

**MINUTES
CITY OF ORMOND BEACH
QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

May 14, 2015

6:00 PM

**City of Ormond Beach
Training Room
22 South Beach Street
Ormond Beach, Florida**

1) Call to Order

Dr. Shapiro called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present were: Debbie Berner, Julianne Blanford, Brian Nave, and Dr. Philip Shapiro. Excused were William Masters, Kathy Page, and Troy Railsback.

Staff present were: City Manager Joyce Shanahan, Finance Director Kelly McGuire and Recording Secretary Shá Moss.

2) Review of Capital improvement Program

Dr. Shapiro thanked Finance Director Kelly McGuire for doing an excellent job putting together the CIP. He noted it was neat, concise and comprehensible.

Dr. Shapiro stated people moved to Ormond Beach for the quality of life and as the Board reviewed the CIP to keep in mind the tax base. Things in the City never look run down as it discourages growth and we always look for infrastructure improvement so that we continue to grow.

Dr. Shapiro reviewed the pie charts and noted the number one incoming revenue was the airport fund at 36% followed by bond proceeds, user fees, property tax and other totaling \$14.6 million.

Mr. Nave asked where the airport funds come from and why they vary each year.

Ms. Shanahan stated they were FAA funds and the funds depend upon the nature and number of capital projects at the airport.

Dr. Shapiro stated the expenditures pie chart showed water and wastewater at 38.1% followed by airport and airpark, community redevelopment, stormwater and others totaling \$14.6 million.

Beautification

Dr. Shapiro stated he agreed that the A1A, I-95 and State Road 40 interchange are high priority regarding beautification. With regards to the Facility Renewal and Replacement and Parks/Recreational/Cultural sections, Dr. Shapiro agrees with staff on the information as presented.

Ms. Berner asked about the gap between Rockefeller Drive and Milsap Road for landscaping.

Ms. Shanahan stated there are no medians in that area, so there was no place to put landscaping.

Field #7

Mr. Nave stated he disagreed with the City spending \$550,000 on field #7 for girls' softball. He mentioned the same thing last year and stated there are already two quads available that could be made smaller for the girls to use.

Ms. Shanahan stated the current fields cater primarily to the boys or men. She noted that just because it was a girls' softball field does not mean that it won't have other uses and it would allow them to have the full playing experience.

Mr. Nave stated that the amount of money that would be spent on the field could be used elsewhere. He asked what Board he would bring his concerns to. He stated the plan was to put a field where the parking lot should go and it should be reversed and would also save from installing additional restrooms.

Ms. Shanahan stated that he should speak with the Leisure Services Advisory Board.

Ms. McGuire stated the Leisure Services Advisory Board also reviewed the CIP and they recommended all the projects. She noted field #7 was not something that would be scheduled for next fiscal year, so it would be back before the Board again next year. Ms. McGuire stated they should receive a grant for half of the cost.

Ms. Shanahan stated the City Commission only approves the first year of the CIP because technically they are not obligated by State Law to operate greater than one fiscal year. They are going to review the out years.

Environmental Learning Center

Dr. Shapiro stated the unfunded projects were all worthy projects and in the best interest of Ormond Beach. He noted the Environmental Learning Center was a worthy project but noted the Board did not see the progress since the first presentation.

Ms. Shanahan stated the project was currently in the Phase II of Learning Center and was in the designing process.

Tennis Center

Dr. Shapiro noted the Tennis Center was also a high priority mainly because of it being located at the MacDonald House which is having issues. The Tennis Center would be displaced.

Andy Romano Beachfront Park

Dr. Shapiro stated the Andy Romano Beachfront Park Pavilion was a project that needed to be funded.

Ms. Shanahan stated during the initial plans, there was property available on the far south side of the park and decided to hold off on adding another pavilion at that time. She was not aware of any unmet needs for the park at this time or any request for an additional pavilion, which it was listed in the CIP as unfunded.

Mr. Nave mentioned that that area was overgrown; wherein Ms. Shanahan stated it was meant to be overgrown with the sea grass to keep the park native with as much vegetation as possible, but could be landscaped should the additional pavilion be needed.

Cassen Park Improvements

Dr. Shapiro stated Cassen Park was not presentable and needed to be improved. It was highly visible and well utilized. He stated the parking area needed paving and the restrooms needed to be upgraded.

Mr. Nave asked whether records were kept on the amount of people that used the parks in the City.

Ms. Shanahan stated they were public access parks so it was difficult to keep count. There were counts during the summer at the Andy Romano Beachfront Park as well as random surveys.

Ms. Blanford stated she visited the park daily and did not have the same thoughts of the park being an eyesore. She appreciated the garden in front and the pier was a nice attraction.

Mr. Nave stated there were drainage issues when paving near waterways.

Ms. Shanahan agreed that the restrooms were inadequate and they were doing some landscaping in the area. She noted there would be issues with the storm drain should they pave the parking lot.

