



City of Naples

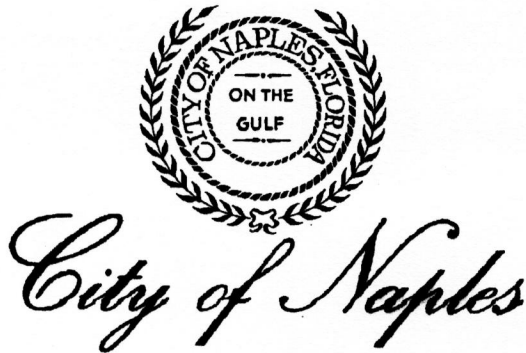
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City Council Workshop Meeting

Monday, October 19, 1992

Convened 9:05 am / Adjourned 1:30 pm

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City Council Chamber
735 Eighth Street South
Naples, Florida 33940

City Council Workshop Meeting - October 19, 1992 - 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Muenzer called the meeting to order and presided

ROLL CALL

ITEM 2

Present: Paul W. Muenzer, Mayor
Fred L. Sullivan, Vice Mayor

Council Members:
Kim Anderson
R. Joseph Herms
Alan R. Korest
Ronald M. Pennington
Peter H. Van Arsdale

Also Present:

Dr. Richard L. Woodruff, City Manager
Maria J. Chiaro, City Attorney
William Harrison, Finance Director
Paul Reble, Police Chief
Missy McKim, Comm. Development Dir.
Dan Mercer, Interim Public Works Dir.
John Cole, Chief Planner
Kevin Rambosk, Police Captain
James Byrne, Police Captain
Paul Sireci, Police Captain
Jon Staiger, Ph.D., Natural Resources Mgr.
Jeff Whittaker, Police Lieutenant
Glen Chesebrough, Fire Training Chief
Noah Standifer, Planning & Research Tech.
Mark Thornton, Comm. Services Dir.

Leighton Westlake, Engineering Mgr.
Sheldon Reed, Fire Marshal
Ann Walker, Planner II
George Henderson, Sergeant-At-Arms
Marilyn McCord, Deputy City Clerk
Charles Andrews
Werner W. Haardt
J. Dudley Goodlette
Tyler Janney
Other interested citizens and visitors

Media:

Eric Staats, Naples Daily News
Liz Olenick, WNOG
Paul Kenney, WBBH-TV

ITEM 1

COMPUTER STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

Finance Director Bill Harrison presented the Computer Steering Committee's report, first reviewing the history of the City's computer system and explaining why the Committee was appointed. The City's Efficiency Committee had recommended establishing the Computer Steering Committee, which would oversee the computer system City-wide and facilitate the updating and standardizing of hardware and software. In 1991 computer networks were implemented in City Hall and the Police Department. Currently, the City is working with Edison Community College in order to implement training. Mr. Harrison reported that the training has been found to be very helpful, and will continue.

Mr. Harrison reviewed the financial details of the computer system. In 1991 Council had authorized a four-year program for computerization, allotting \$1,000,000.00 to be spent. During fiscal year 1992, \$181,692.00 was spent on the program.

Next the future work program was explained by Mr. Harrison. That will consist of:

1992

- Continue to improve networks at City Hall and Police Department
- Create detailed three year plan (1993-1995)
- Provide further training

1993-1995

- Form subcommittees to address and implement:
 - Financial management system/Human Resources needs
 - Geographical information system
 - Document retrieval
 - Public Works network
 - Connect all major City facilities

Mr. Harrison told Council, "The Manager has challenged us all to work harder, work better, work faster." A more efficient computerization system will help effect those goals.

City Manager Woodruff noted that during the past year uniform software and uniform work stations had been purchased. Council Member Van Arsdale has joined the Computer Steering Committee, and Council Member Korest has also offered help and information. Dr. Woodruff said that with the creation of subcommittees this year, the system will advance. Council can expect the Committee to recommend several major purchases. Also, said Dr. Woodruff, within

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the next three months the Community Services and Public Works Departments will "catch up" with the other departments.

Dr. Woodruff explained that the Committee was working on a six-month work schedule. He also reminded Council that the City's Auditor would, as part of his contract, do forty hours of additional work each year. This year those forty hours will be used to study the City's computer system and determine whether minor modifications can be made to the present system. That report will be ready for Council's review in December. The City Manager announced that staff was making arrangements for Council to visit other municipalities to view their computer systems. He invited all Council Members to attend the Computer Steering Committee meetings.

Council Member Van Arsdale stressed the importance of determining exactly what the computer goals were. He said, "We have wonderful hardware now but it's probably doing about 10% of what it's capable of. We can become more efficient."

