

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS
WORK SESSION – OCTOBER 22, 2018

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA, MET IN WORK SESSION IN THE CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM, 324 E. PINE STREET, ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2018 AT 6:30 P.M., WITH THE FOLLOWING PRESENT:

CHRIS ALAHOUZOS	MAYOR
DAVID BANOTHER	VICE MAYOR
REA SIEBER	COMMISSIONER*
SUSAN MICCIO-KIKTA	COMMISSIONER
JACOB KARR	COMMISSIONER

ALSO PRESENT:	MARK G. LeCOURIS	CITY MANAGER
	IRENE S. JACOBS	CITY CLERK & COLLECTOR
	K. MICHELE MANOUSOS	DEPUTY CITY CLERK & COLLECTOR

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Alahouzos called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

City Clerk Jacobs called the roll.

*Commissioner Sieber left at the start of item two.

1. PROJECT REVIEW/DISCUSSION 2018-1029 FISCAL YEAR

City Manager Lecouris explained the process of this evenings discussions. Commissioner Sieber advised the Board that she was under the weather and would be leaving after item 1.

A. PROJECT ADMINISTRATION:

Bob Robertson, Project Administration Director, gave a power point presentation highlighting five projects (Exhibit 1). Those projects included the Anclote River Dredge, Highland Nature Park Fitness/Walking Trails, Mango (Meres) Boulevard Upgrades, City Hall Generator, and City Facilities Condition Assessment Report.

Anclote River Dredge: Mr. Robertson said that the City has a contingency plan in place to do a separate dredge of the turn basin because the Army Corp of Engineers would not be dredging that portion. Commissioner Karr inquired if the dredge material could be used at Anclote Park, Sunset Beach, and Fred Howard Beach, and Mr. Robertson said a third of the material would be. Mayor Alahouzos asked how many acres the City had to dredge for the turn basin and Mr. Robinson said it was about two to three acres.

Highland Nature Park Fitness/Walking Trails: Mr. Robertson said that park improvements would include a new fitness trail, fitness equipment, pavilion, and a dog park to be completed in spring of 2019. He said that this would be funded by the Recreation Impact fund. Commissioner Karr said when campaigning in that area, people asked that trees removed would be replanted. He also like the design presented; however, would like to see a second option. Commissioner Miccio-Kikta needed clarification where this was located and Mr. Robertson clarified.

Mango/Meres Boulevard Upgrades: Mr. Robertson said that this project would include roadway upgrades to the existing potion of Mango Street and Meres Boulevard and include alignment adjustment to include bike lanes, sidewalks, and significant stormwater upgrades including raising the road at low spots. Estimated start date would be March of 2019. Mayor Alahouzos asked if the quality of road would be the same and Mr. Robertson replied, yes. Commissioner Karr wanted to know if there were any plans towards Alt. 19 for signage or landscape buffers. Mr. Robertson advised that there was nothing included at this time but could be added at a later date. Additionally, he said there was no room for landscaping due to drainage. Commissioner Karr would like to see wider sidewalks to allow for adding pots with trees or foliage. Commissioner Miccio-Kikta asked if this street was an evacuation route and Mr. Robertson said yes.

City Hall Generator: Mr. Robertson said this would replacing the current existing, aging, and undersized generator and temporary portable generator with a leased generator coordinated through Duke Energy. This project to be scheduled for completion in spring of 2019. He said after analysis, it was more favorable to lease then to purchase one. Mayor Alahouzos asked what power the generato used, who handled the maintenance, and where the fuel tank was. Mr. Robertson answered that Duke Energy handled the maintenance and that the fuel tank was located underneath the generator. Commissioner Karr asked if this project would receive credits and Mr. Robertson replied, no.

City Facilities Condition Assessment Report: Mr. Robertson made the Board aware that this was a new program to conduct inspections and create annual reports on the condition of city buildings with cost estimates. This project is scheduled to start in early December.

