

Palmetto City Council
February 25, 2002 4:00 PM

Elected Officials Present:

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

Staff and others present:

Alan Prather, City Attorney
Karen A. Conlon, City Clerk
Chief Garry Lowe, Palmetto Police Department
Mike Hickey, Public Works Director
Margaret Tusing, Planning & Zoning Administrator
Diane Ponder, Administrative Assistant

Mayor Bustle called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Vice Mayor Lancaster gave the invocation, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The March 4, 2002 agenda will be approved as the first item of business at that meeting.

2. DISCUSSION OF ESTUARY PARK

Tanya Lukowiak, Grants Coordinator/CRA Director, reviewed the purchase of the Estuary Park and stipulations contained in the grant funds awarded for the purchase. She advised Council she is seeking consensus on the direction the city would like to take regarding the property abutting the north end of the park. The entire parcel contains 9.64 acres, of which Riviera Dunes is required to donate 4.64 of those acres, containing uplands and wetlands, to the city. Riviera Dunes is asking \$500,000 for the property and has agreed to allow the purchase to span a two-year period.

Mrs. Lukowiak advised Council a land acquisition grant is available for the purchase of the property, thereby relieving the city of any out-of-pocket expenditure. The first year the city would apply for the purchase of half of the property, using the dedicated land as a match. The process would be repeated the second year for the purchase of the balance of the property. The only stipulation the city faces if awarded the grant is that the property's use is exclusively as an open/recreation space.

It was consensus of Council to proceed with the grant application.

3. DISCUSSION OF "THE ACCORD"

Attorney Cliff Walters reviewed the document with Council and then entertained Council's questions. Commissioner Joe McClash discussed areas of the document with Council. At the intergovernmental meeting scheduled Thursday, 28, 2002, Council will have the ability to discuss their specific concerns and suggest any changes they would like to be considered.

4. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Chief Lowe, Palmetto Police Department

Corp. Scott Tyler reviewed areas around Palmetto Elementary School he would like to see have additional school zone signage. Corp. Tyler also discussed the possibility of flashing lights advising the school zone and speed limit. He advised Council the school's SAC Committee is planning to make a presentation to Council concerning the traffic patterns surrounding the school and will suggest a raised intersection at 7th St. and 10th Ave. Chief Lowe stated the finance department is researching if the 629 funds can be used for the additional signage. The topic will be brought back to Council for review once all the information is gathered.

Karen Conlon, City Clerk

The arm mower budgeted at \$70,000 has been located and will cost the city less than the budgeted amount.

Mike Hickey, Public Works Department

The complaint received concerning the northeast portion of the city has been addressed. The roads have been patched and the streets will be paved in April. In the future Public Works will notify citizens of the city when and where constructions will take place either by media publication or door hangers.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

The letter of intent to participate in the designation of US 41 as a Scenic Highway has been executed and mailed.

6. INDIVIDUAL COMMENTS

Mrs. Lancaster

Inquired about redistricting. Mrs. Conlon advised Mr. Sweat is developing a proposal for the redistricting. She also advised Council Mr. Sweat is developing a proposal for the cost of handling the election this year. The information will be brought back to Council when received.

Reported the Public Works employees will be attending a meeting February 28, 2002 concerning accidents in the workplace.

Ms. Bryant

Asked the City Park Fees topic be placed on the March 11, 2002 agenda.

Signage prohibiting skateboarding will be erected at Celebration Center and also at Heritage Park if necessary.

Ms. Cornwell

Inquired why Council Members were being limited on time. Mayor Bustle replied he hoped to be able to conclude the council meetings in a two-hour period.

Suggested the school system should be contacted about their plans for the property surrounding the Erie Road landfill before the city leases the property to the group seeking a lease of the landfill.

Mr. Hickey will confirm the installation of backflow preventers in the areas where reuse lines are being constructed.

Suggested language be adopted prohibiting skateboarding on public property.

Confirmed with Mrs. Conlon no consideration will be given to the number of council members in the city redistricting.

Mr. Williams

Asked for the dates Public Works has scheduled for cleaning the city's drainage areas.

Asked that Public Works review the tree where termites are swarming and if it is on city property ensure it is sprayed.

Asked for the back flow preventers installation schedule.

Commented on the creation of a suspense item log for items brought forth by Council Members that require assessment by city staff.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Yvonne Times, 311 16th St. W., addressed Council concerning the construction in her neighborhood, stating the residents of the area were not notified of the project before construction began. Ms. Times informed Council the residents paid to have their streets paved. She also stated Mr. Hickey had left a message on her machine it would be the end of the year before the streets were repaved.

MOTION: Ms. Cornwell moved, Mrs. Lancaster seconded and motion carried unanimously to extend the two-minute time limit.

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Discussion ensued on the construction project. Mr. Hickey reported repaving would take place in April. It was suggested by Council Members that he should determine if it is possible to repave the area the same time 7th Street will be repaved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Minutes approved: March 4, 2002

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen A. Conlon". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

**Karen A. Conlon
City Clerk**