



City Council Chamber  
735 Eighth Street South  
Naples, Florida 34102

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**City Council Workshop Meeting – February 13, 2006 – 8:30 a.m.**

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Mayor Barnett called the meeting to order and presided.

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**ROLL CALL .....ITEM 1**

**Present:**

Bill Barnett, Mayor

**Council Members:**

William MacIlvaine

Johnny Nocera

Gary Price

John Sorey III

Penny Taylor

William Willkomm

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**Also Present:**

Robert Lee, City Manager

Robert Pritt, City Attorney

Tara Norman, City Clerk

Dan Mercer, Public Works Director

Stephen Weeks, Technology Services Director

Jessica Rosenberg, Deputy City Clerk

George Archibald, Traffic Engineer

Steven Moore, Chief of Police & Emergency Svs.

Ron Wallace, Construction Management Director

Victor Morales, Assistant to the City Manager

Fred Coyle

Jim Boula

Lou Vlasho

Pat Carroll

Ellie Krier

Henry Kennedy

**Media:**

Ashling Swift, Naples Daily News

Other interested citizens and visitors.

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**SET AGENDA.....ITEM 2**

***MOTION by Nocera to SET AGENDA AS PRESENTED; seconded by Sorey and unanimously carried, all members present and voting (MacIlvaine-yes, Nocera-yes, Price-yes, Sorey-yes, Taylor-yes, Willkomm-yes, Barnett-yes).***

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**.....ITEM 4**

**DISCUSSIONS WITH COLLIER COUNTY COMMISSIONER FRED COYLE.**

Commissioner Fred Coyle congratulated the newly elected members of Council, and expressed appreciation for the years of service by former Vice Mayor Tamela Wiseman. He then noted that during the campaign, many of the candidates had expressed an interest in developing an annexation policy. Mr. Coyle said he recommended that the County and City work jointly on this issue, rather than it being addressed by State legislation.

Mr. Coyle then said the Haldeman Creek dredging project is to commence within 30 to 60 days. He added that he believed this project would benefit City residents as well as those in the Haldeman Bay area.

With regard to redevelopment, Mr. Coyle reported that property in the area considered the gateway to the City had been acquired by a single developer, and that he expected redevelopment plans to come forward in the near future. He predicted that Council would be pleased with the design standards established as they are similar to those in the Heart of Naples/41-10 and Fifth Avenue South areas. In response to Council Member Nocera, Mr. Coyle said the County had not acquired the corner service station property, noting that the sale price is quite high. He however said that there is a possibility of a property exchange with the County, and that he would keep the Council informed. City Manager Robert Lee said he would also research this issue with the Community Redevelopment Agency Manager.

Council Member Taylor expressed concurrence with the concept of joint discussions on development of an annexation policy, and recommended placing this item on the joint City/County Meeting scheduled for March. Noting the potential for future annexations, Mr. Coyle also cited the importance of determining a mutually beneficial policy with regard to the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) in the community redevelopment area. Council Member Sorey further noted the importance of developing a process for determining the acquisition of assets such as infrastructure in conjunction with annexation.

Noting a recent controversy, Council Member MacIlvaine requested information on the status of the Riviera Golf Estates (affordable housing). Mr. Coyle said that while there are no current plans, he predicted that this may not be considered by the County Commission for up to six to eight months.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.....ITEM 3**

**Jim Boula, 702 Broad Avenue**, asked whether staff had any additional information regarding the changes proposed for the City Dock and Mooring field consent orders scheduled for consideration at the February 15 Regular Meeting. In addition, he recommended that Council carefully review the documents to make some minor corrections. Mayor Barnett asked that the City Manager provide an update at the meeting. Council Member Sorey said that he would remove these items from the consent agenda for further discussion. Mr. Boula also asked that Council consider these items concurrently with the item on the ranking of the consultants.

**PULLING PARK PROPERTY UPDATE.....ITEM 5**

Construction Management Director Ron Wallace made an electronic presentation with reference to a pathway from the Pulling property to the Gordon River Greenway. (It is noted for the record that a printed copy of this presentation is contained in the file for this meeting in the City Clerk's Office.) He stated that the permitting process for park development had been ongoing for approximately one year. Mr. Wallace explained that environmental impacts were expected to result from the originally proposed southern terminus of the Gordon River Greenway and that there was concern regarding the safety of a low-use isolated segment. The Southwest Florida Land Preservation Trust (SFLPT) had requested deleting the southern alignment and adding a connection from the east side of the Gordon River to the Pulling property. The Naples Airport Authority (NAA), he said, had indicated its support. Mr. Wallace further explained that, although originally designed as a 5-foot walkway, the plan was to widen the connection to 10 or

12 feet which would accommodate both pedestrians and bicyclists. He asserted that this is actually a shorter route which would connect to greater population centers and destinations. In closing, Mr. Wallace said staff's recommendation is to proceed to develop a Request For Quotations (RFQ) for an environmental assessment and preliminary design of a pathway from the Pulling property to the Gordon River Greenway.

