



City Council Chamber
735 Eighth Street South
Naples, Florida 34102

City Council Workshop Meeting – March 4, 2002 – 8:30 a.m.

Mayor MacKenzie called the meeting to order and presided.

ROLL CALLITEM 1

Present:

Bonnie R. MacKenzie, Mayor
Gary Galleberg, Vice Mayor

Council Members:

Joseph Herms
William MacIlvaine
Clark Russell
Penny Taylor

Absent:

Tamela Wiseman

Also Present:

Kevin Rambosk, City Manager
Robert Pritt, City Attorney
Annette Thompson, Recording Specialist
Karen Kateley, Administrative Specialist
Jim McTague
Susan Ritas
Doug Nelson
George Fogg
Gary Hicks
J.D. Campbell

Charles Rhoades
Lloyd Donnelly
Warren Adkins
Jim Snowden
Martha Dykman
Kim Kelley
Jim Boula

Other interested citizens and visitors.

Media:

Dianna Smith, Naples Daily News

SET AGENDA.....ITEM 2

City Manager Kevin Rambosk requested the addition of Item 7 concerning an executive session regarding the Commonage litigation.

MOTION by MacIlvaine to ADD ITEM 7 (see above); seconded by Russell and carried 6-0 (Galleberg-yes, Herms-yes, MacIlvaine-yes, Taylor-yes, Russell-yes, Wiseman-absent, MacKenzie-yes).

.....ITEM 3
DISCUSSION WITH RESIDENTS REGARDING SEAGATE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

City Manager Rambosk advised that Seagate residents had expressed a desire to address City Council following the approval of park improvements. **Jim McTague, 565 Whispering Pine Lane**, noted that residents had discussed this issue prior to requesting a meeting with City Council and that Susan Ritas would address their concerns. **Susan Ritas, 740 High Pines Drive**, noted that residents on the north side of Seagate Park had not received the survey submitted by

the City two years previous soliciting feedback regarding parking improvements. This survey indicated future announcements were forthcoming to solicit participation in the design process and she had learned of Council's approval in the newspaper. She also noted approximately 120 residents (between Seagate Drive and Neapolitan Way east of West Boulevard) had not been represented on the Seagate Ad Hoc Committee because they had no formal organization. She also took issue with no public meeting being held with residents following the Seagate Ad Hoc Committee meeting to discuss additional changes prior to City Council approval. A focus group of 40 residents was subsequently formed which resulted in the hiring of George Fogg, a professional park planner to address the concerns of the neighborhood. These concerns include too many activities located within a small area, a reduction in green space, and activities relating to the needs of the neighborhood. **Doug Nelson, 581 Whispering Pine Lane**, stated that he became involved with the focus group following a meeting with Mrs. Ritas after Council's approval appeared in the newspaper. He reiterated Mrs. Ritas' concerns and noted the appearance of conflicting activities adjacent to each other such as basketball and volleyball. The City's design also does not address the need for grassy areas for physical education activities and a paved walkway cuts through existing green space. He also took issue with the construction of a new parking lot for teachers along West Boulevard and the new building addition extending to the softball field. The consensus of the focus group, he said, therefore is for good design with a neighborhood atmosphere and multi-use green space not crowded into a school playground. He also noted that the Seagate Elementary Principal approved of the new design. **George Fogg, 628 Woodshire Lane**, stated that he had experience in designing parks and that he became involved with the residents following a meeting with Mr. & Mrs. Ritas. Following review of the City's plans, the surveys and site visits, he had drafted a site plan (a copy of which is contained in the file for this meeting in the City Clerk's Office) incorporating the desires of both the residents and the school. Proposed changes include removal of the clay infield, fencing and relocation of lighting standards at the softball field with renovation of that area for a multi-purpose field for soccer and softball. This plan also eliminates the sand volleyball court and increases the basketball court to full size. Since the school does not utilize its current fenced physical fitness area, the recommendation is to remove the fence creating a large open space and relocating the lighting standards from the existing softball field to that area. Other suggestions include a butterfly garden, utilizing the two-acre water retention area as an attractively designed native plant garden, construction of a pavilion for displays, installation of larger shrubs or small trees adjacent to residential areas and installation of plantings under pine trees. The revised plan also depicts a walkway system through the service vehicle parking lot with a secondary pathway system through the natural area; all walkways will be open to the public, Mr. Fogg noted. The revised plan incorporates most of the items contained in the City's plan with the exception of the formal softball field, and it addresses the concerns of the neighbors and most of the needs of the City's Park Department, Mr. Fogg concluded.