West Neighborhood Park

Dr. Shapiro stated it was necessary for the development of high end neighborhoods and retail development for the area.

Three Chimneys

Dr. Shapiro stated the Three Chimney's parking lot was necessary for a city park on state land as the Sanchez Park model. He noted the state would never allow a State park, so it would have to through the City.

MacDonald House

Dr. Shapiro stated the MacDonald House was on the local landmark list, was National Register eligible and a highly visible and utilize building. It was currently being used as the City's Welcome Center and Tennis Center. The Historical Society has a proposal to put a City Historical Museum into the site to be privately funded. The foundation was the issue for the costly repairs. He noted the building needed to be saved.

Mr. Nave stated if the building gets finished, would it still be used as the Tennis Center. He reiterated his concern that it was a lot of money to spend on a small group of people.

Ms. Shanahan stated a portion of the building was used as an office for the Tennis Center, if the Historical Society takes over the entire building the Tennis Center would need a place for their office. She noted the City Commission had their strategic planning workshop and they discussed developing a historic preservation plan to look at all of the City's facilities. Ms. Shanahan stated the front of the first floor was used for the Welcome Center that the Historical Society mans for the City and the back part of the first floor was the Tennis Center office area. The second and third floors were not in use because of access and it needs repairs.

Ms. Shanahan stated the City used to run the Tennis Center but has since contracted it out through a proposal process and was now being run by a third party. The tennis area was open to the public and anyone could use it.

Lisa Lake Dredging

Dr. Shapiro asked whether Lisa Lake dredging was for riparian rights or a stormwater issue and does it affect the resident's land value for not being able to use the waterways.

Ms. Shanahan stated the residents have asked the City Commission years ago to dredge the lake because the runoff from the properties causes the silk to build up and they cannot have access to the lake. She stated she was not able to comment on the land value situation.

Mr. Nave stated he did not see anything in the unfunded section that should be moved to the funded section. Ms. Blanford and Ms. Berner agreed with his comment.

Ms. Berner moved, seconded by Ms. Blanford that the Quality of Life Advisory Board endorses the funded projects as presented by staff.

Mr. Nave asked to amend the motion that the City further look at the singled out field #7 girls softball project to see if other fields could be used or if the field could be buildout that already exists.

Ms. Berner stated she would prefer that as a separate motion.

Ms. McGuire stated the CIP with the items listed in FY 2015-16 are going forward into the proposed budget.

Mr. Nave asked whether the original motion could include FY 2015-16.

Ms. Berner amended her motion, seconded by Ms. Blanford that the Quality of Life Advisory Board endorses the funded projects as presented by staff for FY 2015-16. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Nave moved that the FY 2016-17 project to renovate field #7 girls' softball field and ask that it be reviewed along with the parking lot for that field for efficiency of use for the land area due to available space at another field and that this field would only be used for a small minority of people

Ms. McGuire suggested that the Board make a motion that they reviewed and received and approve the CIP as presented for all five years with the following exceptions.

Mr. Nave amended his motion, seconded by Ms. Blanford that the Quality of Life Advisory Board has reviewed and received and approve the CIP as presented for all five years with the exception of the FY 2016-17 project to renovate field #7 girls' softball field and ask that it be reviewed along with the parking lot for that field for efficiency of use for the land area due to available space at another field and that this field would only be used for a small minority of people. The motion passed unanimously.

West Ormond Park

Ms. Blanford commented on the Nova Park Improvements and stated it would be more important to make a park in West Ormond instead of making additional improvements at the other parks.

Unfunded Projects

Dr. Shapiro asked whether any unfunded projects should be considered as a priority. He considered the Tennis Center, Andy Romano Beachfront Park Pavilion, Cassen Park Improvement, MacDonald House and the Three Chimney parking lot as priorities.

Ms. Berner moved seconded by Ms. Blanford that the Quality of Life Advisory Board recommends to the City Commission to keep the list of unfunded project as a priority for future funding. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Shanahan stated the time to review the CIP was shorten this year mainly because the City Commission was scheduled to review it at a their CIP workshop on June 2nd and staff wanted the Board's comments to be presented to them at their meeting. She suggested that the Board keep the CIP from this year to review because much of the information will continue to be on it. She noted there should not be anything new in the CIP for first year funding.

3) Member Comments

Ms. Shanahan stated at the City Commission's Strategic Planning Workshop they developed goals which would be an over arching theme when they develop their budget in addition to the recommendations they received from the City Boards.

Ms. Blanford asked what was required of her as a member. She asked whether she should bring up new projects from the community.

Ms. Shanahan stated that anyone could bring any ideas to the Board for discussion. Staff would review it and then bring that information for further discussion. The City Commission was also presented with ideas which are brought to the Board for their recommendations.

4) Adjournment – Next Meeting – June 4, 2015

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shá Moss, Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

Dr. Philip J. Shapiro, Chairman