

Palmetto City Council
January 5, 2004 4:00 PM

Elected Officials Present:

Larry Bustle, Mayor
Shirley Bryant, Vice Mayor
Tamara Cornwell, Council Member
Charlie Grace, Council Member
Mary Lancaster, Council Member
Brian Williams, Council Member

Staff and others present:

J. E. Free, Jr., City Clerk
Chief Garry Lowe
Chris Lukowiak, Public Works Director
Jessica McCann, Planner
Diane Ponder, Administrative Assistant

Mayor Bustle called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Mrs. Lancaster gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

1. APPROVAL OF WORKSHOP AGENDA

MOTION: Ms. Bryant moved, Mrs. Lancaster seconded and motion carried 5-0 to approve the January 5, 2004 4:00 agenda.

2. COUNTY DEVELOPMENT OF LINCOLN PARK

CRA Director Tanya Lukowiak advised Council Manatee County would like to continue the development of Lincoln Park into the northeast corner the City recently accepted from the School Board. The County will continue development under the maintenance agreements in place and understands the development plan must be brought to Council for approval prior to construction on the city's property. Ms. Cindy Turner, director of Parks and Recreation for Manatee County, will be asked to personally brief Council on what the County proposes as improvements to Lincoln Park.

3. CODY & ASSOCIATES CLASSIFICATION & PAY STUDY

At a recent meeting where Cody & Associates presented its Pay Study, the police department brought forth an issue concerning the pay of exempt positions and lower ranked positions. Subordinates are making more than their supervisors, primarily as a result of overtime pay. As a result of that discussion, Cody & Associates provided new ranges for the chief, captain and lieutenant positions. Subsequently, the Building Department has also requested reclassifications of its employees. Mr. Lukowiak informed Council he has employees he would also like to address in any pay reclassification.

Mayor Bustle discussed the fact Council had agreed with the Cody & Associates Pay Study with the exception of the top four positions in the police department. Mr. Free informed Council every employee is currently paid within the range established by Cody & Associates and he is not in favor of the new range for the top four positions in the police department without addressing similarly situated positions city wide.

Chief Lowe, Captain Hedrick, and Lieutenant Himes discussed the issues of the pay inequity in the police department. Captain Hedrick suggested phasing in the Cody recommended ranges

over a period of time. An alternative discussed by Council was overtime compensation for the exempt positions.

Ms. Bryant discussed the fact that no adjustment is made without a ripple effect; she was not ready today to make a decision. She asked for a total bottom line to be provided by the finance department. She also suggested discussion needs to take place in the department head meetings and then an overview be brought to Council. Ms. Cornwell asked that Council be provided with the total hours exempt employees worked beyond the 80 hour pay period. Mrs. Lancaster suggested a cap should be placed on each rank's salary. Mr. Williams suggested overtime pay as well as longevity pay should be considered.

The topic will be brought back to Council at a later date.

4. PROPOSED SOLICITATION ORDINANCE

Council requested the following amendments to the proposed Solicitation Ordinance:

Suggested specific language be included that prohibits soliciting on city streets; if can't prohibit control by requiring a permit. As part of the permit process, specific, acceptable documentation needs to be identified in the body of the ordinance.

Sec. 19-122: Suggested a permit should be obtained through the occupational licenses department rather than the police department; the permit application should include the police department's approval prior to issuance.

Section 19-123 (a) Suggested proof must be produced when solicitation is taking place on behalf of a church or religious organization.

Sec. 19-123 (c) Suggested student solicitors should have a photo ID and be required to get a permit. Ms. Cornwell advised Council that Manatee County schools do not condone solicitation, students are provided written instructions they are not allowed to solicit door-to-door. Council discussed not charging student solicitors a permit fee.

Sec. 19-124: Suggested the permitted times should be reconsidered; in the summer months solicitation occurs after the dinner hour.

Sec. 19-125: Suggested this section of the ordinance should be stronger.

Sec. 19-126: Suggested the time allowed for appeal is too long.

Mr. Grace questioned why any exemptions are allowed.

Discussing background checks for permit applications, Sgt. Tyler advised Council free background checks could not be obtained from FDLE; the cost for a background check is \$23. He stated his belief each solicitor needs to have a permit. He also cautioned Council needs to consider how to enforce the ordinance. Staff was asked to consult surrounding municipalities' codes for solicitation ordinances.

The proposed ordinance was tabled until amendments have been made

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Ms. Bryant

Referring to documentation regarding Mrs. Smith's bequest to the city, she asked that Public Works review the information and report back to Council.

Requested that the city seriously consider the Florida League of Cities Excellence Award. Mrs. Lukowiak will review the requirements and possible nominations and report back to Council.

Mr. Williams

Requested that the pending ordinances be brought to Council as soon as possible.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Minutes approved: January 26, 2004



J. E. Free, Jr.
City Clerk