



City of Naples

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Workshop Meeting 4-13-92

City Council Chambers
735 Eighth Street South
Naples, Florida 33940

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City Council Chambers
735 Eighth Street South
Naples, Florida 33940



Time 9:00 a.m.

Date 4-13-92

Mayor Muenzer called the meeting to order and presided.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Paul W. Muenzer, Mayor

Fred L. Sullivan, Vice Mayor

R. Joseph Herms

Alan R. Korest

Ronald M. Pennington

Peter H. Van Arsdale

Council Members

Absent: Kim Anderson,
Council Member

Also Present:

Dr. Richard L. Woodruff, City Manager

Norris C. Ijams, Assistant City Manager

Maria J. Chiaro, City Attorney

Tara Norman, Administrative Analyst

Larry Barnet, Director of Public Works

Ann (Missy) McKim, Community Dev. Director

Jon Staiger, Ph.D., Natural Resources Mgr.

John Cole, Chief Planner

Tom Smith, Fire Chief

Sheldon Reed, Fire Marshal

Glen Chesebrough, Fire Training Chief

Paul Reble, Police Chief

Al Lane, Public Works Analyst

Ann Walker, Planner II

Leighton Westlake, Engineering Manager

James V. Miller, Equipment Service Manager

Dan Mercer, Utilities Manager

George Henderson, Sergeant-At-Arms

Marilyn McCord, Deputy Clerk

See Supplemental Attendance List - Attachment #1

ITEM 1

**SAVE OUR HOMES (3% LIMIT ON ANNUAL
ASSESSMENTS ON HOMESTEAD PROPERTY).**

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Mr. Clarence Perry, representing Save Our Homes, Inc., addressed Council. He appeared for the purpose of asking Council to pass a resolution in favor of the Save Our Homes, Inc. constitutional amendment to place a 3% limit on the annual assessment of homestead property. Mr. Perry said, "We're not advocating a rollback in millage or assessment. We're asking cities and counties to live within their means."

Mr. Perry referred to the fact that foreign companies operating in the United States pay very little, or no, tax. "What is more fair than a windfall profit tax?" asked Mr. Perry. He explained that such a tax would be paid only when there was a profit made in a real estate sale.

City Manager Woodruff noted that some of the proposal's aspects had merit. Council discussed the proposal, and Vice Mayor Sullivan emphasized that something must be done about the continuous escalation of assessment.

It was the consensus of Council to prepare a resolution supporting the homestead valuation limitation amendment to the Florida Constitution. Staff will obtain homestead exemption data from the County Assessor's Office and do a five-year analysis, showing the total assessment base on the homestead properties and what those properties would have done under the 3% cap. (For the City, this would be the revenue they would have produced in those five years.) Staff will supply a dollar shortfall to show what the variance would have been. Staff will have the information ready for the May 20th Council Meeting at the latest, and will notify Save Our Homes, Inc. of the date.

ITEM 2

FOURTH OF JULY EVENT - COLLIER COUNTY
VETERANS COUNCIL.

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Administrative Analyst Tara Norman introduced Mr. Herb Luntz and Mr. Lou Schultz of the Collier County Veterans Council. Mr. Luntz told Council that in the absence of a Fourth of July parade, a family-type celebration could be held at Cambier Park. The Veterans Council agreed to support such an event, however, they have no funds available and hope that the City can assist.

Mr. Luntz said that not-for-profit organizations could be invited to set up booths at the Park and that continuous entertainment could be scheduled. Ms. Norman said that the cost to the City would be approximately \$1,000 for additional Fire and Police personnel.

The media will be the key to the event's success, stressed Mr. Luntz. He also suggested the possibility of inviting elected officials and people considering running for office to speak at the event. Mr. Luntz told Council that the Veterans Council will coordinate the event and then he will return to Council with more specific plans.

It was the consensus of Council to support a patriotic celebration in Cambier Park on the Fourth of July. Financial aspects of the event will be presented to Council at its Regular Meeting on April 15th.

BREAK: 10:10 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

ITEM 3

EMS FOLLOWUP.

Emergency Services Director Jay Reardon thanked City staff for the opportunity to work with them on this matter. First to speak to Council was EMS Billing Supervisor Jack Wampler, who displayed and described several samples of EMS bills. Mr. Wampler answered City Manager Woodruff's questions with regard to billing and

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collections and reviewed the new EMS rates. He told Council that as long as partial payment is made every thirty days, no administration fee is added to the bills. County residents receive a \$269 credit on their EMS bills. Mr. Reardon agreed that the County's overall collection rate was in the 50 percentile.

Mr. Wampler pointed out that 30% of EMS calls within the City are non-emergency transports. Fire Chief Tom Smith said that State statutes allow private industry to provide non-emergency transport. Staff will clarify the number of non-emergency responses within the City.

EMS Chief of Operations Mr. Don Eckherdt addressed quality of care. He reviewed the EMS level of care and the employment process. Mr. Eckherdt described the department's rotation policy. He pointed out that in the City there are almost no pediatric calls and by rotating EMS personnel gives them a variety of calls. Using visual aids, Mr. Eckherdt described EMS zones and explained how units are shifted, depending on the volume of calls. Mr. Eckherdt said that approximately 40 of the 60 paramedics have been employed with the County for five years or more.