(Continued)

1. PROJECT REVIEW/DISCUSSION 2018-1029 FISCAL YEAR (Continued)

B. PUBLIC SERVICES:

Paul Smith, Public Services Director, gave a power point presentation highlighting a few of several projects in his area. (Exhibit 2)

Cycadia Cemetery: Mr. Smith advised the Board on the maintenance plan of the grounds on area by area and their plans for the future. Commissioner Karr asked if the City sprayed for bugs and fertilized, and Mr. Smith explained. Commissioner Karr also suggested that the Cemetery boundaries be lined with porta carpus.

Palm Avenue Stormwater Drainage Improvements: Mr. Smith talked about the Palm Avenue Stormwater Drainage Improvements that would improve drainage in the neighborhood and flood abatement. This phase was currently in design and construction phase and was scheduled to start in spring of 2019.

Stormwater GIS Mapping – Citywide: Mr. Smith advised that a grant was received to map the city's stormwater infrastructure in which was underway and estimated to be completed spring of 2019.

Lift Stations: Mr. Smith explained the color coding of equipment and explained what program was in place for a permanent generator.

Water Pip Valve: Mayor Alahouzos would like a list of where replacements are needed, and Commissioner Karr suggested that when fixing roads, that would be the time to also look at replacing infrastructure at the same time. Commissioner Miccio-Kikta inquired if all work was in house and Mr. Smith relied that work was done some in house but major breaks had contractor assistance.

Hydrants: Mr. Smith informed the Board that there were over 830 hydrants that were inventoried, and color coded. Commissioner Karr asked that these hydrants be looked at and that the company should be held accountable, because the paint job on these looked like a kindergartener painted them.

Solar: Commissioner Sieber asked when the solar project at the RO was official and Mr. Smith said that it was at the procurement stage. Mayor Alahouzos advised that he was told that student engineers at USF would work with the City at no charge on this project.

Golf Course: Commissioner Miccio-Kikta asked if the driving range expansion would take place and Mr. Smith said that this work would be done in house and was working with Public Works on this project. She also said that she was asked by residents if the water tower could have art, and City Manager LeCouris said that this was what was decided on by the resident meetings to blend in with greens and that trees surrounding as buffers were in the growing stage.

C. PUBLIC WORKS:

Street Resurfacing Plan – Citywide: Mr. Funcheon explained that this was to repave existing roadways, and make ADA Sidewalks compliance modifications as needed. They are in the finalization stages of the paving list and considering pre-bid options. This project was scheduled for completion in fall 2018. Commissioner Miccio-Kikta inquired to the status of Cedar Street and Mr. Smith responded that it was in the bid stage. She also inquired if Lillian could be paved, and Tom Funcheon, Public Works Director, said that it can be sprayed with a product so there would be less dust and last three to five years. Mayor Alahouzos asked on the status of Center and Disston and Mr. Funcheon said it was on the project list. The Mayor would like for the Board to receive a copy of the action plan.

Sidewalk Repair/Replacement – Citywide: Mr. Funcheon said that this was to repair or replace damaged sidewalks or install new sidewalks that were currently needed with a completion date of Spring of 2019. Commissioner Sieber asked about sidewalks on Spring Boulevard and she along with Commissioner Karr would like to revisit the rip rap project. City Manager LeCouris said that Mr. Robertson would check with the Army Corp of Engineers to find out again what could and could not be done.

Facilities Maintenance: Commissioner Karr asked what the expected roof life expectancy was, and if there was any warranties. Mr. Funcheon said that the average roof life was fifteen years and that there was no warranties on the installation of a roof. He also spoke about Sunset Beach Sidewalks, crosswalks, and requiring the coating of chain linked fences; and advised that mangroves needed to be trimmed.