City Manager Woodruff addressed Council in order to make a special announcement.

Dr. Woodruff asked Chief Paul Reble, Captain Kevin Rambosk, and Legal Assistant Patricia Rambosk to join him at the podium. He announced that Captain Rambosk would be the City's new Assistant City Manager. Dr. Woodruff noted that while working as the Interim Community Services Director, Captain Rambosk "showed the citizens the type of potential he has." Members of the Police Department present were asked to stand; they had attended the meeting to show their support of Captain Rambosk, Dr. Woodruff said. Mayor Muenzer and the Members of Council congratulated Assistant City Manager Rambosk and expressed pleasure at news of his appointment.

BREAK: 9:45 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.

ITEM 2

PRE- AND POST-HURRICANE ANDREW ACTIVITIES REPORT

Fire Marshal Sheldon Reed gave the report, noting that the first step had been to contact all employees, since the storm occurred during a weekend. In the future, phone numbers of all employees will be available for emergency purposes. On Sunday morning, August 23rd, various staff members had attended a meeting at the County EOC (Emergency Operations Center) and

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received an overview of procedures. In turn, the City staff members had held their own meeting and declared a local state of emergency. Briefings were scheduled at four-hour intervals thereafter. Fortunately, said Mr. Reed, Naples was not impacted by Hurricane Andrew to the degree first expected. On the morning of the storm, a decision was made to expand the City's search and rescue teams and to act immediately in order to assess the extent of injuries within the City limits. Those teams were also assigned additional duties, said Mr. Reed, attesting to the flexibility of the emergency plan.

Damage assessment teams were dispatched immediately following the storm, and street clearing began mid-afternoon of Monday, August 24th. Mr. Reed reported that a helicopter flyover took place immediately after the storm which determined that primary damage was from downed trees and pool enclosures.

On August 25th the City's emergency center was deactivated, however, daily meetings continued in order to critique work priorities. At the end of the first week, the Mayor, City Manager and department heads held a post-storm evaluation meeting. The strengths and weaknesses of both storm preparedness and storm recovery were reviewed, and continue to be reviewed. All assignments have been delegated to the appropriate departments. Reports are to be forwarded to the City Manager by the end of October.

Fire Marshal Reed informed Council that staff had found the City's plan to be task driven and extremely flexible. He pointed out that because Chief Smith was out of town the plan also allowed for another individual to be inserted into the Fire Chief's role and to function well. Although many new employees were involved, the plan was clearly understood and everyone functioned properly.

The establishment of a new emergency center, located at the Police Athletic League building at Fleischmann Park, was approved, as was the purchase of a generator. Additions to the building will result in a fully-functioning emergency center.

Mr. Reed stated that not enough could be said about the efforts of the City employees and their concern for their fellow citizens and getting the City "back into shape." He informed Council that the City Clerk's Office had coordinated collection efforts and had sent nine van loads of food, clothing, and emergency items to the Miami area. Fire Department personnel worked approximately 1,000 hours within the first ten days to relieve Dade County Fire personnel. The Naples Police Department has committed to provide relief in Dade County as well. The City also furnished a generator to the area; that generator was utilized at a kidney dialysis center. Mayor Muenzer and the Mayor of Bradenton signed a mutual aid agreement which was made official on September 1, 1992, reported Mr. Reed.

City Manager Woodruff reminded everyone that the function of the City's EOC is very different from the County's, which works with Civil Defense. The County is responsible for preparing the

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community and instructing the citizens, the City, by design, plays a low profile during storm preparedness. City staff handles such chores as securing the parks, hauling debris away, fueling City vehicles, etc., and generally prepares the City for recovery. Dr. Woodruff said that although a number of weaknesses had been discovered, the plan overall worked very well. In fact, because the plan was in place, search and rescue units were able to begin immediately. Street clearing was also very well organized, he said, and staff had already identified which streets were to be cleared first and in what sequence.

Dr. Woodruff described a few of the plan's flaws. For instance, not all equipment or hand tools should be located in one place. Also, noted Dr. Woodruff, it had always been assumed that the City could return to normal operations in a few days. After seeing the results of Hurricane Andrew in Homestead, however, staff learned that it was necessary to prepare for three different levels of recovery:

- Within two or three days, service can be restored.
- Assume there will be at least a two-week recovery period.
- Assume that the City will be non-functional for at least one month.

Part of each plan will be to better define the role of each City employee, explained Dr. Woodruff. A plan must be in place giving assignments to those employees who cannot assume their normal roles. Dr. Woodruff said also that a post-hurricane program for providing meals for employees will be in place. He commented, "Minor things will determine our success in event of a disaster." City department heads will be working to set up a much more comprehensive recovery program. Dr. Woodruff reiterated, however, that although the existing plan did work very well, it would not have worked had Naples been hit as hard as Homestead. The equivalent of one-year's horticultural waste, or 3,500 truckloads, were hauled to the Pulling property during the three and one-half weeks following the storm.