Mr. Bill Griffin of the County's Emergency Services Division reviewed simultaneous multiple calls which occurred within the City during 1991 of which there were 189.

Emergency Services Director Reardon next gave a brief financial review of the City of Naples Fire Department EMS plan. He described the traditional 50/50 funding mechanism (50% ad valorem and 50% user fees). Mr. Reardon said that County staff had estimated a first-year shortfall of \$157,252.00 and a second-year shortfall of \$122,537.00. A \$68,392.00 shortfall was visualized after five years and would probably have to be subsidized by ad valorem taxes. It would cost the City approximately \$109.29 per capita to provide its own EMS service.

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Mr. Reardon told Council that perhaps some non-traditional methods could be considered. EMS could accept insurance assignments, he said, and the balance of the bill not pursued. A flat rate of \$80 would be charged and would be the maximum anyone would pay. Mr. Reardon cautioned Council that getting into the EMS business was very expensive but commended the City for considering the establishment of a quality EMS system within the Fire Department.

City Manager Woodruff pointed out that although the City initiated only 16-17% of all EMS calls, it provided almost 26% of its income. He asked if there was any way to address that inequity. Dr. Woodruff assured Council that staff would revise its figures pertaining to an EMS system, based on Mr. Reardon's information. Staff will demonstrate to Council what it would cost to start the City's own EMS system, based on that information. Dr. Woodruff also asked that Council Members contact him within the next few days should they desire additional information or have any further questions.

County Manager Neil Dorrill addressed Council. He noted that in terms of per capita costs, the County was spending approximately \$17.80 per capita County-wide for its EMS service. He said that the County has one of the highest levels of pre-hospital care and one of the lowest per capita costs in the State. Mr. Dorrill asked that the City acknowledge that the County cannot discriminate to any particular group in town and is obligated to provide EMS service county wide. He concluded by saying, "Please remember we can't just look at this as what is best for City residents."

City Manager Woodruff stated that he had every confidence the County would do what was best for the people. He asked that the County review the inequities that exist. Going to the 50/50 plan would make those inequities greater, he said.

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Dr. Woodruff ended his comments by saying that he hoped the whole issue would be reviewed with the proper perspective and fairness on both sides of the budget.

LUNCH RECESS: 12:35 p.m. - 1:50 p.m.

ITEM 4

STORAGE OF SAILBOATS ON THE BEACH.

Council Member Pennington had made a tally of boats on the beach. Copies of that tally were distributed. The tally revealed in a total of 74 boats on the beach, 26 on public property and 48 on private property.

Community Development Director Missy McKim told Council that a poll of other cities found that most have chosen to prohibit the storage of sailboats on the beach. The only exception was the City of Delray Beach which sells forty permits each year. Ms. McKim displayed a map showing the private and public platted property along the beach.

Next Ms. McKim reviewed the options available to address the issue, which were suggested by staff:

1. Prohibit the storage of boats on the beach.
2. Limit the daily use/access of launching boats to the three beach ends with wide dune cross-overs.
3. Restrict the storage of boats to the platted beach ends.
4. Develop a registration program for placement of boats at the beach ends.

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Council discussed whether this might be treated as a zoning issue. City Attorney Chiaro noted that because of the problem the City has had with boats on the beach, Council had a valid reason to use its police powers to require registration of the boats. She said that a small administrative fee could be charged for the purpose of identifying boats which will be kept on the

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Item 4 - Allowable Encroachments

Item 4 will be continued to allow staff more time to work on the language of the ordinance.

Item 6 - Beach Project Funding

Natural Resources Manager Staiger will discuss this item with Council Member Pennington before the April 15th Council Meeting.

Item 7 - Boat and Trailer Storage

Staff will clarify the ordinance language and present Council with some options at the April 15th Meeting. Staff will also clarify the wording "number of boats stored on one trailer" and define "completely screened."

Item 9 - Taste of Collier

The City Attorney will research the possibility of handling the sale of alcoholic beverages at "Taste of Collier" as a variance in the future.

Item 12 - Purchase of Police Vehicles

Staff will report to Council with respect to the price difference from dealer to dealer, even though the City is dealing with a State contract. Staff will also provide warranty information on the vehicles.

Item 13

At the request of staff, Item 13 will be continued.

Item 14 - Confiscation Funds Expenditures

Staff will determine whether these funds can be used to purchase the ninth vehicle referred to in Item 12. Staff will create a C.I.P. for the confiscated funds. Expenses related to maintenance of the vehicles and risk management aspects should be included in the C.I.P.

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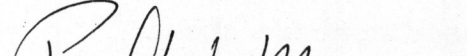
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ADJOURN: 5:15 p.m.


JANET CASON
City Clerk



PAUL W. MUENZER, MAYOR

Marilyn McCord
Marilyn McCord
Deputy Clerk

These minutes of the Naples City Council were approved on May 6, 1992.