

**City of DeBary
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP**

**Tuesday
June 29, 2010
4:00 PM**

City Council Chambers
16 Colomba Road
DeBary, Florida 32713

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Vice Mayor Erickson called the workshop to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Vice Mayor Norman Erickson, Council Member Lita Handy-Peters, Council Member Jack Lenzen (late), and Council Member Leonard Marks

Members Absent: Mayor Bob Garcia (excused)

Others Present: City Manager Dan Parrott, Assistant City Manager Kassandra Blissett, and Finance Administrator Jimmie Seelbinder

III. Discussion of FY 2010-2011 Annual Budget

Mr. Seelbinder outlined the budget calendar for the Council.

Ms. Blissett discussed the mowing of River City Nature Park and said the City is spending roughly \$60,000 per year on the mowing of the park. She said that staff has identified an alternative, which would be approximately \$14,000 per year, plus a one-time capital expenditure of about \$10,000. She added that the current caretaker would mow the park. Council Member Marks suggested decreasing the acreage that is currently being mowed to save money.

Council Member Lenzen arrived at this time.

There was Council consensus to move forward with the alternative suggested by Ms. Blissett.

Mr. Parrott recommended cutting the Planner I position. There was no objection from Council.

Mr. Parrott discussed the paving of Fort Florida Road and noted that the City grades it every week at an annual cost of approximately \$50,000. Council Member Lenzen advocated the use of the open grade paving that was used previously to pave the orphan portion of Fort Florida Road.

Mr. Parrott discussed the stormwater maintenance and infrastructure needs for the coming year.

Mr. Parrott said that the City does not currently issue business tax receipts, but if it did, there would be more control. Ms. Blissett noted it would be for all businesses, both commercial and residential, and staff has been researching the fees charged by neighboring jurisdictions. There was consensus to move forward with the imposition of business tax receipts.

Mr. Parrott discussed proactive and reactive code enforcement and said if the City moved to complaint-based code enforcement, it would free up Mr. Hooker's time to concentrate on business tax receipts. There was Council discussion regarding proactive versus reactive code enforcement. Mr. Parrott spoke of the importance of having an even-handed balance in the administration of code enforcement. The Council agreed that they were in favor of complaint-based enforcement.

Ms. Blissett stated that staff has identified two untapped sources of revenue for the City. She said that the first one is charging for private haulers that do business in the City providing dumpsters to businesses. She added that it could be established by ordinance, and then the City would enter into an annual contract with the company. She noted that it is also a way to control who is doing business in the City. She stated the second source is a franchise fee for natural gas within the community, similar to the franchise fees for electricity.

There was Council discussion regarding the two possible revenue sources proposed by Ms. Blissett and consensus to research both options further.

Mr. Parrott discussed the City's past public works focus, which has been reactive, and asked the Council to look at the City's assets and what can be done to protect them. He said the Council should look at its infrastructure and talk about taking a more proactive approach. He pointed out that an obvious example is the City's streets because it costs more to fix them later than maintaining them in the first place.

There was Council discussion regarding using Parks maintenance staff for public works activities in addition to mowing parks.

Mr. Parrott said he increased the cost for the land development code codification to bring someone in to rewrite it. He explained that although staff could do it themselves, it would take years. He added that the new TOD standards also need to be incorporated in the code.

Mr. Parrott explained that his reason for adding a contingency account to the general fund is to address unforeseen items that arise during the year.

Mr. Parrott asked the Council to look at the capital sheet and summarized the highlights. He noted several projects that have been identified but are currently unfunded.

There was discussion regarding the condition of the fire station.

Mr. Parrott advocated the paving of Fort Florida Road. There was discussion regarding the City paving the road versus waiting on developers to provide infrastructure.

Mr. Parrott informed the Council that the City's rollback rate would be 2.87. He pointed out that the average tax rate for the other cities is 5, while DeBary is currently 2.57.

Council Member Lenzen stated that the City cannot maintain its current millage rate and continue to provide the same level of service. He advocated raising the rate, while still maintaining the lowest rate in the County. He stressed that if the Council wants to do capital projects, they must go to the rollback rate.

Mr. Parrott listed five unfunded capital projects for Council consideration in the following order of priority: West Highbanks culvert improvements, Woodbound outfall/Lake Charles pump station, Fort

Florida Road, City Hall retention pond, and Hammock Oak Circle. The Council members agreed they would like staff to calculate how much the rollback rate would generate to fund the capital projects.

Mr. Parrott explained the City's unreserved fund balance to the Council and said that as of May 31st, it is \$3.4 million.

Council Member Marks suggested reducing the number of Council members that would attend the Florida League of Cities conference. He also questioned funding the Youth Celebration of the Arts.

There was discussion regarding cutting electric costs in city hall.

Council Member Marks asked Mr. Parrott for clarification on several line items.

Council Member Handy-Peters said she was pleased with the sections for law enforcement and fire services.

Council Member Lenzen said he was happy with the budget presented by Mr. Parrott.

Vice Mayor Erickson asked the Council to think about if they wished to remain a member in VCOG.

There was discussion regarding the difference in the public works budget due to changing contracts from Volusia County to Orange City last year.

Mr. Parrott spoke about software briefly, and he said they might need to come back and increase the budget for the accounting software.

Mr. Parrott said he would bring back the VCOG and Art League issues on July 7th.

Ms. Blissett reminded the Council of the old fashioned celebration at DeBary Hall on July 3rd.

IV. Adjournment

The workshop adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

**APPROVED September 1, 2010
CITY OF DeBARY
CITY COUNCIL**

Bob Garcia, Mayor

ATTEST:

Stacy Tebo, City Clerk