Finance Director Harrison reported that the accounting program had been divided into an emergency phase and a restoration phase. The City was able to cover its expenses with FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) for reimbursement requested. During the emergency phase, \$102,000.00 in expense was submitted to FEMA, primarily for Police and Fire personnel. During the restoration phase, an additional quarter million dollars was submitted to FEMA, primarily for horticultural waste removal. Mr. Harrison informed Council that staff was still working with FEMA to determine the costs involved to restore traffic signalization, as well as the ultimate disposition of the horticultural waste, and the replacement of trees damaged in the storm. According to FEMA, all reimbursement details will be complete in approximately two years, although FEMA will continue to allow the City to submit revised costs which can be documented. The only increase in cost expected will involve the disposition of horticultural waste.

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Mayor Muenzer said that immediately after the storm, the Mayor of Bradenton had called and offered that City's help. The equipment sent by Bradenton was surplus and does not have to be returned. The Mayor said that he had sent a letter of thanks to the Bradenton Mayor.

Council Member Pennington reminded staff about scheduling an emergency preparedness drill and noted that concerns about the City's communication with the County, and the adequacy of that communication. Dr. Woodruff explained that two City staff members were assigned to the County EOC and that they were in constant communication with the City. In the post-hurricane evaluation, it has been recognized that more information specific to the City should be made available. Mr. Pennington suggested that it would be advantageous to keep the citizens informed of anticipated times when power would be restored.

Mayor Muenzer complimented the operators of heavy equipment, who cleared the streets immediately after the storm. It was obvious those employees knew their jobs well, he added.

Council Member Korest inquired about evacuation orders. City Manager Woodruff explained that the County had the power to order evacuation, or evacuation could be recommended and the City make it mandatory. In this instance, the County did not order evacuation in some areas that staff had been concerned about, therefore the City made a decision that went beyond the County's determination. Fire Marshal Reed commented, "I think you would find that the City would err on the side of safety."

Council Member Anderson asked about the imposition of Marshal Law and City Manager Woodruff said that one thing making restrictions necessary might be sightseers visiting the City Pier to see if it was still in place. It will nevertheless be necessary to have a much stronger program of traffic control in place, he said. Dr. Woodruff also said that in a "worst-case scenario" it would be necessary to house City employees, which would entail storing tents, etc.

A draft of the revised emergency plan is expected to be complete by February, 1993. Dr. Woodruff pointed out that all details must be in place before the next hurricane season.

Council Member Anderson announced that everyone must be aware that once winds reach 45 miles per hour, "911" does not respond. Mrs. Anderson requested that the City Manager send a letter to representatives of the media with respect to future emergency situations, asking that they not announce that once winds reach 45 miles per hour, "911" will not respond. She also suggested that in future storm recovery situations, the City assist in accommodating insurance adjusters so that citizens' claims can be processed quickly.

In response to Council Member Pennington's comments, Dr. Woodruff said that staff would look into guidelines for proper licensing of those people who, immediately following a storm, offer to contract for cutting down damaged trees, hauling debris, etc.

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The City Manager explained how the City's computer equipment and backup tapes were protected prior to the storm. Dr. Woodruff also pointed out that in the future the City should be prepared with a means to pay its employees for at least one month, in the event City Hall was destroyed.

Next the pickup of horticultural debris was reviewed. Dr. Woodruff said that the day after the storm, a wait of one hour existed at the County Landfill. Although the County had agreed to waive tipping fees, when FEMA announced that it would reimburse the City, the County reversed its offer. Mr. John Pulling agreed to allow the City to dump its debris on his property, and staff agreed to restore the property to its original condition. Mr. Pulling has also authorized the burning of the horticultural debris on his property, therefore, staff has researched a number of options in this regard.

Dr. Woodruff continued by reporting that to physically haul and dump the debris at the County Landfill would cost over \$450,000.00. A chipping operation would reduce the number of trips to the Landfill, however, the chips must also be disposed of at an estimated \$150,000.00 and more. The State gave permission to burn the debris, waiving all permit requirements. Therefore, competitive bids were taken for the burning process. The original attempt to burn was not satisfactory, and the next alternative would involve a metal box arrangement which would cut costs significantly but was still not acceptable. Public Works employees built a burning pit to DNR specifications, for under \$2,000.00. Although DNR has sanctioned the pit as it is presently constructed, staff believes that a more acceptable arrangement would be one identical to an operation being used in Miami. Staff will therefore request, at the October 21st Council Meeting, authorization to lease the necessary equipment in order to proceed with the burning.

