

City Council Chamber 735 Eighth Street South Naples, Florida 34102

### City Council Workshop Meeting – January 7, 2002 – 8:30 a.m.

Mayor MacKenzie called the meeting to order and presided.

ROLL CALL.....ITEM 1

**Present:**Bonnie R. MacKenzie, Mayor
Joseph Herms, Vice Mayor (arrived at 8:33 a.m.)

Council Members:
Gary Galleberg
William MacIlvaine

Fred Tarrant Penny Taylor

Tamela Wiseman (arrived at 8:34 a.m.)

**Also Present:** 

Kevin Rambosk, City Manager
Tara Norman, City Clerk
Ron Lee, Planning Director

James Dean
Dick Tomasello
Clark Russell

Bob Devlin, FEMA Coordinator Other interested citizens and visitors.

Jessica Rosenberg, Recording Specialist

Karen Kateley, Administrative Specialist Media:

Arlene Guckenberger Dianna Smith, Naples Daily News

SET AGENDA.....ITEM 2

There were no changes noted.

DESCRIPATION OF TOWASELLO CONSULTING ENGINEERS, DEVIEW OF THE

### PRESENTATION OF TOMASELLO CONSULTING ENGINEERS' REVIEW OF THE 1998 COASTAL FLOOD STUDY FOR COLLIER COUNTY

City Manager Kevin Rambosk noted the limited time available in which to file an appeal to proposed revisions in flood elevation maps. Bob Devlin, FEMA Coordinator, reported that during the prior summer, the City and County jointly retained Tomasello Consulting Engineers, Inc., to review FEMA's 1998 Coastal Flood Study for Collier County in order to determine if FEMA's study contractor, Dewberry & Davis, made scientific and/or technical errors. Tomasello's study concluded that viable scientific and technical grounds for appeal did in fact exist. Their report was forwarded to FEMA and an appeal was subsequently submitted to both FEMA and FEMA's study contractor Dewberry & Davis within the required timeframe.

Dick Tomasello of Tomasello Consulting Engineers, Inc., stated that the report (a copy of which is contained in the file for this meeting in the City Clerk's Office) is a culmination of work performed over the past two years which included several meetings with FEMA to ascertain its

conclusions in its Flood Insurance Re-study. He noted that FEMA's report had actually been completed in 1994; however, the revised flood elevation maps had not been published until 1999.

### It was noted for the record that Vice Mayor Herms arrived at 8:33 a.m. and Council Member Wiseman arrived at 8:34 a.m.

Mr. Tomasello then presented the report to Council (a copy of the text is appended hereto as Attachment 1; and a copy of the entire report is contained in the file for this meeting in the City Clerk's Office). Responding to Council Members, Mr. Tomasello clarified that their study depicts base flood elevations approximately 1.5 feet lower on the open coast than FEMA's statistics, which is approximately the same elevation as the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) 1984 statistics. FEMA Coordinator Devlin explained that they anticipated a response from FEMA within two months; however, if FEMA denied the appeal, FEMA's new elevations would become effective approximately July 1, 2002. The community could then file an appeal in the District Court of Miami and request that existing flood maps be utilized until the Court made a determination.

During a further discussion relative to the impact of FEMA's proposed flood elevations upon properties within the City, FEMA Coordinator Devlin reported that adding 1.5 feet to more than 600 properties in the VE Zone (east of Champney Bay extending northeast to Seagate Drive which varies according to land elevations) would significantly increase the cost of construction such as breakaway walls, engineered foundations, etc. The approximate 300 properties to be eliminated from the current X Zone (in Old Naples and the area from 10th Avenue North to Old Trail Drive) could potentially incur the cost of flood insurance. In response to Vice Mayor Herms, Mr. Tomasello clarified that his statistical analysis had produced between 1-2 feet lower elevations than FEMA statistics, and showed less storm surge flooding throughout the community than FEMA.

Council Member Tarrant characterized FEMA as the worst possible example of a federal agency out of control; and took issue with what he described as the enormous costs incurred by communities in defense of its actions. He also praised the work done by Tomasello Consulting Engineers and FEMA Coordinator Devlin. FEMA Coordinator Devlin pointed out that if the City succeeded with the appeal, other communities would follow suit.

<u>MOTION</u> by Galleberg to <u>ACCEPT AND APPROVE</u> the report directing staff to proceed as outlined and return to Council for further authorization or monetary allocation if needed; seconded by MacIlvaine and unanimously carried, all members present and voting (Galleberg-yes, Herms-yes, MacIlvaine-yes, Tarrant-yes, Taylor-yes, Wiseman-yes, MacKenzie-yes).

FEMA Coordinator Devlin agreed to provide copies of Tomasello's report, along with a videotape of this presentation to Congressman Porter Goss and State Representative Dudley Goodlette; he also noted that he, along with Mr. Tomasello, would be meeting with the Board of County Commissioners on this subject that afternoon.

## DISCUSSION REGARDING POSSIBLE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN INTERNAL AUDITOR

City Manager Kevin Rambosk reported that staff had contacted 14 communities in Florida for information regarding an internal auditor, and had subsequently received information from Orlando, Pompano Beach, Cape Coral, Tampa, and West Palm Beach. Council Member

MacIlvaine suggested forming a subcommittee to review the information. Council Member Taylor suggested Council first receive input from Clerk of Court Dwight Brock, and Council Member Tarrant suggested that an experienced internal auditor could explain the duties during an interview. City Manager Rambosk advised that Mr. Brock would present his report to City Council at the January 16 Regular Meeting.

Council Member Taylor urged that all discussions relative to these matters be conducted in an open forum; Mayor MacKenzie suggested they be held in Council Chamber and televised and include a representative of the Clerk of Courts, if possible. She then requested that Council Members submit their suggestions to the City Manager. Mr. Rambosk recommended eliminating the administrative staff person from the existing Audit Committee and adding one Council Member. It was also noted that Planning Advisory Board Member Robert Navarre had expressed an interest in serving on this committee. Vice Mayor Herms noted receipt of a telephone call from a retired Collier County Internal Auditor, who had stressed that an internal auditor is a very important component of government. He suggested that some of the individuals who had submitted information meet with City Council, along with local professionals, to discuss specific duties. Council Member Tarrant urged Council to prohibit an internal auditor from having any outside employment.

#### BRIEFING BY CITY MANAGER.....ITEM 5

City Manager Rambosk provided Council with an update on a recent fire on Gulf Shore Boulevard. He also noted: receipt of a letter from a Park Shore resident disputing the need for additional sand on the Park Shore beach; the filling of both Benefits Coordinator and Risk Manager positions; the purchase of a new radar trailer and cameras for Police & Emergency Services; and the scheduling of a presentation regarding beach rocks at the January 9 Regular Meeting.

#### CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS .....

Council Member Tarrant noted receipt of telephone calls from residents concerning debris on the Gordon River Bridge. Mr. Tarrant also requested that the discrepancy in the number of acres shown in the Royal Poinciana annexation ordinance and the Collier County Tax Assessors records be corrected. Council Member Taylor noted receipt of a Big Cypress Basin Board funding award. Council Member MacIlvaine noted receipt of a citizen complaint regarding alley flooding; he also requested an update on the filling in of a lake at 1625 Gulf Shore Boulevard and information regarding sandwich board signs at Hofgarten Brauhaus. In response to Mayor

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Minutes Approved: 4/17/02

Brenda A. Blair, Recording Specialist