



REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION

OCTOBER 4, 2011

Pursuant to due notice, a regular meeting of the Commission of the City of Altamonte Springs, Seminole County, was held at 225 Newburyport Avenue, in said City on October 4, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT WERE: Commissioners Reece, Wolfram, Hussey and Mayor Bates

ABSENT: Commissioner Batman

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Frank Martz - City Manager
Skip Fowler - City Attorney
Linda Sundvall - City Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bates.

INVOCATION: Mayor Bates called for a moment of silent prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bates recognized Lyman High School students Olivia DeLemos, Beth Tesfaye, Samantha Taylor, Stephen Powell and Karen Wessin, who were attending as part of their American Government class. She also recognized the presence of Boy Scout Patrick Kong, from Troop 830, who is working towards his Eagle Scout designation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Hussey, seconded by Commissioner Wolfram, to approve the minutes of the regular commission meeting of September 20, 2011, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR:

Mr. Bob Carey, Mr. David Risler, Ms. Nancy Ross, Mr. Edgar Fleri, Mr. David Hart, Ms. Brittany Graham, Mr. Jason Karroll, and Ms. Michele Herzog were present to address the Commission regarding their concerns about patients from an abortion clinic on Maitland utilizing the City's library parking lot. They each presented a brief statement of their views and concerns about the abortion issue, the rights of the residents and businesses in the area, and the traffic hazards presented by the patients traveling to and from the abortion clinic.

City Manager Frank Martz advised that the City will investigate the parking requirements for the business to ensure that the parking there is what is required by the City's Land Development Code, and also will investigate the traffic patterns and crash and accident data for the area, as that was a concern mentioned by several of the speakers. He stated that this would take a few days, and he should be able to provide at least a preliminary report of the information to a representative of the group next Monday. The group designated Ms. Michele Herzog as the contact person.

1. PUBLIC HEARING

1ST READING:

Ordinance No. 1636-11 – Annexation of 1.33 acres of Arletta Street and Forest City Cove roadway corridor

Attorney Fowler read the Ordinance title into the record.

Motion:

Moved by Commissioner Wolfram, seconded by Commissioner Hussey, to approve Ordinance No. 1636-11 on first reading and announce second reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 1636-11 will be held on October 18, 2011. Commissioner Reece – yes; Commissioner Wolfram – yes; Commissioner Hussey – yes; Mayor Bates – yes. Motion carried 4-0.

2. PUBLIC HEARING

1ST READING:

Ordinance No. 1637-11 – Annexation of 0.32 acre portion of Albemarle Road roadway corridor

Attorney Fowler read the Ordinance title into the record.

Motion:

Moved by Commissioner Wolfram, seconded by Commissioner Hussey, to approve Ordinance No. 1637-11 on first reading and announce second reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 1637-11 will be held on October 18, 2011. Commissioner Reece – yes; Commissioner Wolfram – yes; Commissioner Hussey – yes; Mayor Bates – yes. Motion carried 4-0.

3. DISCUSSION: Citizen Board Appointments

Commissioner Hussey stated he has not yet contacted Kathy Miller regarding re-appointment to the Personnel Administration Board, and requested that the City Clerk contact her. Ms. Sundvall stated she would do so.

Commissioner Reece re-appointed Mary Horwitz to the Personnel Administration Board, and appointed Russ Hauck to the Districting Commission.

Commissioner Wolfram appointed Fred DeLemos and Jack McAdams to the Districting Commission.

Mayor Bates appointed Paul Marczak, Marc Peltzman and Lucius Cushman to the Districting Commission.

4. FINANCE ITEM: Contract No. 09-060CAR1 – Oakland Estates Curb & Sidewalk Removal & Replacement – Approve Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$50,768.00 to Killebrew, Inc.

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Hussey, seconded by Commissioner Wolfram, to approve Finance Item 1. Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR: None

REPORTS:

CITY ATTORNEY - None

CITY CLERK - None

CITY MANAGER – None

COMMISSIONER REECE - None

COMMISSIONER HUSSEY - None

COMMISSIONER WOLFRAM – None

MAYOR BATES

Expressed appreciation to the students and the Boy Scout in attendance, and offered to sign any necessary paperwork for them.

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

ATTEST:

MAYOR

CITY CLERK



WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION

OCTOBER 4, 2011

Pursuant to due notice, a workshop meeting of the Commission of the City of Altamonte Springs, Seminole County, was held at 225 Newburyport Avenue, in said City on October 4, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT WERE: Commissioners Reece, Wolfram, Hussey and Mayor Bates

ABSENT: Commissioner Batman

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Frank Martz - City Manager
Skip Fowler - City Attorney
Linda Sundvall - City Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bates.

City Manager Frank Martz stated this workshop meeting was to discuss Lake Lotus. He explained that Lake Lotus is not a very heavily utilized park and the City is spending about \$440,000 per year to maintain and staff it. He added that with property taxes most likely continuing to go down, we need to start looking at ways to make this work better or at things we need to start cutting.