In response to Mayor Barnett, Mr. Wallace said that the permitting and construction of the crossing would not add any time to completion of the park development. Characterizing the new pathway as an improved design, Council Member Taylor nevertheless questioned the impact on navigation. Mr. Wallace explained that the existing Gordon River bridges on U.S. 41 are actually the limiting factor and therefore recommended raising and increasing the span of the new Greenway bridge. Council Members Price, Sorey, and Nocera expressed support for the new proposal. Council Member MacIlvaine pointed out that the new alignment would provide less intrusion into the mangroves and would be safer for pedestrians. He however recommended that the trailer ramp area be designed with caution as it would intersect both the pedestrian and bicycle path. In further discussion, Mr. Wallace attributed part of the delay to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) which had asked to review all the upland improvements because of their relationship to the boat launching facility.

Director Wallace also noted that the site was valuable for storing post-hurricane horticultural debris as well as staging, and for various other uses. However, another staging area will be established immediately south of the City's Development Services Building. Miss Taylor recommended nevertheless planning for storage space on the Pulling site, and Council Member Sorey further recommended including the debris storage issue in the visioning process scheduled for future Council discussion.

**Public Comment:** (9:08 a.m.) **Pat Carroll, 118 Debron Drive**, Chair of the SFLPT, said that her group had been pursuing the Gordon River Greenway for over ten years. She then stated that the project would likely receive more grant funding with the new alignment because it would connect to greater population centers and destinations with increased usages. Ms. Carroll then expressed her appreciation for the City's financial commitment, saying that the \$200,000 donation would be used to fund the engineering and permitting for the new alignment. Noting that the new alignment is within City limits, she expressed support for City control in terms of a project manager and the submittal of engineering plans. **Ellie Krier, 1100 Fifth Avenue South**, SFLPT Executive Director, said that there would be neighborhood advisory committees as well as a commercial advisory committee which would meet quarterly and advise the SFLPT of the greenway status and provide recommendations. In addition, she said the Greenway area map would continue to be updated as the project develops.

*Consensus to direct the City Manager to develop a Request For Quotations (RFQ) for an environmental assessment and preliminary design of a pathway from the Pulling property to the Gordon River Greenway.*

**TRAFFIC SIGNAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATE.....ITEM 6**

Public Works Director Dan Mercer made an electronic presentation regarding signalization that is to be upgraded by placing mast arms at major U.S. 41 intersections in Phase II of a Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) project. (A printed copy of this material is contained in the file for this meeting in the City Clerk's Office.) Mr. Mercer noted however that there may be

some delay in mast arm repair under Phase I due to a legal dispute between the contractor and FDOT.

Mayor Barnett received confirmation that the project would be completed by December, and requested that staff provide an update on the County's new traffic signal system at a future workshop. Council Member MacIlvaine recommended photographing the mast arms in poor condition, and then sandblasting and repainting. Mr. Mercer however said that FDOT is requiring that existing mast arms be replaced rather than repaired; this will however be costly and time consuming. Therefore he said that he would explore the possibility for reimbursement for repair.

In response to Council Member Price, Mr. Mercer said that all the City traffic signals to Seventh Avenue North are integrated into a computer system, and Mr. Price agreed that the system appears to be having a positive impact. He however urged better coordination with the County and FDOT regarding maintenance of system hardware as well as with reference to sidewalk construction. Council Member Nocera suggested staff investigate technology that would allow low weight vehicles such as motorcycles or bicycles to trigger signals; Mr. Mercer confirmed that this had in fact been addressed but that he would ascertain that the system is in proper adjustment in this regard. Mr. Nocera further suggested that Traffic Engineer George Archibald discuss the traffic signal system on a radio program which he hosts. Council Member Sorey noted the intersection at Eighth Street and Fifth Avenue South causes difficulty for motorists and therefore recommended establishing a coordination process with the Collier County system. Mr. Mercer concurred, noting that staff would coordinate with the County on a regular basis.

