Fire Station No. 2 977 26th Avenue North Naples, FL 33940



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Neighborhood Town Meeting Time 5:00p.m.

Date May 8, 1991

Present: Kim Anderson, Mayor Paul W. Muenzer, Councilman Also Present: Norris C. Ijams, Acting City Manager Mark W. Wiltsie, Assistant City Manager Tara A. Norman, Public Information Officer (Recording Secretary) Mary Kay McShane, Human Resources Director Missy McKim, Community Development Director Paul C. Reble, Police Chief Kevin Rambosk, Police Captain George T. Smith, Acting Fire Chief Sheldon Reed, Fire Marshal Glen Chesebrough, Fire Training Chief William Harrison, Finance Director Stewart K. Unangst, Purchasing Agent Christopher Holley, Community Services Director James Dean, Property Management Supervisor Larry Barnet, Public Works & Utilities Director Gerald L. Gronvold, City Engineer Police Volunteers: Mark Tull Jane Tull News Media: Gina Binole, Naples Daily News Citizens: Sue Smith John L. Norman Duke Turner John M. Hustler Locke Galbraith Robert J. Armstrong Alda Koener Williamstrick										
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Mayor Anderson welcomed everyone present and noted that she was looking forward to addressing challenges of the office to which she had been appointed the month before. One of her goals, she said, is to foster better communication between the administration and City Council and, to that end, some office staff responsibilities are being changed. Mayor Anderson then introduced Councilman Muenzer and Acting City Manager Norris Ijams who, prior to coming out of retirement, had served the City as Fire Chief for 14 years.

Acting City Manager Ijams reviewed the status of the City Manager selection process noting that the Council had determined to interview a total of eight candidates on Friday, May 10th, and because of the generosity of a local citizen, a boat was being provided so that a waterway tour of the City may be offered to the candidates. The only cost for this trip will be for snacks.

Mr. Ijams also encouraged citizens to contact the City with their questions and concerns and noted that a special City Council workshop would be held on Tuesday, May 28, to provide an in-depth review of the Utilities and Finance operations and what measures will be taken to correct past problems in these departments.

Councilman Muenzer also stressed that citizens should never hesitate to contact City Hall and that Neighborhood Town Meetings were also held for this purpose as well as to allow the City to report to citizens.

Mr. Locke Galbraith, 4000 Gulf Shore Boulevard, representing the Park Shore Association, asked if the City would be providing containers for recyclable materials similar to those used in Collier County. Public Works & Utilities Director Barnet indicated that this had been looked into but that because so many citizens reside in Naples only part of the year, there was concern that containers would be damaged or stolen when not being used and also that the presence of the containers might signal when a residence is unoccupied.

Councilman Muenzer also pointed out that ir addition to providing containers for recyclable

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materials, consideration also must be given to securing a dependable market for the materials so that the collection service would be economically feasible. Mayor Anderson suggested that further interaction with property owner associations might result in individual groups providing containers for the residents in their areas.

Another Park Shore resident, Robert Armstrong of 542 Pine Grove Lane, asked whether City ordinances prohibited the depositing of advertising newspapers and materials on residential yards. Mr. Muenzer confirmed the existence of such a regulation and that complaints are responded to.

Mr. Armstrong then asked what could be the City's reasonable expectations in recovering revenue from unbilled water usage. He also inquired about the status of cityhood for the Pelican Bay subdivision.

Finance Director Harrison explained that a group of volunteer citizens would be researching computer records, which are kept for the previous three years, to request payment from customers for an estimate of water used while their meters were not functioning. This payment must be voluntary and cannot legally be required. Councilman Muenzer also pointed out that the Council had just enacted ordinance to assess treble damages unauthorized connections to the City's water system. Public Works & Utilities Director Barnet stated that his staff would provide to the Council at the special workshop of May 28th a listing of the unauthorized taps which were known, including connection and system development charges due, and what had been collected to date.