City Manager Woodruff and Community Services Director Mark Thornton further described the burn operation which they had viewed in Miami. Dr. Woodruff reminded Council that although FEMA would reimburse the City for 75% of the burning costs, those costs must be covered by the City until reimbursement is made. Council discussed the possibility of purchasing the equipment. At the request of Council Member Herms, staff will make arrangements to accompany any interested Council Members on a visit to the horticultural waste burning operation in Miami, on Tuesday, October 20th. Council Member Pennington requested that maximum information be made available to the public with respect to the cost of burning the horticultural debris, and what citizens can expect during that process.

Dr. Woodruff made two announcements relative to hurricane recovery:

- Michael Watkins, General Manager of the Beach Club Hotel, gave the City authorization to purchase the horticultural material which is on the golf course. The material will be moved from the golf course and mulched, eliminating almost all of the need for the previously approved purchase of mulch.

- Dr. Woodruff described the tremendous job every City employee had done after the storm. Several Council Members had suggesting finding a way to thank the employees; Dr. Woodruff will authorize one additional paid vacation day for every City employee. The employees will be told that the additional day comes from management, the Mayor and Council.

Council Member Pennington requested that staff examine all of the City's alleyways to be sure they are clear of horticultural debris which could be potential fire hazards. He referred particularly to the alley between 12th Avenue South and Board Avenue South, and the alley between First and Second Avenues South, from Gordon Drive to Gulf Shore Boulevard South.

BREAK: 11:05 a.m. - 11:16 a.m.

ITEM 3

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED STANDARDS FOR CORNER VISIBILITY

Planner Ann Walker distributed a handout which outlined the City's current and proposed corner visibility standards. (Available in the City Clerk's Office in the file for this meeting.) Ms. Walker explained that staff has had much difficulty dealing with the City's standards. She presented a video of the corner of 14th Avenue South and Gordon Drive, with both the current and proposed standards marked. Vice Mayor Sullivan suggested that the 120-foot proposal would necessitate many changes, but Ms. Walker noted that the burden of those changes would be on the City, not on private property owners. Dr. Woodruff noted that because of the way the City is platted, and due to its rights-of-way, most visibility problems have nothing to do with private property.

City Manager Woodruff asked for consensus that a problem existed with corner visibility. The regulations as written, he said, are not realistic and should be changed. In addition, at some intersections trees should be thinned out for safety reasons. It was the consensus of Council that corner visibility should be regulated.

Council further discussed the issue of corner visibility. The City Manager suggested that Council review the proposed regulations and offer some feedback to staff. All pending Code Enforcement Board nonconformity cases relative to corner visibility are to be dismissed. City Attorney Chiaro noted, for the record, that although some properties were in noncompliance, there presently were no pending violations.

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ITEM 4

REVIEW OF POLICY ON UTILITY TAX DEBT

This item will be rescheduled for future Workshop discussion.

ITEM 5

REVIEW OF ITEMS ON OCTOBER 21, 1992 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Item 7 - Bid Award/Industrial Uniform & Mat Rental Service

Staff will report on the fiber content of the uniform trousers.

Item 8 - Wastewater & Reclaimed Water Master Plan Advertising Request

Report on the background of the former piping system Master Plan. Has the City implemented any of that consultant's suggestions?

Item 9 - Bid Award/leasing of four hand-held computerized parking citation systems

This item will be removed from the October s agenda; staff will research further. The City Attorney will research and report on whether parking fees can be imposed on automobile rental companies. If possible, staff will report on the number of repeat violators.

Item 17 - Interlocal Agreement/consolidation of meter reading and utility billing

In the opening paragraph of the Agreement, staff should delete the word "the" before "governing board of the Collier County..."

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Woodruff announced that the following items would be added to the agenda for the October 21, 1992 Regular Meeting:

- A resolution authorizing funds for maintenance and repair work on the Mooring Line Drive Bridge, Harbour Drive Bridge and Park Shore Drive Bridge on an emergency basis.
- Authorization to lease burning equipment (for horticultural debris)

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City Manager Woodruff displayed a video of the trip he took with several Council Members and Natural Resources Manager Jon Staiger on October 16th, to view the beach renourishment method being utilized at Indian Rock Beach near St. Petersburg, Florida.

ADJOURN: 1:30 p.m.



PAUL W. MUENZER, MAYOR

Janet Cason
City Clerk

Marilyn McCord
Deputy City Clerk

These minutes of the Naples City Council were approved on 11/4/92.