

PALMETTO CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 22, 2003

Elected Officials Present:

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

Elected Officials Absent:

Mary Lancaster, Council Member

Staff and others present:

Alan Prather, Attorney
Jim Free, City Clerk
Chief Garry Lowe
Captain Clyde Hedrick
Allen Tusing, Interim Public Works Director
Diane Ponder, Administrative Assistant

Mayor Bustle called the meeting to order at 4:09 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 3-0 to approve the September 22, 2003 agenda.

2. PUBLIC HEARING - INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY PLANNING

Attorney Prather recapped the history of the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning, reminding Council the document was mandated by Statute to be approved by October 1, 2003. He informed Council the other governmental entities involved in the approval process recognize the need to continue to work on and perfect the agreement, as there is no prohibition against amendments to the agreement.

Mr. Williams entered the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Attorney Prather informed Council issues exist as to how the Agreement will work; what happens if certain occurrences are found during review of developments. He stated efforts have been made in the Agreement's language to express the Agreement is not a de facto form of concurrency; it will not tie the hands of local government's authority. But, the Agreement acknowledges local government's responsibility in recognizing school capacity when reviewing residential development.

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He stated the Agreement formalizes the process for timely comments between the municipalities and the School Board regarding growth and its impact on schools. The Agreement also allows for the municipalities to be better informed about the School Board's plans for schools in their jurisdiction.

Mayor Bustle opened the public hearing. After no public comment, Mayor Bustle closed the public hearing.

Attorney Prather explained the process the City would follow should the City determine the Agreement is not in its best interest and wish to rescind its participation; the City can terminate the Agreement with notice, but the City is obligated to accomplish another Agreement before termination. Attorney Prather advised that the School Board's counsel and planner are willing to discuss items of concern with Council.

MOTION: Ms. Cornwell moved, Ms. Bryant seconded and motion carried 3-1 to approve and enter into the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning between the Board of County Commissioners, the Cities of Bradenton, Palmetto, Holmes Beach, Town of Longboat Key and School Board of Manatee County and authorize the Mayor to execute the Agreement. Mr. Williams voted no.

3. FY 03-04 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mr. Free distributed a budget recap showing a net budget, a budget recap grossed to include transfers, which are attached to the resolution adopting the tentative budget, and the Summary Budget, which is part of the TRIM advertisement requirement.

Mayor & Council

The funding for the Consultant was reduced to \$2,500 from \$10,000.

Discussion ensued on the City Center expansion project and the City Council Chamber project, both currently funded at \$75,000. It was consensus of Council to reduce the funding for the City Center planning to \$20,000 and reduce the funding for City Council Chamber audio/video upgrade project to \$30,000.

Equipment

Mr. Free advised Council the equipment listed is funded in the FY 03-04 budget. He advised Council the Police Department's budget contained funds budget for eight vehicles; now the budget should be for six vehicles, reducing the \$36,000 lease payment by \$9,400. The Police Department has indicated the maintenance budget is not enough so the \$9,400 will be moved to that line item.

Ms. Bryant commented on the recently approved vehicle take home policy and the fact Council had dictated the policy would be implemented based strictly on availability - no new purchases would be made. Discussion ensued on the fleet maintenance program and how vehicles would be purchased for replacement to maintain a fleet of 29 (police and two administrative) vehicles. Chief Lowe was requested to prepare a spreadsheet detailing the fleet management plan.

The Police Department and Parks & Rec Department were instructed to price a message board for use either on the speed cart or in conjunction with the two arrow boards contained in the budget before either item is purchased.

The Sanitation Department equipment will remain in the budget, but frozen.. It was suggested the camera truck should be moved from the Water Department to the Sewer Department.

Mayor Bustle recessed the meeting for ten minutes.

Mr. Lukowiak will determine if the Blazer is an existing or new vehicle purchase. It was suggested that if it is a new vehicle a small truck could serve the same purpose.

Discussion occurred on the lack of reuse equipment in the budget. The account was not changed.

The tentatively approved FY 03-04 Budget, based on a 5.1645 millage rate, shows a \$334,547 surplus that will be allocated to projects.

Mr. Free distributed the list of proposed projects. He discussed the need to determine priority and construction timing of the projects, in order to determine a funding plan. A plan for the projects will be formulated and brought back to Council for review and approval at the October 13, 2003 Council meeting.

Mr. Free informed Council there appears to be up to \$700,000 the City has paid out on projects that may be reimbursed from the Stormwater SRF Loan. He is researching the possibility of resubmitting the projects for replacement monies to fund projects. The loan balance will increase; the payment will remain the same as it is established on the loan total.

Mayor Bustle discussed the task facing Council September 29, 2003, when they must set the final millage and adopt the FY 03-04 final budget. Discussion ensued on the millage rate, the hesitancy on everyone's part to raise the rate, but the realization that projects must be funded with debt supported by taxes and utility rate increases.

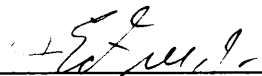
Mr. Lukowiak advised Council he has a meeting with Manatee County regarding Jackson Park. He will bring the information to Council at its next meeting.

Cody & Associates representatives will be at the October 13, 2003 Council Meeting to discuss their recent salary plan study. Mr. Free advised Council there is a discrepancy in the Public Works personnel budget; there are 65 positions filled, and 67 budgeted in FY 02-03, the FY 03-04 budget funds 72 positions. He estimated the total impact to the General Fund, if any, at approximately \$10,000.

Mayor Bustle asked that Council Members with any questions regarding the tentative budget meet with Mr. Free before Monday's meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Minutes approved: September 29, 2003



J. E. Free, Jr, City Clerk