Mayor Barnett suggested posting police officers at busy intersections during peak hours. City Manager Robert Lee said he would research this issue, noting the potential for using auxiliary officers. City Manager Lee also said he would consult with the City Attorney to facilitate repair of the mast arms involved in the legal dispute between the contractor and FDOT. He added that he would also follow up with FDOT on the construction timing issue.

**CITY COUNCIL SUMMER SCHEDULE DISCUSSION.....ITEM 7**  
After a brief discussion, Council decided upon the following action.

*Consensus to conduct workshops on June 5 and 12, and regular meetings on June 7 and 14; the summer hiatus would extend from June 15 to August 14.*

**BRIEFING BY CITY MANAGER.....ITEM 8**

(It is noted for the record that a copy of the City Manager's written report is contained in the file for this meeting in the City Clerk's Office.) City Manager Robert Lee commended staff members for their efforts in compiling the monthly reports. He then explained a 65-gallon recycling cart is being tested in a pilot program on Tarpon Road in Royal Harbor encompassing 100 residences; he indicated that he would present a report and recommendations in April. He also said that at the first Council meeting in March he would provide recommendations on a process for undergrounding utilities, including recommendations to create an ad hoc committee made up of residents. He then noted the neighborhood tours of right-of-way landscaping would begin that day on Crayton Road, and would include staff as well as two local landscape architects as requested by Council. City Manager Lee then stated that he had contacted Dr. Herbert Marlowe who had assisted the City in preparing the Vision 2005 document, and that he would in March provide recommendations with regard to the current visioning process. He also

noted that Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) representatives would at the March 7 City Council/County Commission Workshop provide an update on the flood elevation map issue. Lastly, he noted that the efforts of several cities providing assistance during and after Hurricane Wilma had been formally acknowledged.

In further discussion related to the aforementioned monthly report, Council Member Taylor recommended addressing what she described as an inconsistency between the screening requirements in Port Royal and the remainder of the City. She also asked for clarification with regard to the maximum allowable width of commercial buildings and sought further information regarding the management plan to be developed for the Naples Preserve. In conclusion, Miss Taylor recommended addressing the traffic circles at Crayton Road and West Boulevard as well as dealing with deficiencies in stormwater retention which residents have reported near Crayton Road and Park Shore Drive.

With regard to the aforementioned recycling cart pilot program, Council Member Price stressed the importance of developing a full understanding among affected residents as to the importance of their role in providing information in regard to the evaluation process. Mr. Price then said he believed Florida Power and Light (FPL) representative Grover Whidden had not as yet performed the work promised to both the Council or the Presidents Council with regard to undergrounding utilities. He therefore supported the suggestion for an ad hoc committee to assist in this process, but also recommended extending this to County involvement for better coordination of services. Council Member Taylor however pointed out that FPL had to date been unresponsive, and therefore suggested communicating with west and east coast counties to ascertain similar concerns and explore the possibility of a potential partnership. Mr. Price also questioned the necessity of a reported extension from December 2005 to April 2006 for the Community Services Department's assessment of rental fees, retail services, and transient lodging at the City Dock and asked for further information regarding obtaining a Clean Marina designation. City Manager Lee confirmed that staff was in fact actively addressing the latter. To that end, he asked that staff itemize any amended goals and objectives on one page to provide better tracking.

Council Member Sorey said in addition to the narrative, he would support use of a spreadsheet in order to identify information quickly. He also asked that staff provide the number of overall employee vacancies as well as the number of Police & Emergency Services Department (PESD) vacancies on the monthly report. Mr. Sorey then said that the letter submitted by Mr. Whidden (FPL) is unacceptable and asked that Council direct the City Manager to respond reiterating Council's request, including a depreciation schedule by area. (It is noted for the record that a copy of the referenced FPL letter is contained in the file for this meeting in the City Clerk's Office.) Lastly, Mr. Sorey recommended that each Council Member identify items to incorporate in the visioning process, and that they consider conducting town hall meetings and resident surveys.