Mr. Martz then explained that he wanted to have the workshop to present the Commission with information about an idea that came about during discussions with Mark DeBord and Shelly Nooft. He explained that this idea is about the possibility of a consolidation effort with the School Board to move the Environmental Science Center, which is now by Soldier's Creek on 419 and is where the Mud Walk is, to Lake Lotus Park. He further explained that this is a very, very good program, but the School Board almost had to cut it last year. He added that Seminole County had stepped in and contributed \$100,000 to keep it open, and they have been doing fund drives and donations, but it does not appear that it is going to be sustainable for them long term.

Mr. Martz advised he had been having conversations about various things over the last couple of months with Dr. Vogel, and they also discussed the possibility of a

consolidation effort to move the Environmental Science Center to Lake Lotus Park as maybe a way to keep the park open. He stated it's got a lot of possibilities, and added that they took the position that if the School Board would like to do this, they will let us know.

Mr. Martz went on to say that Lake Lotus is a really great place with a lot of facilities, but at what the City spends every year on it, it may not be a sustainable model for the City without something else. He stated that a couple of weeks ago, he, Dr. Vogel, Dede Schaffner, Ed Torres and Shelly walked the park, as Dr. Vogel and Dede had not seen it before. He added that they are very enthusiastic about the potential of moving here, and one of the reasons is that it might allow them to expand their Science curriculum from a K-5 to a K-12, and allow their AP Environmental Science Program to also use that as an environmental lab. He noted that so far the School Board, from a curriculum standpoint, thinks it's an interesting possibility.

Mr. Martz explained that he has since talked with people at NASA, people at the Disney Institute, very briefly with Adventist Health Systems, and even to Progress Energy about what kind of partnership they envision they could participate in. He added that there is some genuine interest by NASA, in particular, to participate in some of the Science development here.

Mr. Martz advised that he and Dr. Vogel have gone as far in their discussions as they can without now seeing if this is really something the City wants to do, and that is why he is now talking with the Commission, and Dr. Vogel is going to talk with his Board. He added that if it is going any farther, it appears as though the School Board's curriculum people would like to meet in the next couple of weeks to talk about it.

He stated that it is important at this point for him to have a conversation with the Commission to see if they can envision this as a consolidation effort, and if it is something they want to explore. He explained that the cost to the City right now is \$440,000 for what we currently have, and what we would want to do is to develop some funding partnerships that would help offset the cost of things like the Mud Walk. He added that in addition to reducing costs, we'd get better utility out of the park and hopefully drive more kids and people through our own park.

Mr. Martz also noted that an additional benefit if this works out well would be the ability to re-craft the Gateway Center area as a Science education incubator in Altamonte Springs. He added that there are some obvious economic development benefits to this, but he is now at the point where he does not want to go further in the discussions until he has talked with the Commission to get some sense of whether they want to explore the possibilities.

Commissioner Hussey inquired how they would get the Science Park and Mud Walk here. Mr. Martz explained that there are already extensive facilities at the park, and

the Mud Walk would be a pretty easy thing to do, as they have a good feel for the consistency of the soils, and would pump the water out of Lake Lotus to make the mud.

In response to questions from Commissioner Wolfram regarding the cost and where the School Board gets the money now, Mr. Martz explained that there is a per student charge for the kids that go the Environmental Center, which covers about \$70,000 of the \$120,000 cost they have. He added that they are anywhere from \$50-60,000 short every year. He went on to explain that if we were to consolidate, we would want it at a minimum to be cost neutral to the City.

Commissioner Reece noted that there is more opportunity for grants when it is an educational program for children.

During an additional brief discussion between Mr. Martz and the Commission, he noted that the reason the financial part of it is important, is that the more people who go through the park, the greater the maintenance is going to be, so we need to make sure we can create enough reserve to fix and maintain it over time. He added that we would never want to do it if we could not sustain it, and if we can, it would become an extraordinary feature piece and would help with the economic development plans in Gateway Center.

Commissioner Reece inquired what would the City do if they do not do this, and Mr. Martz responded that we would probably look to close the park. Commissioner Wolfram inquired what would be done with the land, and Mr. Martz explained that we would probably maintain it over time, and that closing the park would probably save about \$200,000.

Mr. Martz again stated that there are number of possibilities for this, but he really wants to focus on whether the Commission, in concept, is supportive of exploring this sort of consolidation. He stated that if they are, he will contact Dr. Vogel and tell him that at this point we will continue moving forward, and we will also start exploring some of the other partnerships.

The Commissioners all agreed that Mr. Martz should continue exploring the consolidation possibilities. Mr. Martz concluded by stating that if it truly looks doable, he would meet with them again before anything formal happens to put together a game plan, and he ensured them that if this goes forward, it would result in a written agreement.

Mr. Martz reminded the Commission that they were to receive an update on Flex Bus at the next Commission meeting, but Ed Torres will be in a meeting regarding Intelligent Transportation Systems, so they will get the update at the November meeting.

There was another brief discussion amongst the Commissioners and Mr. Martz regarding various topics prior to adjournment.

The Workshop meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

MAYOR

CITY CLERK