

## **CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP**

### **Ideas**

City Hall Training Room  
May 17, 2011                      5:30 p.m.

#### **I. Call to Order**

Mayor Ed Kelley called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Present were Mayor Ed Kelley, Commissioners James Stowers, Troy Kent, Rick Boehm, and Bill Partington, City Manager Joyce Shanahan, Assistant City Manager Ted MacLeod, and City Attorney Randy Hayes.

#### **II. Discussion of Ideas**

Mayor Ed Kelley stated that the purpose of tonight's workshop was so the Commissioners could talk about anything they wished.

##### Salary Increase

Commissioner Rick Boehm jokingly suggested tripling the Commission's salary; whereby, Mayor Kelley suggested a 10% increase, as the Commission had voted to decrease their salaries by 10% a couple of years ago.

Commissioner Boehm stated that if the employees received a pay raise, then the Commission should also, but he felt it would not be right for the Commission to receive a pay raise and not the employees.

Commissioner Troy Kent stated he disagreed because the Commission had voted on a 10% cut in pay. He suggested the Commission increase their salaries back to where they were before the 10% cut and anything over that would be considered a pay raise.

##### "New Items" Section

Mayor Kelley stated that during the "closing comments" portion of the City Commission that sometimes the Commissioners would think of something further to discuss. He suggested a new item be placed on the agenda before "Reports, Suggestion, Requests" called "New Items" for new business. He suggested this would be a way to easily add something for discussion.

Commissioners Boehm and Stowers were in favor of "New Items" as long as it was clear that they would not be voting on these items; whereby, Ms. Joyce Shanahan, City Manager, stated that this new section would give the

Commission an opportunity to discuss these issues and direct staff to some sort of action.

Mayor Kelley stated that their closing comments were just that and not the time to continue further discussion. He stated that he was trying very diligently to follow the meeting order adopted by the Commission. He stated as chair of the meeting he felt he had to follow their rules of procedure. He stated it was not his intent to cut off/stifle any one of the Commissioners from speaking.

Commissioner Boehm clarified that the Commissioners could comment on the items in "New Ideas" and closing comments were just that and no discussion would take place. He noted that the monitors on the dais needed to be replaced as the picture was distorted; whereby, Ms. Shanahan suggested replacing the overhead TV's with flat screen TV's for the audience, as the Commission utilized their iPads.

#### Enclaves

Mayor Kelley stated that Volusia County wanted the City to annex some enclaves into the City; whereby, Mr. Randy Hayes, City Attorney, stated that the City had some tools to do this, and he would look into this issue.

Ms. Shanahan stated that the infrastructure was not up to par in most of these areas, such as Seminole Woods, Tomoka View, Twin Rivers, etc.

Mr. Ted MacLeod, Assistant City Manager, stated that there was the argument that the City should be spending money to fix up the infrastructure already in place, rather than annexing in areas where the infrastructure was not up to par. He stated the Commission policy had been that the person(s) came to the City requesting to be annexed.

#### Gateway Signage

Commissioner Stowers expressed his desire for substantive signage at the City's gateway entrances. He noted that high level areas around the country had wonderful signage that was landscaped and lit up, and he felt we could do the same thing. He stated that the corner of Williamson and SR40 was very unattractive to anyone entering our City.

#### Tree-scaping

Commissioner Stowers stated that streets on major east/west roads, such as Wilmette Avenue and Hand Avenue, had had the trees removed. He suggested a partnership between the property owners and City along these roadways to plant large established trees. He stated he felt this would set us apart from other cities with this type of tree-scaping.

Commissioner Partington stated he favored measures to promote canopy trees and improved signage. He suggested working with FDOT to incorporate small signs on the landscaped areas adjacent to the interstate exit ramps since there was usually nice landscaping already in place. He recalled that the City had a plan at one time for a gateway sign at the corner of the Towne Square shopping center. He stated that the gateway signs and canopy trees gave the City a sense of place and enhanced the beauty of Ormond Beach.

Mr. MacLeod commented that he had heard comments that one could tell when they entered Ormond Beach, even without a sign.

#### Gateway Signs

Commissioner Boehm stated he recalled a \$10,000 per year line item in the budget and he suggested creating a series of signs that said something like "Welcome to Ormond Beach, Birthplace of Speed" and placing them along US1 and the interstate.