**REVIEW OF ITEMS ON THE 2/15/06 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA .....ITEM 9**  
**Item 13** (variance for a screened lanai) City Manager Robert Lee noted an address correction.  
**Item 14** (rezone for 2600 Ninth Street North) City Manager Lee reported a request by the petitioner for withdrawal. **Item 9-s** (Council's summer vacation schedule) This item should be renumbered as Item 9-r. Council Member Taylor asked that Council's consensus on dates be

committed to writing. Item 9-c and Item 9-d (consent order regarding the City Dock and mooring field/Crayton Cove anchorage) Council Member Sorey requested that these items be removed from Consent Agenda for separate discussion and vote. He also requested that pricing and funding regarding Item 9-q (reclaimed water system construction agreement) be discussed. Item 9-m (budget amendment for Community Redevelopment Agency position) Council Member Taylor asked that this be removed from the Consent Agenda for a separate discussion and vote, and asked for clarification of the duties and funding. Item 9-n (on-street parking in the Fifth Avenue South Special Overlay District) Council Member Price received clarification on the construction contract cost. Item 17 (board appointments) Council Member Taylor asked that the City Manager provide Council Member Willkomm with information on various boards and committees.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS.....ITEM 9**

Council Member Taylor asked for the status of the information she had requested on past City tree-trimming practices, noting that this data would assist in future planning. She then noted in August, the Design Review Board (DRB) had discussed the construction impacts of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood map regulations which were then adopted in November; therefore, she requested an update on the incorporation of any revisions to City codes, urging that Council begin to address this issue. Noting citizen concerns, Miss Taylor also requested information on significant truck traffic reported on North Road as well any plans for North Road expansion by the Airport Authority. She then recommended that the City Manager obtain information from the County Commission with regard to its proposal to charge beach parking fees at the Vanderbilt Drive parking garage. Council Member Sorey pointed out that the County Commission would consider that issue the following day; in further discussion, the Council determined not to take a position on this matter.

Council Member Nocera stated that he had asked the City Manager to research the possibility of showing movies at the Cambier Park bandshell on Friday evenings. He predicted that area businesses may participate in the funding, minimizing the cost to the City. Council Member Taylor suggested Fleischmann Park as a venue for movies, concerts, and other youth activities after renovations are complete.

With regard to the visioning process, Council Member Price recommended that the City's entire experience with Hurricane Wilma be summarized in advance of the visioning process or any Comprehensive Plan changes. He also noted that input from the Presidents Council would be helpful in this regard. Council Member MacIlvaine concurred, noting that this process would assist in future storm response planning. Mr. Price then asked for a consensus to explore the possibility of the City engaging the services of a federal lobbyist to help secure funding appropriations. Council Member Nocera noted that the City had a grant writer at one time, and City Manager Robert Lee said that he has discussed the possibility of hiring a full-time grant writer with the Community Services Director. He however concurred with Mr. Price, noting the competitive nature of acquiring federal monies. It was the consensus of Council to proceed with this initiative.

Council Member Taylor asked that the City Manager provide information on a suggested revision for a local bill concerning the North Naples Fire Control and Rescue District.

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Mayor Barnett stated that Fun Time Early Childhood Development Center had invited each member of Council to a breakfast which he said he believed may precipitate a violation of the Sunshine Law (Chapter 286, Florida Statutes). City Attorney Robert Pritt explained that the Attorney General had opined that it is not a violation for two or more members of the same board or Council to attend the same function, but that no matters that may foreseeably come before that body may be discussed. He however noted that the Fun Time event seems to coincide with a time-sensitive matter concerning this entity which he said may be the rationale for the invitation. He therefore recommended that a Fun Time representative either appear before Council or that only one Council Member attend the aforementioned function. Council Member Taylor said that Fun Time Director Kim Long is concerned that the facility's roof has not yet been replaced. She also said that Ms. Long has indicated her belief that the City may be delaying the permitting for the new Fun Time building. City Manager Lee disagreed, saying that the staff has been and will remain cooperative. He added that he has met personally with Ms. Long regarding the parking allocation and other issues of concern. Mr. Sorey encouraged each Council Member to individually visit the Fun Time facility to assess its condition.

Noting the recently proposed Pelican Bay annexation, Mayor Barnett expressed reservations about his effectiveness in serving as Mayor had an additional 6,000 residents come under the City's responsibility. He said that the established levels of service could not have been met, and the City could not have filled the additional jobs created. He therefore said he would not support this issue if again presented to Council.

**Public Comment:** (10:40 a.m.) **Henry Kennedy, 1580 Pelican Avenue**, recommended that all board and committee members reside full-time within the City. He also urged that Council carefully evaluate members and tighten the supervision of boards and committees saying he was publicly ridiculed by a Citizens Police Review Board member. Council Member Sorey suggested that the staff provide to Council a list of boards and committees with the associated requirements for each. Council Member Willkomm said he would request a transcript of the aforementioned meeting from the City Clerk.

**ADJOURN** .....  
10:48 a.m.

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Bill Barnett, Mayor

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Tara A. Norman, City Clerk

Minutes prepared by:

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Jessica R. Rosenberg, Deputy City Clerk

Minutes Approved: 3/15/05