



Hilton Naples & Towers
5111 North Tamiami Trail
Naples, Florida 34102

Town Hall Meeting – Monday, January 19, 2001 – 8:00 p.m.

Mayor MacKenzie called the meeting to order and presided.

ROLL CALLITEM 1

Also Present:

Kevin Rambosk, City Manager

Elaine Luckhart

William Harrison, Assistant City Manager

Martha Dykman, Comm. Services Adv. Board

Tara Norman, City Clerk

James Brennan, Park Shore Assoc.

George Archibald, Traffic Engineer

William Gonsalves, Police Officer

Other interested citizens and visitors.

WELCOME BY THE MAYOR.....ITEM 2

In addition to members of the Park Shore Association, Mayor MacKenzie also recognized members of the Crayton Road and Seagate Associations. She noted the presence of City staff and advised that the purpose of the meeting was to hear citizen comments and concerns.

PRESENTATION BY STAFFITEM 3

City Manager Kevin Rambosk then provided updates on the following topics: 1) New City telephone system will provide better service at a lower cost. Homeowner associations will be provided with new listings although main department numbers will roll over for a period of time when the old number is dialed. 2) Beach renourishment from Doctors Pass to Seagate will necessitate approximately 8-10 truckloads per hour of daylight over a period of several weeks. Neighborhood meeting will be conducted to review the project. 3) The parcel formerly designated for International College on Seagate Drive is being annexed as a church where the PS Public Service zoning requires City Council approval; area residents will be notified. 4) The City has received tentative approval from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to reconfigure the Park Shore Drive intersection so that two lanes turn left onto US 41 and one lane accommodates straight and right-turning traffic. 5) The City's cable television channel (#76) has been activated approximately six months ahead of schedule. Expenditures for equipment have been significantly under budget. 6) It is anticipated that the Gordon River Bridge lighting, landscaping, etc., will be completed by Easter. 7) Park renovation projects include Seagate Park, new River Park Recreation Center, Norris Center upgrades, Fleischmann Park expansion, and a

new park on the Pulling Property at a total cost of \$4-million to \$5-million. The staff has been directed to bring a plan to Council which will accomplish this work without increasing property taxes. 8) New City departmental facilities include Utilities, Police & Emergency Services, Solid Waste and Development Services, all of which were funded from sources other than ad valorem taxes. The County Tax Collector and Clerk of Courts will then provide satellite offices in spaces vacated at City Hall. 9) Water conservation is now in Phase II; Phases III and IV, if necessary, will result in significant impacts such as curtailment of irrigation and reduced water pressures. 10) A task force is being established in the area known as 41-10 to address redevelopment concerns and implement plans already in place.

Mr. Rambosk then introduced Traffic Engineer George Archibald to review plans for the Harbour Drive and Park Shore Drive bridge rebuilding programs. Mr. Archibald indicated that these two structures would be expanded to create four-foot wide bicycle lanes on each side and wider sidewalks, although travel lanes will remain virtually the same width. Most of the work will be done from outside the bridges so as to disrupt vehicle and boat traffic as little as possible. Costs are primarily funded by impact fees and gas tax revenue. Designs are approximately 30% complete with construction to be completed in September. Mr. Archibald noted an attempt to provide better views from the bridges through careful selection of railings which however vary significantly in cost. Brick paver accents and landscaping will also be included as well as sidewalk lighting. In responding to questions from the audience, Mr. Archibald noted that the project will allow the bridges' weight restrictions to be removed, and during construction, bicycle and pedestrian traffic will be discouraged.

Mr. Archibald also expanded on the plan to install two northbound lanes from Park Shore Drive onto US 41. He said that the FDOT had expressed concern about traffic light phasing which must be addressed within the US 41 closed loop signal system.

City Manager Rambosk then reported that crime statistics were down 11% which he described as a continuing trend over the past 4-5 years. This, he said, means that citizens and law enforcement are effectively working together.

