

**COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 3, 2010**

Pursuant to Public Notice, Mayor Ferrante convened the regular meeting of the City Council on Wednesday, February 3, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber. Those present were Mayor Joseph Ferrante, Vice-Mayor Jeffrey Fleis, Councilman Mike Chase, Councilman William Higginson, Councilman Scott Rhodes, City Manager Michael P. Crotty, City Attorney James Beadle, and City Clerk Barbara Montanaro.

Councilman Chase led a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION:

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS No one.

RECOGNITION OF MEMBERS OF THE CHARTER REVIEW AD HOC COMMITTEE

Mayor Ferrante presented Certificates of Appreciation to members of the Charter Review Committee: Bill Higginson, Bill Mayer, Ron Van Meter, and Jerry de la Rosa. He also presented a plaque to Charter Review Committee Chair Lorraine Gott, commending her for her leadership. Committee members Harry Pawlak and David Omler were not able to attend.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No one had signed up for citizen comments.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Chase asked where the money from traffic fines goes. He had received a comment that the City could generate more revenue by writing more tickets and wanted to explain exactly what portion of the fine goes to the City and where the remainder of the money goes. (A fine is paid to Brevard County; the County distributes the funds, with only about \$14.00 of a \$130.00 fine paid to the City.)

Councilman Rhodes stated that he had attended his first day of the National Beach Preservation meetings in Indialantic. He is absorbing a lot of technical information and will provide a report later. He also commented on the landscaping at the vacant Bunky's location being cleaned up.

Councilman Higginson – Council welcomed him back after his surgery.

Vice-Mayor Fleis stated that he attended the Recreation Board meeting.

Mayor Ferrante reported attending the following meetings on behalf of the City:

January 25, Comprehensive Planning Advisory Board; January 26, Sea Level Rise Reception; January 28, CRA Advisory Committee; January 30, CivMil; and February 1, Board of Adjustment. He requested that, starting with the next Council meeting, Council members who attend a board meeting as Council Liaison report what took place at the meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

City Attorney James Beadle did not have a report.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Michael Crotty reported as follows:

Who is Mike?

He distributed a copy of the article for the February/March *Beachcaster* that will announce the first in a series of meetings hosted by councilmen for citizens. Councilman Chase will host this meeting on March 11 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Pelican Beach Clubhouse. The public is encouraged to attend.

Mangrove Trimming

In November, Council approved an additional mangrove trimming primarily at Samsons Island. Atlantic Environmental Solutions has completed two additional cuttings and charged only \$570. Those who inspected the work reported that they did an excellent job.

Public Workshop on the Proposed Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Project, Mid-Reach Segment, Brevard County, Florida

The Department of the Army, Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers, will host a workshop on Wednesday, February 10, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Radisson Suite Hotel Oceanfront (3101 North Highway A1A). This meeting will provide an update on the status of the renourishment of Brevard's Mid-Reach beaches, which includes Satellite Beach. There will be breakout stations for questions and answers.

Business Financial Network (Terry Locke)

At the last Council meeting, Councilman Chase discussed this topic with the City Council and suggested that the Council consider receiving a presentation from Mr. Locke on a possible Business Financial Network. Staff spoke with Mr. Locke and other representatives of his financial institution. They have indicated that a consortium of financial institutions may provide a small loan pool for businesses in the area that could be used in conjunction with the Façade Grant or other small business needs. More information will be available at the March 3 meeting.

MAYOR FERRANTE CONVENE CITY COUNCIL AS THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEM:

FAÇADE GRANT FOR COMMERCIAL STRIP CENTER AT 1116-1132 HIGHWAY A1A

**FOR MONUMENT SIGN, PAINT, WINDOWS, DOORS, AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS
IN THE MATCHING OF \$15,000**

Community Development Director Laura Canady presented the request for a maximum matching grant in the amount of \$15,000 for exterior renovations to the strip center located at 1116-1132 Highway A1A. Improvements include replacement of the nonconforming freestanding sign with a conforming monument sign, replacement of glass storefront and doors, and complete exterior repaint in CRA approved colors of peach and ivory.

At the January 28 meeting, the CRA Advisory Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the maximum matching grant award.

Mayor Ferrante asked for public comments. There were no comments.

ACTION: Councilman Chase MOVED, SECOND Councilman Higginson, to approve a matching façade grant application for the Commercial Center located at 1116-1132 Highway A1A, for the maximum matching amount of \$15,000 for replacement of nonconforming pole sign and exterior renovations. VOTE: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Councilmembers expressed appreciation to business owner Norm Slabine for participating in the façade grant program and enhancing his business property.