(9:03 a.m.) It is noted for the record that the interview of J.D. Campbell for the Police Review Board took place at this time (see Item 4 below).

Gary Hicks, 780 Fountainhead Lane, Park Shore Association board member, stated that the Association fully supports the revised plan and urged City Council to allow staff to work with residents, calling the revised plan a better use of tax dollars and improved uses for residents. In response to Vice Mayor Galleberg, Mr. Hicks explained that during a meeting with Community Services Director Don Wirth, Seagate Elementary Principal Kelly had requested that the basketball court be full size. In response to Council Member MacIlvaine, Mr. Fogg explained

that Dr. Kelly had also requested that the existing walkway around the circumference of the property be eliminated due to the new school addition and maintaining the open space for various sports activities. Vice Mayor Galleberg complimented Mr. Fogg, but expressed concern with the removal of the softball clay infield. Mr. Fogg explained that there had been a major change in the use of this field over time, as noted in the information collected by the focus group, indicating substantially more soccer players living in the area than softball players. Once the fence, clay infield, and two light standards have been removed, this area will become a multi-use play area for soccer and non-competition softball, he said, and reiterated the desires of the residents for a multi-purpose facility. Susan Ritas (previous speaker) confirmed that the little league teams only use this softball field for practice. In response to Mayor MacKenzie, Mr. Fogg explained that the existing three-tiered stands either will remain in the same location or be relocated to the proposed soccer/softball area; the revised plan will not cost more than designated in the existing budget. **Charles Rhoades, 420 Harbour Drive**, expressed safety concerns for the road along the lower section of the park and Mayor MacKenzie explained that this is a temporary road for construction vehicles. **Jim Snowden, 4451 Gulf Shore Boulevard North** declined to speak when called. **Martha Dykman, 5040 Seashell Avenue**, speaking on behalf of Seagate residents, concurred with increasing the basketball court size and noted that during discussions with the Seagate Elementary Principal she had proposed the basketball court be a multi-sport area and distributed a document depicting the same (Attachment 1). In response to Council, she said she felt that Seagate residents accepted the revised plan and further explained that the park is not sufficient in size for both full size soccer and softball fields, and Seagate residents have indicated over 200 children in the neighborhood currently play soccer.

City Manager Rambosk recommended that staff evaluate the proposed changes. Mayor MacKenzie concurred with Mr. MacIlvaine in maintaining the walkway surrounding the site, and suggested installing more benches and drinking fountains. Council Member Russell concurred with involving the school principal in the process and recommended addressing the school's interests prior to further staff evaluation as well as employing a professional park designer to revise the plan.

Kim Kelley, 600 Portside Drive, chairman of the Community Services Advisory Board (CSAB) and president of Greater Naples Little League Boys Baseball/Girls Softball, expressed the view that the revised plan was more attractive than the initial design. She explained that baseball games are played at Fleischmann Park while baseball practice is held elsewhere, including Seagate Park. She concurred with previous statements that once the existing softball clay infield is removed it would not be reconstructed, and concurred with the need for a professional lighting consultant to address safety issues. Council Member MacIlvaine complimented the Seagate Ad Hoc Committee on the revised plan and concurred with the multi-use sports court. He agreed to support soccer over softball based on neighborhood input, and reiterated his request for maintaining the walkway around the circumference of the property, recommending that the City Manager proceed with the direction proposed by the Seagate Ad Hoc Committee. Vice Mayor Galleberg agreed that the revised plan is a better utilization of space and tailored to neighborhood desires, but also noted that this facility is for use by all City residents; nevertheless, he concurred with receiving input from the school principal prior to review by the CSAB and City Council. Council Member Herms complimented residents for making positive changes and stated that he fully supported the revised plan since it represented the desires of the

neighborhood and school. He then requested that the depth of the water retention areas be addressed to ensure child safety; if additional depth is required, underground pipes could be installed. He also requested that the review process move forward quickly in order for renovations to commence. Council Member Taylor concurred with Mr. Herms' comments and congratulated all parties involved in working together on this plan as well as the CSAB and City staff.

City Manager Rambosk to brief Council in two weeks after meeting with Seagate Elementary School Principal and Community Services Director.

PUBLIC COMMENT.....