D. PLANNING/ZONING: Heather Urwiller, Planning & Zoning Director, reviewed her work plan for fiscal year 2018-19, highlighting rewriting of the sign code to update the district guide lines, and starting the RFP process of the Land Development Code to look at all zoning districts. Mayor Alahouzos asked if the Smart Code was being looked at, what the Navaline Planning Module was, if impact fees were comparable, clarification of the Ordinance for shopping Carts, and what was the GS Ordinance. Ms. Urwiller said that they were not looking at the Smart Code but would suggest in the future, that the Navaline module was for going to a paperless office, that impact fees were comparable, she explained the Ordinance for the shopping carts, and said that other cities have implemented the GS Ordinance. Vice Mayor Banther thanked Ms. Urwiller for going to a paperless office and would like to see the Board catch up. Mayor Alahouzos asked for an update on the Holiday Inn express and Ms. Urwiller replied that they were waiting on the Development agreement. Commissioner Sieber asked if the Coastal Partnership Initiative Grant could be applied for every year and Ms. Urwiller said, yes. Commissioner Karr was excited about the sign code regulating the look; and would like to see hedges line borders of businesses for a more aesthetic look.

E. BUILDING: City Manager LeCouris advised that Kevin Powell, Building Director, got called to the panhandle for reserve duty; however, if they had questions, they could get with him upon his return.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Karen Lemmons, Economic Development Director, gave a brief overview of her presentation. The Board thanked Ms. Lemmons for her services. Mayor Alahouzos asked if the Facade Project could be extended to the Sponge Docks, if there was any updates on the old Pappas Restaurant building, and when would a marketing plan be implemented. Ms. Lemmons responded that the façade grants were only available in the CRA and only done in the Sponge Docks as a pilot program from funds from the General fund budget, which did not receive interest, she had no update on the old Pappas Restaurant, and that a marketing plan would be implemented some time next year. Commissioner Sieber would like to see assistance for Ms. Lemmons and would like to see a marketing position that could do analysis and exit interviews. She would also like to see incentives for Sponge Dock owners to maintain their properties along with beautification. Vice Mayor Banther would like to see façade grants extended to east Tarpon Avenue, and said the problem was that tenants do not own buildings and owners are not beautifying. Commissioner Miccio-Kikta echoed Vice Mayor Banther's suggestions and said that the City had come a long way and that the City was moving in the right direction. Commissioner Karr offered various suggestions such as encouraging new businesses to maintain the history possibly by including old photos in their interior.

2. DISCUSSION OF ON-GOING BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS:

Commissioner Sieber left during this item.

Karen Lemmons, Economic Development Director, presented this item (see Exhibit 2).

a. Signs:

Ms. Lemmons showed examples of Wayfinding and Street Signs. She said that currently street signs at 35 intersections in the CRA Historic District are being replaced with new decorative signs, and the second phase 40 intersections signs would be replaced outside the CRA. She also advised that prominent intersections signs outside of the Historic District will also have a decorative sign replacement; as well as, signs in the Sponge Docks also having the Greek translation of the street. The Board liked street signs with city seals.

b. Lighting:

Ms. Lemmons showed examples of what lights in trees could look like along with lighting in the Sponge Docks could be considered.

c. Landscaping:

City Manager LeCouris also explained some miscellaneous ideas; such as, hanging baskets (prototype in front of Tarpon Diner) idea from Commissioner Karr, directional signage, and alley art. Commissioner Karr said that the advantages of these hanging planters was that the liners can be grown and placed in hanger; therefore, the planter would never be dead or bare.

3. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL BOC PROJECTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

City Manager LeCouris asked the Board for their ideas to be added to the list. Commissioner Miccio-Kikta would like to see fire station 70 done sooner because it was in dis-repair. City Manager LeCouris said this item would be on the November 6, 2018 Regular Session. Mayor Alahouzos asked what the next area of septic would be replaced and City Manager LeCouris replied it would be Seabreeze Drive. Mayor Alahouzos would like projects reviewed by the Budget Advisory Committee.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

CHRIS ALAHOUZOS
MAYOR

ATTEST:

IRENE S. JACOBS, CMC
CITY CLERK & COLLECTOR

CITY CLERK'S NOTE: This meeting has been recorded in its entirety and the recordings are kept on file in the City Clerk's Office for the required retention period.