MAYOR FERRANTE RECONVENED CITY COUNCIL FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

GRANT AUTHORIZATIONS:

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT

Grant writer John Fergus presented the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant/Florida Energy and Climate Commission request for grant authorization in an amount up to \$250,000. The project would include: 1) Replace the heat/ventilation/air conditioning system (HVAC) in the Civic Center; 2) Replace lighting fixtures in Civic Center with energy-efficient ones; 3) Replace air handler portion of City Hall HVAC system; 4) Adjust software that operates the HVAC system in the David R. Schechter Community Center; 5) Complete energy audits on these three buildings; and 6) Hire part-time employee (paid by grant funds) to prepare energy conservation tips for *Beachcaster* for one year.

No match is required; however, a 1% match gives one extra point in the rating scale and a 10% match gives two points. If the portion of the project that Public Works would do equates to 10% of the grant, the grant writers will use that as an in-kind match.

Council discussed the need for upgrades to the restrooms. While the grant would not require upgrades, it will be necessary to repair/upgrade the restrooms in the near future anyway. This grant has a two-year span; Council may consider restrooms or other repairs

to be completed during the energy renovation.

Mayor Ferrante asked for public comments. There were no comments.

ACTION: Vice-Mayor Fleis MOVED, SECOND Councilman Chase, to authorize Plain English to submit, on behalf of the City an EECBG application in the amount of \$250,000 to [1] Have Florida Solar Energy Center research staff perform technical efficiency assessments; [2] Retrofit the Civic Center, City Hall, and Schechter Center to improve their energy efficiency and reduce operating costs; and [3] Develop and distribute energy-conservation information to the community, with a maximum total project cost of \$250,000 and maximum City match of \$3,000 cash and \$23,000 in-kind. VOTE: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

FLORIDA JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) DIRECT PROGRAM

Grant writer Fergus presented the Florida Justice Assistance Grant Direct Program (Florida JAG Direct)/Florida Department of Law Enforcement request for grant authorization in an amount \$2,786 with no City match. The project will purchase at least three notebook computers to assist in investigations and replace older notebook computers used by patrol officers. These computers allow officer to complete paperwork in the field, saving about one-third the time required by hand-written reports.

Mayor Ferrante asked for public comments. There were no comments.

ACTION: Councilman Chase MOVED, SECOND Councilman Higginson, to authorize Plain English to submit, on behalf of the City, a Florida JAG Direct grant application in the amount of \$2,786 to purchase at least three notebook computers for the Police Department, with a total project cost of \$2,786 and no local match. VOTE: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM

Fire Chief Don Hughes presented the EMS Matching Grant Program/Florida Department of Health request for grant authorization in the total amount of \$35,234 (\$26,425 from grant funds and \$8,809 from the ALS Trust Fund). These funds would be used for the Paramedic In-Home Elder-Care Test Program, which would involve 25 seniors who have chronic health conditions who lack transportation or finances for routine wellness evaluations and do not qualify for home health care. The purpose of wellness visits is to help the resident monitor his/her condition and reduce the number of emergency calls.

Mayor Ferrante asked for public comments. There were no comments.

ACTION: Councilman Chase MOVED, SECOND Vice-Mayor Fleis, to authorize Plain English to submit, on behalf of the City, an EMS Matching Grant application in the amount of \$35,234 to conduct a Paramedic In-Home Elder-Care Test Program, with a total project cost of \$35,234 and a City match of \$8,809 to come from the ALS Trust Fund.

ORDINANCE NO. 1026, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SATELLITE BEACH, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING SECTION 30-507, CITY CODE, REGARDING NONCONFORMING FREESTANDING SIGNS BY CREATING NEW SUBSECTION (e) PERMITTING EXISTING NONCONFORMING FREESTANDING SIGNS TO BE RETROFITTED; PROVIDING SUNSET DATE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (FIRST READING)

City Attorney Beadle read Ordinance No. 1026 by title on first reading.

Ordinance No. 1026 was presented at the last Council meeting two days after the Planning and Zoning Advisory Board and the CRA Advisory Committee reviewed and recommended it for approval; however, Ordinance No. 1026 did not accurately reflect all the provisions recommended. It has now been drafted to include all provisions of the minutes of those two advisory boards.

Reference to the \$5,000 Façade Grant has been removed from Ordinance No. 1026 because it is a policy decision and does not need to be in ordinance format. The CRA Advisory Committee will review the Façade Grant Program and it will be presented to Council along with the second reading of this ordinance.