(9:53 a.m.) **Jim Boula, 702 Broad Avenue South**, noting that the City Council would consider the annual audit on March 6, explained that on August 10, 2001, he had requested review of fixed assets assigned to the City Dock enterprise fund in the next annual audit. However, during review of audit documents that morning he said he had learned that while the Audit Committee had reviewed certain procedures and controls, no mention was made of a review of fixed assets or depreciation schedules, which he had also requested. He then asked that City Council query the auditor relative to depreciation schedules. Vice Mayor Galleberg noted that Mr. Boula had discussed this with him prior to the meeting and questioned whether the auditors had specifically reviewed this enterprise fund. City Manager Rambosk advised that a letter was forwarded to the auditing company based on previous City Council direction, that this information would be provided to Council in the meeting packet supplement, and that the auditor would be available for questions at the March 6 Regular Meeting.

**.....ITEM 4
INTERVIEWS WITH CANDIDATES FOR THE POLICE REVIEW BOARD**

Interviews were conducted with the following candidates:

9:03 a.m. – J.D. Campbell (*It is noted for the record that this interview was conducted during Item 3 –see above.*)

10:00 a.m. – Warren Adkins

10:12 a.m. – Lloyd Donnelly

BRIEFING BY CITY MANAGER.....ITEM 5

City Manager Rambosk noted ongoing red tide cleanup operations. He advised that the new State Building Code went into effect March 1. He then noted that the Police Department is addressing traffic problems such as blocked intersections and speeding. Mr. Rambosk then advised that the City is reviewing specific impacts to its health insurance plan. He also noted the possible implementation of an interlocal agreement with the Marco Island and North Naples Fire Departments for a countywide hazardous material response unit.

REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION (*Requested by City Attorney*).....ITEM 7

City Attorney Robert Pritt advised that an executive session would be unnecessary at that time since a motion for rehearing had been filed in the Commonage matter.

REVIEW OF ITEMS ON THE 3/6/02 REGULAR MEETING AGENDAITEM 6

Added Items: 11-b three special events and **21-d** MPO appointments. **Continued Items: Item 8** (Hotel Escalante) and **Item 16** (pool variance) dates to be announced at the 3/6/02 Regular Meeting. **Item 20** (John Capone vs. City of Naples) withdrawn due to withdrawal of the settlement. **Item 6** – (audit presentation) – Mayor MacKenzie requested that the auditors provide a special report regarding the City Dock. **Item 7** (conditional use and sign waivers) – Mayor MacKenzie requested the total square footage for all building and monument signs. **Item 11-c** – Vice Mayor Galleberg expressed concern regarding this being a distant dealership. **Item 17**

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(Starbuck's outdoor dining permit) – Mayor MacKenzie requested clarification of table placement, removal of planters and attachment of handrails. **Item 18** (Marina Study) – City Manager Rambosk to provide additional materials to Council; Mayor MacKenzie requested staff be available to answer questions regarding relocating the boat launching facility at the Naples Landing to the Pulling property and consider relocating the City's horticultural center. **Item 22** (Police Review Board) – Mayor MacKenzie to provide simplified worksheet. **Items 23 and 24** Materials to be provided in the meeting packet supplement. 1:30 p.m. (added item) – Mayor MacKenzie announced an award ceremony for Olympic Bronze Medallist Brian Shimer.

CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS

Council Member Taylor noted removal of the statue from Sugden Community Theatre; she also noted conversations with citizens who had expressed concern regarding the appointment of Falconer Jones as an alternate member of the Planning Advisory Board since he owed the City money. Mr. Rambosk stated that he would provide Council with an update March 6 and City Attorney Pritt would review the law and provide an update March 6 concerning whether a member of a board/committee owing the City money is prohibited from serving. Council Member Russell recommended Council consider hiring professional designers/planners in the future to assist in projects such as the Seagate Park; Mayor MacKenzie recommended discussion at a future workshop. Mayor MacKenzie requested color copies of Mr. Fogg's Seagate Park plan and noted a forthcoming schedule for Town Hall Meetings. Mr. Rambosk advised that he is in the process of compiling a list of City Council directives since January, 2001 to ensure that all items have been addressed.

ADJOURN

11:14 a.m.

Bonnie R. MacKenzie, Mayor

Tara A. Norman, City Clerk

Prepared by:

Brenda A. Blair, Recording Specialist

Minutes Approved: 6/5/02