COMMUNITY ISSUES / PUBLIC DISCUSSIONITEM 4

In response to a further inquiry regarding the sand to be placed on the Park Shore area beach, Vice Mayor Herms noted that a 13-year, \$2-million search for compatible off-shore sand had occurred, although some areas were renourished with high quality sand and others had received a quantity of rock. After another recent expenditure by Collier County of \$225,000 to locate another off-shore source, he said, sand was identified off Marco Island but would not be cost effective to transport. For the current Park Shore area project, however, a land-based compatible source had been identified near Labelle. This source offers either a coarse or fine grade, although the coarser grade is more readily available, he said. Nevertheless, there is the possibility that the two grades could be mixed. Mr. Herms also indicated that this sand was expected to be compatible with turtle nesting. He invited residents to visit Horizon Way where some of the aforementioned renourishment material could be viewed. Also, in response to a further citizen inquiry, Mr. Herms indicated that the beach would be expanded to approximately 40 feet.

An audience member expressed concern that the added truck traffic in conjunction with the beach renourishment would result in difficulty in exiting driveways along the route. City Manager Rambosk promised to look into this and that police officers could be assigned if additional traffic control is needed. Also, Police & Emergency Services personnel will meet with the trucking contractor to review traffic regulations and safety issues. Mayor MacKenzie responded to another

question by noting that the beach would undergo some degree of annual renourishment which would involve trucking, but at a significantly reduced scale; however, sand must be placed on the beach other than during turtle nesting season.

City Manager Rambosk then responded to a question regarding sidewalks by reporting that the City is developing an in-fill program and urged citizens to report areas where sidewalks are needed.

With reference to plans for improvements to Seagate Park, Community Services Advisory Board Member Martha Dykman reported that a tennis practice area and sand volleyball was anticipated as well as playground improvements and inter-connecting trails. However, only the first phase can be completed since the Collier County School System, owner of the property, must first remove portables and add new classrooms to the Seagate facility.

Others issues then raised by members of the audience included: 1) the need for standardized entry signs for subdivisions; 2) the need for a street light at the intersection of Park Shore Drive and Crayton Road; 3) a need to better identify the left-turn path from Crayton onto Park Shore Drive; 4) the need to pave Park Shore Court where a sinkhole had been marked with a barricade for over a month (City Manager Rambosk indicated that a ten-year street plan was being formulated with input from homeowner associations; however, the Park Shore Court problem would be addressed immediately); 5) disturbances from amplified music from Registry Resort pool area; 6) request for City support in opposing the County's proposed parking garage in North Naples; and 7) the need for landscaping improvements at Neapolitan Circle (City Manager Rambosk indicated that the City would work with residents in this regard).

A further discussion then ensued regarding water restrictions with a citizen expressing concern that water is being consumed by new developments and golf courses. Vice Mayor Herms reviewed issues relating to the County's proposed aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) test well which would provide data so that a functioning well could pump reclaimed wastewater from County's North Naples plant approximately 700 to 900 feet below ground. This, he said, would be just 1 1/4 miles north of the City's wellfield and the City Council, staff and the City's consultant have all expressed serious reservations about possible contamination. He encouraged citizens to monitor upcoming meetings on the subject.

Citizens then requested the following: 1) improved communication of information regarding water restrictions; 2) improvement in the quality of tree trimming to accommodate power lines, particularly Seagate Avenue banyans (Mayor MacKenzie indicated the City's desire to undertake a program to place power lines underground for this and for safety reasons); 3) improved marking of the intersection of Seagate and Starfish Avenue; 4) beachend improvement projects (Mayor MacKenzie indicated that each year approximately four beachends are addressed, this year the four north of Doctors Pass would be improved with dune vegetation retained to the extent possible in order to stabilize the beach); and 5) concern that newer homes are being built at higher elevations than their neighbors (Mayor MacKenzie indicated that regulations also require break-away walls on the newer homes).

Police Officer William Gonsalves cautioned that in light of a recent jewelry robbery at the Waterside Shops, citizens should either avoid wearing expensive jewelry while in parking lots or request security escorts.

ADJOURN
9:25 p.m.

Bonnie R. MacKenzie, Mayor

Minutes prepared by:

Tara A. Norman, City Clerk

Minutes approved: 5/2/01