Mayor Kelley stated he preferred a large sign with the City seal on it, rather than the gateway sign on US1. He suggested moving the current US1 gateway sign to the middle of the median where it would be more visible.

#### Sports Complex Sign

Commissioner Kent stated he favored signage using the reserve fund for a one time expense. He stated the sports complex was the most important sign to him. He stated he recalled prior discussion on signs but he could not justify the cost or a tax increase to pay for them. He noted that one of the most beautiful, uniquely crafted signs was at The Casements (cost \$400). He stated it was lit up at night and was elegant. He noted the first sign he ever approved was at Airport Road (\$18,000), which was made out of decorative block with raised lettering. He stated he wanted to look at the sports complex sign first, as he was embarrassed every time he drove by it, but he did not want to spend \$100,000 for a decent sign.

Mayor Kelley stated that the sports complex sign could also serve as a gateway sign, but it needed to be tall enough to be seen and the Hull Point sign might need to be moved.

Commissioner Boehm noted that there was \$50,000 in the budget this year for the sports complex sign; whereby, Mr. MacLeod advised that staff had been working on the sports complex sign issues.

Commissioner Boehm commented that there were people from all over central Florida visiting the sports complex on a weekly basis, who had trouble finding it due to the small sign.

### CIP

Commissioner Boehm expressed his frustration that our CIP was cart-before-the-horse, as it contained estimates and not actual detailed cost figures. He stated he favored having realistic cost estimates in the budget/CIP.

Commissioner Boehm was concerned that small businesses would not bid because they did not feel they had a chance against larger companies; whereby, Ms. Shanahan stated that we could ask for request for qualifications, in order to pre-qualify people in an effort to get an idea of who was out there, but the City had regulations on bidding, etc.

Mr. MacLeod stated that it was a competitive process, as the City put out the requirements of the project and the vendors bid against them.

Commissioner Boehm stated that the Commission could be a better steward if staff gave more detailed information; whereas, Ms. Shanahan stated that staff could improve on asking questions about the projects to get a better idea about the project, in order to obtain more detailed estimates.

### Fitness Challenge Events

Commissioner Boehm stated that there was currently a Mayor's golf tournament and he would like to start a program of various tournaments, such as a track and field event, holiday basketball tournament, or a tennis challenge, to encourage children to participate and to make it important to the children as they were growing up.

Mayor Kelley stated that the southeast Mayors did a Mayor's challenge for weight loss, performing BMI tests, and other challenges to lose weight. He stated the cities of New Smyrna Beach, Edgewater, and Port Orange entered this challenge to see which community collectively lost the most weight. He stated that there were 140+ people signed up to participate. He stated that on June 1 he was attending an event at the Nova Community Center where the hospital, Florida Health Care, Health Department, and schools would be participating in an effort to fight childhood obesity.

Commissioner Kent stated that the elementary schools held a physical fitness festival and field days to encourage children to keep active.

Commissioner Boehm suggested a program where the schools competed against each other with the winning school receiving the Mayor's trophy for their school.

Commissioner Kent stated that he felt the school district should provide these types of programs, but they had cut back in prior years.

Commissioner Partington suggested installing kid-size equipment in Central Park, as the fitness stations were adult-sized.

Commissioner Boehm noted at the Ormond Beach Middle School's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the 2006 East Volusia County basketball championship banner was hanging in the gymnasium and a picture of the team was displayed in the lobby. He suggested that the winning school of a Mayor's challenge could receive a trophy and get to hang a banner in their school. He stated he felt this would give the children the incentive to train and prepare to compete against one another.

Commissioner Stowers commented that "muddy buddy" events had been very successful around the country. He stated that people were getting back to doing things to get into good physical shape. He suggested the idea of a bicycle event at Cobbs Corner where individuals/families could ride their bikes to various stations and challenges.

Commissioner Boehm suggested some sort of celebration could be coordinated with the Tomoka State Park sidewalk project completion. He stated it could also be a fund raiser for saving the loop.

Commissioner Kent stated he favored a Mayor's fishing tournament on City docks. He noted that Seabreeze held a faculty and senior's basketball game each year, as well.

#### Quarterly Ideas Workshops

Ms. Shanahan asked the Commission if they wished to meet on a quarterly basis for this type of workshop; whereby, the Commission was in consensus to continue the ideas workshop.

### **III. Close the Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Transcribed by: Lois Towey