit after twenty-four months.

5. MINIMUM MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

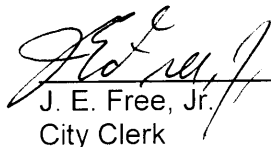
Mayor Bustle asked that Council review the standards in preparation of the June 9, 2003 Trolley Tour. It was consensus of Council that the minimum standards are meant to be applied to the entire City and the minimum level should be increased.

Ms. Bryant asked that appropriate staff respond to Mr. Gary Lineman on 12th Street regarding his neighborhood's request for a three-way stop sign vs. the current two-way stop sign. The police department will also monitor the area needing patrol.

Mr. Williams requested the new agenda format be included as a topic on the next workshop agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Minutes approved: June 2, 2003



J. E. Free, Jr.
City Clerk