With regard to Mr. Armstrong's inquiry about Pelican Bay, Councilman Muenzer reported that the Council had decided not to put the issue on the He said annexation of this development ballot. would mean a doubling of the size of the City of Naples with the majority of the population living in Pelican Bay. He also cited concerns that Collier County had already collected impact fees from Pelican Bay and, therefore, this revenue would the City to provide not available for infrastructure and other essential should the area be annexed. It would take an

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extended period of time to underwrite these capital costs through ad valorem taxes, which are very low at the present time in the City of Naples. Also, costly water and sewer system modifications would be necessary to accommodate service to Pelican Bay, Mr. Muenzer said.

Alda Koener, 1287 28th Avenue North, asked what the City was going to do about the fact that Stoney's Trailer Park continues to increase in size and that the park owner contends that it is not necessary for her to undergo the City's permitting process. Mayor Anderson said that the Council had recently discussed this issue at a workshop meeting and had determined that the matter should go through the prescribed process of review by the Planning Community Development Director Advisory Board. McKim also advised that a Code Enforcement Board action was now pending with reference to one home in the park and that case had been delayed until the Planning Advisory Board process is completed.

William Smith of 505 Turtle Hatch Road brought up the report recently received by the Council from the Committee to Review City Efficiency, citing such recommended expenditures as a public relations campaign in the neighborhood of \$100,000 a year and \$25,000 per year for an internal auditor. Anderson said that the City staff is now studying the report recommendations and working to clarify terms and issues to report to the new City Manager when he arrives. Then, the Council will receive a report from the Manager in approximately 45 to 60 She stressed that, with the days after that. amount of expertise which was present on the committee, the City would have expended more than \$100,000 if the study had been had contracted out.

Mr. John Hustler said that he had served on the Efficiency Committee and praised the free flow of information which had taken place between City staff and the committee. He said he had been very impressed by the dedication of City workers, and noted that many recommendations were contained in the committee's report, some of which will be acted on and some which will not.

Councilman Muenzer also noted that the study had been very thorough and that the committee had provided recommendations only; the Council would determine what it could afford to implement.

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Stating that he was a retired public works supervisor, Mr. Jim Tedesco, 750 Mooring Line Drive, expressed concern at what he considered an excessive expenditure being proposed to repair a manhole. He compared the urgency of this expenditure with the need to correct substantial infiltration into sewer lines, and said that he felt he could provide guidance to accomplish the manhole repair at much less cost than proposed. Councilman Muenzer, City Engineer Gronvold and Mr. Tedesco agreed to meet to further discuss these issues in the near future.

Mr. Locke Galbraith then brought up the subject of inadequate service from the cable television franchisee and indicated that this may have been in part caused by a lack of competition. Mayor Anderson said that the City had attempted to encourage competing franchisees but that because of various circumstances, these vendors were unwilling The Council, she said, was to enter the market. nevertheless always willing to consider alternatives to service by one concern. Councilman Muenzer also pointed out that newly developing technology using small dish receivers would most likely provide considerable competition for inground cable operators in the near future.

Mrs. Sue Smith, 15 11th Avenue South, commented that the community had gone through a very unusual time and in the realm of public relations, citizens have not felt free to express their concerns at City Hall. According to the recent Naisbitt report for "Collier 2000," citizens should hold their officials accountable, she said, yet citizens have been harassed for doing so. Mrs. Smith cited former Acting City Manager Coggan's comments before leaving and Mayor Crawford's resignation letter as examples. Government should be running on checks and balances, but this had eroded and was not working from the top down. Mrs. Smith also questioned the advisability of the stormwater management utility currently being considered.

Duke Turner, 1230 26th Avenue North, said that in the many years he had lived in Naples he had seen ups and downs in local government, but pointed out that there are no organizations or individuals who have not also experienced high and low points.

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Perhaps the City may not have increased water rates soon enough, he said, but noted that in comparison to other communities, Naples rates continue to be very reasonable. Councilman Muenzer said that while he did not feel the City had waited too long to increase water rates, it would be in much better financial condition if what was owed it, including impact fees, had been collected all along. Mr. Turner also cited the work which had been done on the waterfront design study for the past year and a half. Although there had been some misconceptions about the extent of bayfront revamping which was being proposed, he urged continued citizen participation in this effort. Community Development Director McKim noted that Council would receive another update on this project and that the committee's final report would be forthcoming in June.						
Adjourn: 6:00 p.m. Condition Kim Anderson Mayor						