Council reviewed the January 26, 2010, memorandum from Building Official John Stone and the spreadsheet showing the number of businesses that had to get a variance to replace their non-conforming sign, the number who participated in the Façade Grant Program, and other details of the forty non-conforming signs that have been replaced.

Mayor Ferrante asked for public comments. The following individuals addressed Council:

- Lorraine Gott, 225 Trinidad Drive, stated that proceedings were confused by holding the PZAB and CRA AC meetings jointly. She stated that workshops with two or more boards work fine; she opposed trying to hold joint action meetings. She spoke of the difficult economy for businesses and recommended the December 31, 2010, deadline be removed from the ordinance.
- Dominick Montanaro, 465 Glenwood Avenue, spoke in support of the compromise to allow businesses to retrofit existing signs even if they encroach the right-of-way. A number of business owners have had to go through the variance process to be able to fit a monument sign on the property. Since this is an issue prevalent in the business district, it should be handled through the Code, not through a series of variances. He noted that the December deadline was established years ago and businesses had the opportunity to replace signs earlier. With the proposed modification to the Façade Grant, they can replace their signs at no cost to their business.

ACTION: Councilman Chase MOVED, SECOND Councilman Higginson, to approve Ordinance No. 1026 on first reading. VOTE: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

DISCUSS/TAKE ACTION ON CITY COUNCIL'S 2010 GOAL STATEMENT

Council reviewed the goal statement incorporating the twenty-one goals submitted by individual Council members and the draft compilation of Council's rating sheets. The goals were broken down into six categories:

- I. Community Relations/Awareness/Communications;
- II. Financial/Tax Issues;
- III. Service Delivery;
- IV. Community Development/Business Enhancement;
- V. Intergovernmental; and
- VI. Other.

Council discussed the method each of them used in evaluating the goals and the reality of being able to implement all the goals. It was suggested that Council concentrate on Roman numerals I, II, and IV this year and put aside III (except for #3 Maintain current/existing personnel for FY 10/11), V, and VI until a future time.

They also discussed single stream recycling in detail. This was addressed during franchise negotiations last year; staff will be contacting Waste Management for proposals.

Council discussed what establishing a separate taxing district for the Police and Fire Departments would entail.

Mayor Ferrante asked for public comments. The following individual addressed Council:

- Andrea Porter, 204 Islandia Court, stated that goals should be measurable. For example, a business enhancement goal would be for each Council member to visit a local business once a month. This gives the business contact with City government and gives Council a good idea of the business climate.

Staff will remove the categories and bring the goals back to Council in descending order for further discussion.

FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION ON MEETING WITH CITY BOARD CHAIRPERSONS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO ASSIST CITY COUNCIL ON FINANCIAL ISSUES

City Manager Crotty stated that, following Council's January 20 meeting with board chairs, staff sent a letter to each board/committee asking for any suggestions/input derived from brainstorming about the following:

- Innovative ways to provide service to our residents, which would result in lower costs, but maintain essential existing services.
- New sources of potential revenue.
- Potential reduction of cost and the determination of impact on services.

- “Out of the box” suggestions on how the City could better cope with these financial challenges.

Council referred to the Market Study in 2005 as a source for ideas. If a “blue ribbon” committee is formed, it should include board members, local development agents, business owners, marketing specialists, etc., to have the widest range of ideas and expertise possible.

City Manager Crotty stated that the City has had most success with ad hoc committees where Council provided a clear charter for tasks and clearly defines the make up of the committee to ensure that all stakeholders are represented in the process. May 31 is a good deadline because the City cannot know what it is dealing with until we know what the State Legislature is going to do this year.

Mayor Ferrante asked for public comments. The following individual addressed Council:

- Dominick Montanaro, 465 Glenwood Avenue, stated that municipalities throughout the State are facing similar financial challenges. The Florida League of Cities may have someone working on revenue sources or cost saving ideas.

City Manager Crotty stated that the Florida League of Cities has a staff person to work with municipalities to maximize available revenue and look at other sources.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AND MEETING SCHEDULE FOR PROPOSED ORDINANCES

In addition to the items presented by the City Manager, Mayor Ferrante asked that council discuss the possibility of putting a moratorium on pain management clinics. The Miami-Dade area has established a moratorium because of problems with these clinics; so the clinics are moving north. City Manager Crotty will discuss this with other Brevard County City Managers at the next meeting and provide additional information to Council.

Mayor Ferrante adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Barbara Montanaro, CMC
City Clerk